

**Hymns: Saturday: 302, 313, 624, 245 / Sunday: 302, 678, 343, 245**

**Collection for Ukraine:** If anyone would like to contribute to this collection, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'Ukraine' and add it to the usual collection box. Thank you.

**Family Day & Holiday Club:** The Family Day is on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April at St Ann's and will start with a bring your own picnic lunch at 12noon and will finish with the 5pm Mass. The Holiday club will take place 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> June at St Chad's – further details to follow. We need volunteers to help with both events. Please email us or speak to Victoria if you are able to help.

**Wellspring Collection:** As next weekend (March 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>) is the last weekend of the month, there will be the monthly Wellspring collection. The items which Wellspring are particularly needing at the moment are UHT milk, tinned meats, multipack bags of crisps, multipacks of chocolate biscuit bars, small bottles of water and boxes of breakfast cereals (but NOT porridge).

**No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk through Christ's Passion:** continues every Friday in Lent from 7pm-8.30pm. We will meet in church to pray the Stations of the Cross, followed by a short video and discussion in the hall. All welcome.

**Refreshments:** Please join for refreshments after the 9.30am Sunday Mass in the Church Hall. All welcome.

**Piety Stall:** is in the hall entrance. We now have a selection of Easter cards available, as well as the usual items. Please have a look. All items are priced as marked. There is a box of the wall for any monies. Thank you.

**Gift Aid envelopes** for next year are available for collection from Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March. The boxes are labelled and they are at the back of church.

**Thursday Coffee Morning:** This week raised £46 for St Ann's Hospice. Thank you.

**Please pray** for all those who are sick and for all those who have died recently. We also remember: Elizabeth Grindrod, Amy Johnson, William Condon, James Killoran, Theresa Brady, Nora Meaney, Eileen Gibson, Beatrice Morrissey, Roy Nield, Glenys McNicholas, Gill Harwood, Arthur Moorhouse, Angela Grindrod, Audrey Doyle, Harry Frith, William Counter, John Hughes, Edith Sweeney, Wilfrid Shaw, Ernesto Granelli, Margaret Kennedy, Leo McEwan, Ellen Hogg, Patrick Gibbons, Kathleen Moore, Mary Jones, Mary Locke, Winifred Eckett, Sidney Felton, Annie Leyman, Colleen Collinsall those who anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

**Parish Safeguarding Reps:** Noel Russell and Bernadette McCrory. If you have any concerns about safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, please speak to them or contact them via the presbytery, in the strictest confidence.

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**Office Hours: Thursdays 11am – 1pm**

**The Catholic Parish of St Chad, Cheadle**

**Priest: Fr. Sean Davidson**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent Year C**



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Recently, I wrote something in the newsletter about the problem of suffering and how it can mysteriously cause us to grow in holiness. Related to this theme is the subject of compassion. If there were no suffering in the world, then there would be no compassion either. Our final judgment will be based upon how we responded to the sufferings of others and whether or not we allowed their pain to draw us out of our self-absorption. God's essence is described in one of the psalms as "compassion and love." (Psalm 103) Our compassion when faced with suffering reveals how much we resemble God and thus how ready (or not) we are to be with Him forever. As St John of the Cross once said, "At the evening of our lives we will be judged on love." Not only is God's judgement based on love, but human judgement is also based on love. After their death, we tend to cherish in a special way the memory of those who have loved us.

Our compassion for others often flows out from what we ourselves have suffered in the past. For example, those who have experienced poverty in childhood often want to get involved in fighting against it as adults. Their previous misfortune can now be transformed into something positive. In the book of Exodus, the Lord says to His people Israel: "Do not oppress a foreigner; **you yourselves know how it feels** to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt." (Exodus 23:9) He reminds them of what it felt like to be oppressed and entirely at the mercy of a foreign power, so that they will now be kind to those who come to their own land. Out of their memory of the feeling of pain, they ought to be able to summon the virtue of compassion.

I saw a headline recently which said that there were one million Ukrainian refugees in Poland with not a single refugee camp to be seen. Many ordinary Polish families have taken in people fleeing for their lives. They didn't just offer some painless little donation to a good cause, but rather, they opened their hearts and the doors of their own homes. The Polish people suffered terribly in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They were cruelly oppressed for over forty years by atheistic Communists under Soviet control; and for over half a decade before that by the monstrous barbarism of the pagan Third Reich. Their Catholic faith somehow survived through it all. No nation could have been better prepared to understand

the pain of those whose land has been invaded. Out of the sorrow of their past, a wellspring of compassion has appeared in the present. Let us continue to pray for all those who have been traumatised by the cruel chaos which human pride is capable of unleashing. May they experience the warmth of God's love in the hearts of those still seeking to live in the likeness of the One who is "compassion and love" itself.

May God bless you all.

Fr Sean

**Easter Services:** Our Easter services are detailed below. Please note you do not need to book to attend any of the services. Church will open 30 minutes before each service.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April Holy Thursday: 7pm

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April Children's Stations of the Cross – 10am  
Good Friday Service 3pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April Easter Vigil 8pm

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday 9.30am

**Easter Flowers:** If you would like to contribute to the Easter Flowers, please put your offering in an envelope marked 'Easter Flowers' and place it in the collection box. Thank you.

**Knit and Knatter:** This Wednesday (23<sup>rd</sup>) 1pm-3pm in the hall. All welcome. They will be selling knitted Easter/spring items after Mass to raise funds for the Little Sisters of the Poor. Thank you.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2022:** 29 Jul-4 Aug by air and 28 Jul - 5 Aug by coach. Overland prices start at £440 and by air at £710. For more information and booking forms, please visit the pilgrimage website at

[www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk)

**Lenten Reflections: Paul's People** Wednesdays 12 – 12.30pm across the Churches of Cheadle and Gatley. **March** 23<sup>rd</sup> Gatley URC; 30<sup>th</sup> Bethany; **April** 6<sup>th</sup> – St Chad's; 13<sup>th</sup> – St Mary's. Tea and Coffee will be available after each service, but please note it won't include lunch this year.

**Medjugorje Youth Festival-** from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022 led by Fr Tony McGrath. £645, return flights from Manchester Airport, 7 nights accommodation close to St James Church, full programme with Joe Walsh Tours and Breakfast and Dinner each day. This pilgrimage is for 18-35 year olds, and families with under 18's are also welcome. There is an information evening at Christ Church, 98 Finney Lane, Heald Green, SK8 3DY at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April. For more information or to register interest please email Fr Tony at [christchurchhg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:christchurchhg@yahoo.co.uk)

## Mass Times & Intentions

Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> <i>St Joseph</i>	St Ann's  <b>St Chad's</b>	5pm  <b>6.30pm</b>	For the parishioners of St Ann & St Chad  <b>Deceased Members of the Street &amp; Herman Families</b>
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Lent Year C</i>	<b>St Chad's</b> St Ann's	<b>9.30am</b> 11am	<b>Margaret Barron RIP</b> Special Intention (SPJ)
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>	St Ann's	10am	Fr Sean
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	St Ann's <b>St Chad's</b>	10am <b>6.30pm</b>	Joanne King <b>Tony Moores RIP</b>
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>		
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>St Chad's</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Olive O'Rourke RIP</b>
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	St Ann's	10am	Jim McCormack RIP
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann's  <b>St Chad's</b>	5pm  <b>6.30pm</b>	Tom & Elizabeth O'Sullivan RIP  <b>Rev Denis Herlihey RIP</b>
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Lent Year C</i>	<b>St Chad's</b> St Ann's	<b>9.30am</b> 11am	<b>For the parishioners of St Chad &amp; St Ann</b> Brendan Tynan RIP

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Will take before Mass on Sundays and Tuesdays and from 9am-6pm on Thursday.

**Confessions:** Available 5.30pm – 6.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the sacristy. Also, available at other times on request by phoning the presbytery a minimum of 24 hours in advance to arrange.

**Mass Intentions:** Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note that we are now up to August with Mass Intentions. If you would like an intention on a specific date, please write it on the envelope and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

**Perpetual Adoration:** Every Thursday 9am-6pm. There is a sign up sheet at the back of church. You are welcome to come along at any time during the day.