

**Hymns: Saturday:** 16, 313, 687 179

**Sunday:** 16, 313, 458, 179

**300 Club Winners for March:** 3 Catherine King, 4, F. Fleet, 6 Paula McAdam – all win £20 each.

**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.

**Lenten Reflections: Paul's People** Wednesdays 12 – 12.30pm. The final talk will be this Wednesday (13<sup>th</sup>) at St Mary's. Tea and Coffee will be available after each service. Please note it won't include lunch this year.

**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.

**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 & Knatter: This Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 1pm – 3pm in the church hall. All knitters and knatters welcome.**

**Thursday Coffee Morning:** This week raised £45 for parish funds. Please note there is no coffee morning this week. It will resume on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April.

**Job Vacancy:** A vacancy has arisen for the role of Parish Administrator for the Parish of St Benedict's Handforth. Hourly rate £10 per hour. 8 hours per week or flexible hours on Thursday and over two other days between Tuesday and Friday and other hours when needed. The person will provide all administrative and secretarial support required to ensure the smooth running of the Parish and to enable the Parish Priest to carry out his Parish responsibilities. Interested applicants should send an updated CV to Mrs Pauline McCulloch [pauline.mcculloch@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:pauline.mcculloch@dioceseofshrewsbury.org).

**Please pray** for all those who are sick and for all those who have died recently. We also remember: Stephen Reding, Baby: Daniel King, Josephine Scully, Taylor Hogan, Mary Flannery, Kitty Watts, Annie Kelsall, Patricia Bell, Daniel Creamer, Bridget Dolan, Mark Stephenson, Francis Birch, Kath Coleman and all 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**



**Priests: Fr. Sean Davidson & Fr. Louis Charuvila Pappy**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April - 10<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

During Holy Week, we will be pondering with love all that Christ suffered during his Passion. Just after the luminous mystery of the institution of the Eucharist, Jesus crosses the Kidron valley and enters into a garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives, and there begins the sorrowful mysteries that save the world. The garden was called Gethsemane which means "olive press." It was the place in which the olives would be crushed to make olive oil. In that garden the soul of Jesus would be so utterly crushed by anxiety that St Luke could say: "Being in anguish he prayed more earnestly and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground." (Luke 22:44) I know very little about it, but he seems to have experienced what is called Hematidrosis. Although very rare, it can be brought on by extreme stress. Leonardo da Vinci reported witnessing it occur in a soldier just before battle. There have been cases of it in those awaiting execution and also one during the blitz in London in 1940. What is clear is that Jesus suffered an immense interior trial before ever his physical torture began. The Passion began in his heart. It was the moment in which he freely chose to take our sinful history into his immaculate Person, so as to pay the debt which we were unable to wipe out on our own.

In those dark hours of anguish just before his arrest, he asked his friends for the only favour he ever requested of them: "Could you not watch one hour with me?" (Matthew 26:40) He desired the consolation of their friendship, expressed in the form of staying awake to pray in solidarity with him. It doesn't seem a lot to ask, but they didn't even manage to do that much for him. He repeated his request several times, but in vain. This Thursday evening, we will have the opportunity to keep watch with the Lord until midnight as a gesture of love to try to make up for what his first friends failed to do in Gethsemane.

Jesus also told them in that hour of darkness that if they stayed awake to pray, they would avoid falling into temptation. (Matthew 26:41) Perhaps they might not have abandoned and denied him had they only done what he asked. Prayer still protects us from falling into temptation today. If you struggle to remain in a state of grace, a healing remedy is to increase your daily prayer time so that your

soul will grow stronger and more faithful to Christ. I finish with a line from Fulton Sheen's book, *Characters of the Passion*: "No soul ever fell away from God without giving up prayer. Prayer establishes contact with Divine Power. However dark the way, when we pray, temptation can never master us. The first step downward in the average soul is the giving up of the practice of prayer, the breaking of the circuit with divinity, and the proclamation of one's own self-sufficiency."

May God bless you all.  
Fr Sean

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**Easter Services:** Our Easter services are detailed below. Please note you do not need to book to attend any of the services.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April Holy Thursday: 7pm, followed by watching till midnight – there is a sheet to sign up for a period of watching to ensure we have at least one person at all times. All welcome, even if the slot you want is full.

(Please note there will be no 9.30am Mass on this date)

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

**Attention all Gift Aid Donors:** The tax year 2021/22 will be coming to an end on 5th April 2022 and the Parish will then make a claim to HMRC for Gift Aid refunds on all donations made in the tax year. Father Sean would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the donations you have made over the course of this tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please let Mary McPeake our Parish Gift Aid Organiser know ([m.mcpeake@btinternet.com](mailto:m.mcpeake@btinternet.com) Mob: 07929 075746) by 5th April 2022, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations you have made during the tax year. As an indication for every £1 per week that you give via gift aid, you must have paid £13 in tax in the year and for every £5 per month that you give, you must have paid £15 in tax in the year. In addition it is important that we keep our Gift Aid records up-to-date and therefore if you have moved house or change your name in the past year, we would be grateful if you could also let Mary know. Thank you

## Mass Times & Intentions

Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann's St Chad's	5pm <b>6.30pm</b>	Patricia Kenny RIP <b>For the parishioners of St Chad and St Ann</b>
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i>	St Chad's St Ann's	<b>9.30am</b> 11am	<b>Pat McCarron RIP</b> Mary Morgan RIP
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann's	10am	Peter Dowd RIP
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann's St Chad's	10am <b>6.30pm</b>	Lily & Frank Murphy RIP <b>Damien Byrne RIP</b>
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>		
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	St Chad's St Ann's	<b>7pm</b> 7.30pm	<b>Tony Byrne RIP</b> Roisin & John English
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> <i>Good Friday</i>	St Chad's St Ann's	3pm 3pm	
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> <i>Easter Vigil</i>	St Ann's St Chad's	8pm <b>8pm</b>	Colette Murphy RIP <b>Bernard Howell</b>
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> <i>Easter Sunday</i>	St Chad's St Ann's	<b>9.30am</b> 11am	<b>Peter Danson RIP</b> For the parishioners of St Ann's & St Chad's

**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 September 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:** Please note there will be no Perpetual Adoration this week, this will resume on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April.

**Gift Aid envelopes** for next year are available for collection. The boxes are labelled and they are at the back of church.