

The Parish of St. Edward the Confessor
Registered Charity no. 234025

Father Peter Cryan Tel: 01625 423576 E-mail: st.edmacc@gmail.com

Parish website: <https://www.st-edward-macclesfield.org.uk/>

145 London Road, Macclesfield Cheshire SK11 7RL (For Parking SK11 7RZ)

Christ the King Pr. School Tel: 01625 466833; web-site www.christthekingcheshire.sch.uk



Newsletter for the week of 30th June 2024 Sunday Readings Cycle B Weekday Readings Cycle II

Readings for SS Peter & Paul Solemnity Acts 12:1-11; Psalm 23; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,17-18; Matthew 16: 13-19

Saturday 29th June 5.30pm 1st Mass of the **SOLEMN HOLYDAY of SAINTS PETER & PAUL** – Peter's Pence Collection

Sunday 30th June 10.30am Mass of the **SOLEMN HOLYDAY of SAINTS PETER & PAUL** – Peter's Pence Collection

Monday 1st July (Optional: St. Oliver Plunkett, bishop, martyr)

Tuesday 2nd July

Wednesday 3rd July 11.30am Mass FEAST: ST. THOMAS, apostle

Thursday 4th July (Optional: St. Elizabeth of Portugal married woman, ruler)

Friday 5th July 1.00pm Mass (in St. Luke's Chapel, Macclesfield Hospital) (Optional: St. Anthony Zaccaria, priest)

Saturday 6th July 10.00am Mass (Optional : St. Maria Goretti, virgin martyr)

10.30-11.00am Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 6th July 5.30pm 1st Mass of 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 7th July 10.30am Mass of the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings for 14th Ordinary Sunday Ezekiel 2:2-5; ; Psalm 122; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6

GENERAL ELECTION HUSTINGS in MACCLESFIELD- QUIZ THE 7 CANDIDATES!

Tomorrow Mon 1st July 7.30- 9.00pm at St. Michael's in the Market Square. Doors open at 7.10pm. Get a FREE ticket to be sure of admission since it was full up at the last 2019 election from <https://buytickets.at/macchustingsge2024/1283759>

SVP'S & CAFOD'S GENERAL ELECTION BRIEFINGS

Tackling *poverty* and *injustice* are among the important issues politicians should act on. *St Vincent de Paul Society & CAFOD* have produced a guide for Catholics for the General Election, with suggested questions to ask candidates. See cafod.org.uk/encounter or svp.org.uk/encounter for more information.

St Edward's Food Festival

Sat 13th July
12-2pm

Bring a dish for
our shared table

@ St Edward's RC Church
garden, SK11 7RZ

ALL WELCOME

Free barbeque!



FREE bouncy
castle!!!

PARISH FOOD FESTIVAL

Sat 13th July 12noon- 2.00pm will be held in the Community Room & outside on the front lawn with a free Barbeque & refreshments, shared table (with ethnic food encouraged) and a bouncy castle. Everyone is welcome bring your family and friends! Please put your name down on one of the lists with the dish you wish to bring along to share if you are able .

CRAFT CLUB

Next Wed 10th July 12.15-2.30pm Craft Club meeting, & on 17th July

CALLED TO THE PRIESTHOOD?

Have you considered a vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood in imitation of Jesus the Good Shepherd? See our new website at shrewsburyvocations.org. for more information. To further explore God's call for your life & learn about opportunities for discernment, email the diocesan vocations director at vocationsdirector@dioceseofshrewsbury.org For more resources, see the National Office for Vocation at www.ukvocation.org and www.ukpriest.org

CASTLERIGG RETREAT CENTRE in the LAKE DISTRICT

Castlerigg Manor is the retreat centre of the Diocese of Lancaster, based in Keswick in the Lake District It has 72 beds, 7 acres of grounds with a chapel, large & small group meeting rooms and is 10 mins walk from Keswick & Derwentwater. It is offering a special rate of £81per person including meals for some weekends from September until April 2025 Contact Business Manager, Adrienne – business@castleriggmanor.co.uk

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Last Sunday Collection £285.00

GET IN TOUCH QUICKLY –IF YOU ARE SICK If you or your relative enters Macclesfield Hospital let Fr. Peter know as soon as possible tel: 01625 423576 or by e-mail st.edmacc@gmail.com

DIARY of EVENTS

- Sun 30th June 12.30pm Catenian President's Mass
- Thurs 4th July General Election- Community Room whole day use as polling Station
- Tues 9th July P.P.C. meeting 6.30pm in the C. Room
- Sun 14th July Sea Sunday – Day of Prayer for Seafarers & collection for the *Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris)*

Peter's Pence: Supporting Pope Francis in his mission



As the Church prepares for the Pope's annual appeal on Sunday, June 30, Catholics are invited to contribute, even with a small monetary donation, to support the activities of the Successor of Peter, who seeks to be close to everyone, especially those who suffer.

Sunday, June 30, offers everyone an opportunity to help the Pope express his closeness to people who suffer.

The World Day for the Pope's Charity is an invitation for communities worldwide to donate to Peter's Pence and support the mission of the Bishop of Rome—a mission of peace, charity, and solidarity with those in need.

With a donation, which can be made on this special day or any other day of the year, anyone can actively contribute to the universal mission of Pope Francis.

This mission is more necessary than ever in a world troubled by wars, the arms race, injustices, the suffering of many poor people, and attacks on the sanctity of human life and personal dignity.

The activities of the Holy See's Dicastries assist the Pope daily in bringing his voice and tangible support to many difficult situations, and support charitable works for individuals and families in need, helping people affected by natural disasters and wars.

The message of the Successor of Peter is universal and rooted in the Gospel. In order to reach everyone, it needs the support of each of us. Our donation can help the Pope help others by offering a small contribution to his mission. It makes it possible for him to be close to all geographical and existential peripheries, and offers a chance to collaborate in spreading his

prophetic message and voice worldwide, supporting his tireless efforts for peace and fraternity.

Peter's Pence is a donation that can be small in amount but which holds great symbolic value.

It is a concrete way to strengthen our sense of belonging to the Church and our love for the Bishop of Rome, who presides over all Churches in charity.

By donating to Peter's Pence, we not only help the Pope aid those suffering but also participate in his mission to proclaim the Gospel and assist local Churches through the Dicastries of the Holy See and the network of his representatives worldwide, promoting integral human development, education, peace, justice, and fraternity.

Visit the Peter's Pence webpage at <https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html> to see more for example below:



ANNUAL DISCLOSURE 2022

General Overview

Peter's Pence is the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father as a sign of their shared concern with the Successor of Peter in addressing the necessities of the Universal Church and to help those most in need.

In 2022 Peter's Pence income amounted to € 107 million, while the expenses borne by the Fund totalled € 93.5 million, as per below Table 1.

(€000,000)	2022
Income	107
Donations received	43.5
Financial & Other	63.5
Expenses	93.5
Contributions granted	93.8
Financial & Other	1.7
Total	11.5

Table 1: Income and expenses overview

Donations received by Peter's Pence

Peter's Pence consists of:

- the collection carried out on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul in all dioceses of the world;
- the offerings received by credit card via the website <https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en/dona.html> by bank transfer, postal order, cheque, cash and through the Pontifical Representation;
- inheritances and bequests.

All donations are clustered under the following sources (Table 2):

- Dioceses
- Private Donors
- Religious Orders
- Foundations

The donations mentioned above can also be grouped according to the originating country those under the categories *Religious Orders and Foundations*.

(€000,000)	2022
Countries	29.8 68.5%
United States of America	11 25.3%
Korea	3.5 8%
Italy	2.9 6.7%
Brazil	1.5 3.4%
Germany	1.3 3%
France	1.2 2.8%
Ireland	0.9 2.1%
Spain	0.8 1.8%
Mexico	0.6 1.4%
Slovakia	0.5 1.1%
All Others	5.6 12.9%
Others	13.7 31.5%
Foundations	12.6 29%
Religious Orders	1.1 2.5%
Total	43.5 100%

Table 2: Donations breakdown by originating country

Financial & Other income

During 2022 a significant capital gain was achieved, thanks to the sale of real estate assets to Peter's Pence Fund.



Contributions granted by Peter's Pence

Peter's Pence aims at supporting two main areas of the Pope's Universal Mission: funding the activities of service carried out by the Holy See's Dicastries, Entities and Bodies and promoting charity initiatives in favour of those most in need.

During 2022 contributions granted by the Peter's Pence Fund added up to € 93.8 million, € 41.5 million of which were covered by the offerings collected throughout 2022, whereas the remainder (totaling about € 52.3 million) were funded through the proceeds from real estate management. Contributions granted by Peter's Pence can be broken down as follows:

- € 77.6 million to support the activities promoted by the Holy See in carrying out the Holy Father's Apostolic Mission;
- € 16.2 million to implement projects of direct assistance to those most in need.

(€000,000)	2022
Destination	93.8
Support to the Apostolic Mission	77.6
Projects of direct assistance	16.2
Source	93.8
From 2022 Donations	41.2
From Financial & Other	52.6

Table 3: Donations breakdown by destination and source

Direct assistance to those most in need (€ 16.2 million)

The Pope, Father of the Universal Church, is concerned with the material assistance to the neediest: people and families, migrants and refugees, diseases, perishes and religious brotherhoods experiencing difficulties; entire populations affected by natural calamities, wars or in need of humanitarian assistance, and much more.

During 2022, Pope Francis, through the Dicastries of the Holy See grouped in "Apostolic Mission Group" (see page 6), has donated € 26 million, of which € 16.2 million were funded by Peter's Pence that promoted and supported 192 projects across 72 different countries, geographically distributed as follows:

(€000,000)	2022
Continents	Projects % € %
Africa	77 42.1%
Europe*	42 22.4%
Americas	18 9.4%
Asia	11 5.7%
Oceania	2 1.0%
Total	192 100% 16.2 100%

Table 4: Number of projects divided by continent

* The amount is due to the promotion of humanitarian aid in the emerging/developing countries of Africa.



Encountering Christ

The Wednesday Prayer Custom for Homes, Schools & Parishes

Prayerfully preparing for Sunday Mass with special prayers for our school families



Set aside 10-15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross and remain still for a minute of settling silence.



Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Read the Gospel, aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.

1

Read The Gospel for Sunday 30th June 2024 PETER THE ROCK

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But you,” he said, “who do you say I am?” Then Simon Peter spoke up, “You are the Christ,” he said, “the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.”

Taken from Matthew 16:13-19 The Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Year B

2

Reflect After reading the Gospel, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection.

This is one of the very rare saints’ days to displace the Sunday celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord, which shows its importance. In a way it is still a Feast of the Lord, for it is the feast of the Church. Peter is to be the Rock foundation of Jesus’ own people, for that is what we are. Christ has called us together as his own people, and he has promised that he will always be present in this Church, ‘when two or three are gathered together in my name’. So Christ is present even in an ordinary household trying to live together with Christ at their centre. Here Jesus makes the promise to Peter that what he binds on earth will be bound in heaven; his decisions will hold firm in the eyes of God. Later Jesus makes the same promise to the community itself. So Peter is the spokesman for the Christian community, voicing the decisions of the Church. At his last meeting with his disciples the risen Christ promises to be with them ‘till the end of the ages’; the bishops, as the successors of the apostles, are the channels of Christ’s presence among us now. So today is the celebration of Christ among us, his people.

How do you celebrate day by day this wonderful presence of Christ in our midst?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

3

Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Thank God for any insight you may have received.

Then ask God to bless you with a spiritual gift to help you act on any resolution you have made. Perhaps: love, hope, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, patience, humility, joy, forgiveness, self-control, courage, generosity, faith or something else.

4

Pray for Families

This Wednesday’s word for our school families is FAITH!

After praying for your loved ones, please remember to pray for our present and future Church, particularly for the families connected to our schools. You may want to conclude this special weekly time with a simple prayer such as:

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS †

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of **Sunday 30th June 2024**



1st Reading: Acts 12:1-11

Peter's Narrow Escape

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly. On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. "Get up!" he said "Hurry!" - and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, "Put on your belt and sandals." After he had done this, the angel next said, "Wrap your cloak round you and follow me." Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. "Now I know it is all true," he said. "The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me."



This story is delightfully told: Peter is like a sleepy child, woken in the middle of the night. There are perhaps too many escapes from prison in the Book of Acts; Luke obviously enjoys this kind of story, and so would his audience. However, such narratives demonstrate the special protection which God exercises over the infant Church. Once James, the leader of the Jerusalem Church, had been executed, if Peter had gone too, the community would have been dangerously bereft. The presence of the angel signifies this special protection and divine intervention to ensure the continuance of the Church. Peter has already been leading the Church (he has introduced the centurion Cornelius, the first gentile convert) and he still has to take a leading part at the Council of Jerusalem, thereby ensuring the liberty of gentile Christians from observance of the full Jewish Law. After that Peter disappears from the scene. The tradition is strong that he was martyred in Rome, but we do not know where his apostolic role took him. Paul tells us that, while he himself was entrusted with the mission to the gentiles, Peter was entrusted with the mission to the Jews. The Jewish Christians were an important group among the first generations of Christians.

What do stories like this in the Acts of the Apostles tell us about the special place Peter occupied in the early Church?



2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8. 17-18

Paul in the Evening of his Life

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.



The Second Letter to Timothy was probably written in Paul's name, rather than being directly authored by him. As Paul frequently does, this passage uses the images of sport, so popular in the ancient world: the arena, the race-track and the winner's crown. Paul gives full expression to his consciousness of the Lord's power to save, and also to his longing for the completion of his own life in the Lord, balanced (as always) by his eagerness to do the Lord's work in his mission here and now. This longing is at the heart of every Christian. Despite a human fear of death, we know that in the end we will be welcomed into the Lord's embrace. The early Christians saw this 'Appearing' of the Lord in terms of a royal procession in the clouds, signalling the end of the world, but what we look forward to is not so much the dissolution of the universe but to a personal meeting with the Lord. This meeting will be awesome and daunting because we will be brought face to face with ourselves and see ourselves as we truly are - including all those faults and failures which we refuse to admit even to ourselves, yet conscious of the overwhelming comfort of forgiveness in the divine love.

What will it be like at the Lord's 'Appearing'? Is it something for which you too long?

“ We will be welcomed into the Lord's embrace. ”

The Wednesday Word Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God

**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**