



Marple Bridge  
(Hollins Lane)

The Catholic Community Newsletter  
for the parish of  
**St Mary** and **The Annunciation**  
Marple Bridge New Mills  
1 Hollins Lane St Mary's Road  
SK6 5BB SK22 3BW



New Mills  
(St Mary's Road)

Fr. Emmanuel Abbem (Parish Priest)

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## FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

		Place		Intention
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm	MB	Mass	
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	NM	Mass	
	12 noon	MB	Mass	
Weds 13 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	MB	Mass	
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	NM	Mass	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	7.00pm	MB	No Mass	Stations of the Cross (both churches)
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm	MB	Mass	
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	NM	Mass	
	12 noon	MB	Mass	Kathleen McGrath R.I.P.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the sick: David Cochrane, Dorothy Graham, Mary Bradbury, Joan Bindley. To be added to this list, please contact the parish office or collect a form from the back of church.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** There will be a second collection this weekend (9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March) for the mission appeal of the Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver. Next weekend (16-17 March), our second collection will be our Lenten offerings for Intercare.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will take place on Fridays during Lent at 7.00pm at both churches; if you would like to lead this, please sign up on the list at the back of the churches.

**EASTER CARDS** will be available in both of our churches from week ending Saturday 3rd March and Sunday 4th March. This gives time for people to choose cards and post if necessary. **Small Cards are 28p each. Large Cards are 70p each.** (Pauline and Ann).

**PARISH BINGO:** The second session will be this Wednesday 13th March, 2 pm till 4 pm; please bring your favourite dobber; contact David Mellor for more information

**BISHOP PATRICK WRITES:** “Intercare has ambitious plans for 2024. They aim to support a hospital and ten health centres in northern Malawi, four hospitals in Sierra Leone and thirty eight partner health units in Tanzania. Alongside this, their work strengthens the commitment of Christians who are able to give of their charity to sisters and brothers whom they haven’t met, but who benefit so richly from this aid. During this season of Lent, when we are called upon to consider the traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, I very much commend to you support of Intercare. Please give what you can; I have seen for myself that it will make a difference.” As a Parish, this will be our Lenten charity and donations from our Parish will be sent to support it.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** will take place next Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00am at New Mills; all are welcome. There will also be a short fifteen minutes of adoration for the school children after Thursday Mass this week.

**READERS ARE REQUESTED** to sign up for our Easter services during Holy Week; if you can volunteer for one of the extras needed, it would be very helpful. A notice is on display at both churches with the individual church’s requirements. Please put your name in the relevant spaces and/or contact Pauline Howell at Marple Bridge or Joe Hennigan at New Mills.

**ABORTION DECRIMINALISATION PROPOSAL:** An amendment has been put forward to the Criminal Justice Bill by pro-abortion MPs which, if successful, would decriminalise abortion. This means that it would be possible for women to induce their own abortion, using pills sent through the post, at any time and for any reason. In other words, it would be legal to abort an unborn child UP TO BIRTH, if induced by the woman herself. Such a change is not supported by public opinion. Polls suggest that 70% of women would like to see a REDUCTION in the present time limit for abortions (24 weeks) rather than removing all time limits. If passed into law, this radical amendment would increase the number of babies who are aborted. It would also increase the risks to women’s health, since these late term abortions would not be carried out under medical supervision but in women’s homes. This proposal will be debated in the House of Commons in early March. Please write now to your MP, asking them to oppose this extreme proposal. You can do this using SPUC’s easy to use webtool, at [www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments](http://www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments) Please also pray for the defeat of this amendment, for protection of unborn babies, and help and comfort for mothers in need.

**DIOCESAN RETREATS:** A retreat for men will take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Mount Saint Bernard abbey, Coalville, given by the monks from the abbey. If you attend any of these retreats you will need to bring a packed lunch. Contact Joe Hopkins for more information on any of these retreats: [joe.hopkins@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:joe.hopkins@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or 0115 953 9806