



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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FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

		Place		Intention
Sat 16 th March	6.30pm	MB	Mass	
Sun 17 th March	9.30am	NM	Mass	Kathleen McGrath R.I.P.
	12 noon	MB	Mass	
Weds 20 th March		MB	No Mass	
Thurs 21 st March	10.00am	NM	Mass	
Friday 22nd March	10.00am	MB	Mass	Stations of the Cross (both churches)
	7.00pm			
Sat 23 rd March	6.30pm	MB	Mass	
Sun 24 th March	9.30am	NM	Mass	
	12 noon	MB	Mass	

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: This 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.

AGNES SHIRT R.I.P: Our dear ex-church worker Agnes Shirt sadly passed away in her Norfolk nursing home on Monday 11th March; we extend our condolences to all her family and friends. Her funeral will be in New Mills in a few weeks' time.

PALM SUNDAY WALK OF WITNESS: Hayfield Christians will once again be walking through the village, and up to the top of Lantern Pike, Little Hayfield, carrying a wooden cross, which will be erected on the top of Lantern Pike, and remain there for the period of Holy Week. We will start at 2 p.m. outside St Matthews Church, and expect to have a short service at the top of Lantern Pike at 3p.m. Everyone is welcome to join, and maybe even carry the cross !

PARISH BINGO: Thank to all who attended the Wednesday bingo session, also to Joe Hennigan for winning over half the prizes. It was great to see so many there. The next session will be on 10th April 2pm till 4pm

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

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.

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. 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 Please also pray for the defeat of this amendment, for protection of unborn babies, and help and comfort for mothers in need.

SJOG HOMES FOR UKRAINE: is an official provider of the government scheme, SJOG Homes for Ukraine acts as a matching, training, and support pathway for guests from Ukraine and hosts in the UK who are willing to provide much-needed support. Our programme operates collaboratively with the esteemed Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN). At SJOG Homes for Ukraine, we offer a range of services to ensure fulfilling experience for both guests and hosts. These services include matching, training for Ahosts and guests, transportation assistance, a Welcome Box for Ukrainian guests upon arrival, and support during the placement. **More information on the project can be found at the following links**

- Website: <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk>
- E-mail: homesforukraine@sjog.org.uk
- Facebook: facebook.com/sjoghomesforukraine
- YouTube: youtube.com/@sjoghomesforukraine