

12 February 2025

Dear Parishioners of the Parish of St Mary's, Marple Bridge and the Annunciation Church, New Mills.

I am writing as Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council in regard to the letter read out at St Mary's Church, Marple Bridge on Saturday the 8th and Sunday 9th February 2025. The Bishop's letter informed us that St Mary's Church is to close this Easter.

The PPC members found out about this the same time as Parishioners and we have no other information available at this time.

However, we feel we need to respond to the Bishop's letter and I know there are many questions Parishioners will want to ask.

If you could email me your questions (and any suggestions you might have to give an alternative to the decision to close our beautiful church), we can collate the questions and see if we can find out answers for you.

A copy of the Bishop's letter will be available at both churches and if anyone requests a copy I can send you one. Also, Parishioners can also write directly to our Bishop if this is preferred.

In the meantime we will say our prayers and support our Priest, Father Emmanuel.

Yours sincerely,
Denise Ead MBE
Chair PPC