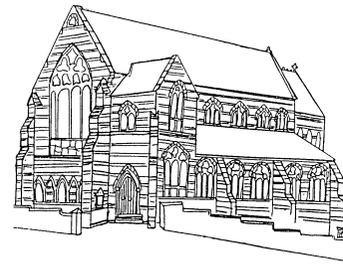


OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS & ST. PETER IN CHAINS, STOKE



Registered as a Charity (No. 234216)
Stoke-on-Trent ST4 7LT, Tel: 01782 844308
Church email: ourladyandstpeterstoke@yahoo.co.uk
<http://www.ourladyandstpeterstoke.org.uk/>
Church Twitter: [twitter@OLSP_Stoke](https://twitter.com/OLSP_Stoke)
Church Facebook: [facebook@OLSPstoke](https://facebook.com/OLSPstoke)

Parish Priest: Fr. George Ettuparayil (Rony Kurian George); Email: 8parayil@gmail.com
Parish Deacon: Rev Tony Bradshaw; Email: a.bradshaw555@ntlworld.com (Retired)

Sun 24th March 2019 – 3rd Sunday of Lent

Mass book – p 160 Week 3 Yr C Vol 1
Hymns: E:285; O:53; C:72,801; R:233.

Welcome to all new comers. If you are visitors, I hope you have a good time staying in the area. If you are new in the parish, please introduce yourself to the Parish Priest after Mass and help yourself to a leaflet about the life of the parish from the porch.

Sat	23	Lk 13: 1-9		5:15pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
				5:45pm	Regina Barbara Ahorro Salazar (RIP)
Sun	24	3rd Sunday of Lent	Week 3	10:00am	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
				10:30am	Bernardo Salvador Anniversary
Mon	25	Annunciation of the Lord, Lk1:26-38	Solemnity	9:30am	
Tue	26	Mt 18:21-35		9:30am	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
Wed	27	Mt 5:17-19	(in school)	9:30am	Teachers, Staff & Pupils
Thu	28	Lk 11:14-23		9:30am	
Fri	29	Lk 12:28-34		9:30am	People of the Parish
Sat	30	Lk 15:1-3, 11-32		5:15pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
				5:45pm	Marjorie Briggs Intention
Sun	31	4th Sunday of Lent		10:00am	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
				10:30am	David Williams Intention

Please pray for: Our sick and housebound: Malou Cea Biales, Paul Pearson, Robin Butler, Firdela Aclan, Conchita Cruz, Colin White and Michael Barlow.

Those whose anniversaries occur during this time: George Adams, Richard Huckfield.

Mass Offerings: please give us your intentions, these may be for someone who has died or who is sick, or a private intention such as, Wedding Anniversaries, Birthdays, Thanksgiving, etc. The mass offering envelopes are provided at the back of the church. Your offerings will provide a great support to our Church.

PARISH FINANCE

Gift Aid	£ 193.00
Loose	160.12
Total	£ 419.89

CAFOD – Lent Fast **£ 194.71**

THIS WEEK

Counters	Team 4
Red Bag	Parish Collection
Blue Bag	No Second Collection

NEXT WEEK

Counters	Team 1
Red Bag	Parish Collection
Blue Bag	No Second Collection

Many thanks for your contribution

Mass Attendance

Sat:87; Sun:181. Your weekly mass attendance is the greatest support to the parish. If you are going away on holiday please remember the parish in your prayers.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS		READERS
Sat 23 rd Mar	D Butler, I Ponce	M Kavanagh, M Kavanagh, P Grady
Sun 24 th Mar	A Wani, J Thomas	A Faraday, C Plaza, R Stedall
Sat 30 th Mar	J Hughes, D Moran	P Ball, P Ball, D Butler
Sun 31 st Mar	A Tipper, C Plaza	P Connell, J George, P Brown

Children's Liturgy Rota	
24 th March	
31 st March	Maria

Gift Aid Donors: If you changed your address during the last year please give your new address to the Parish Priest or Peter Bradley. It is to this address that the Diocesan Office will send the Gift Aid Certificate, which you can use for your Tax return. You will suffer no extra tax and will even gain if you pay tax at the higher rate. Those Gift Aid Donors whose circumstances have changed so that they will not pay tax this coming tax year should not take any envelopes but please let Peter Bradley or the Parish Priest know in writing. To join the scheme see Peter Bradley.

Gift Aid envelopes: for all Gift Aid donors, your Gift Aid envelopes from this April are now ready for collection. Please kindly collect your envelopes after the Mass.

Altar Servers mandatory Training: all junior altar servers are required to attend the training on Tuesdays of **26th Mar, 2nd Apr & 9th Apr** in St Catherine Room. Each session will last for one hour from 5:30pm -6:30pm.

Altar Servers: are being reminded, that they are expected to hang up their albs and girdles after they have helped putting things away.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 5:00 - 5:30 pm.

1st Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15 – I Am has sent me to you.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 – The life of the people under Moses in the desert was written down to be a lesson for us.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9 – Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Sunday Reflections

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts.

Excerpted from Loyola Press: A Jesuit Ministry

NOTICES

Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent: on Thursday 11th April from 6:30pm – 7:30pm in our Parish.

SVP Meeting: on Saturday 30th Mar after the evening Mass in St Catherine Room.

Parish Council Meeting: on Sunday 31st March at 5:00pm in St Catherine room. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting.

Mothering Sunday: to celebrate Mothering Sunday on 31 March, the Stations of the Cross, at 10am before mass, will be led by the children. Any children who would like to participate by doing a short reading please arrive at 9:45am.

Easter Raffle: the tickets for the Easter raffle will be available this weekend. The proceeds will be use for the Church Flowers for the year.

Baptism Preparation: will take place on Friday 5th April at St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Trent Vale at 7:30pm.

Church Car Park Barrier: a new car park barrier will be installed for our Church bottom car park. The whole car park will not be accessible on Monday 15th April due to contractor's initial work to be done. Then, Mon 22nd April is the actual installation of the barrier. This might take a couple of days to finish. On the dates given, the car park is not accessible

North Staffs Area Pastoral Council Evening of Training and Reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: on Tuesday 2nd April start at 7:00pm at Holy Trinity Church, Newcastle. The session should approximately last for an hour.

Encounter, a retreat over three evenings: on 2nd, 3rd, 4th April at 7:30pm in St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Trent vale.

Devotion to the Divine Mercy: on Sunday 28th April at St Augustine,s Church, Sandon Road, Meir. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 2:00pm; Divine Mercy Chaplet and Invocations at 3:00pm; and Mass at 4:00pm.

Year for Priests 2018-2019 Called to Witness: on Saturday 4th May on the Feast of the Martyrs of England and Wales at Harvington Hall, Worcestershire. This is offered to young people aged 18-25, an opportunity to reflect on the vocation of the lay and ordained in today's world, in the light of the witness of the Reformation martyrs of our country. For more details please contact Deacon Michael McKearney on 0121 230 6273 or email michael.mckearney@rc-birmingham.org.

Archdiocese of Birmingham Walsingham Pilgrimage: on Saturday 11th May led by Bishop David McGough. Pilgrimage starts at 11:30am arrival to the Catholic Shrine; Holy Mass in the Reconciliation Chapel at 12:30pm; Rosary Procession at 3:00pm concluding with Benediction; and 5:00pm departure from the village. For more details please contact Fr Craig Szmidt on 01214224865

Sacramental Preparation: the Instruction for First Holy Communion will be on Tuesdays of **26th Mar and 9th April**. If you cannot attend any of the sessions or have any questions please contact the Parish Catechist, Bev Alaimo on 07708575713. The Instruction for Confirmation will be every Tuesday on **2nd, 30th Apr, 14th May and 4th June** at 4:15pm in Priory House.