



St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Stephen Harding Catholic Church

53 Great Hales Street, Market Drayton TF9 1JL

E-mail: ssthomasandstephen@gmail.com

www.ss-thomas-stephen.org.uk

Priest: Father Anthony Wild Tel: 01952 811299

Deacon: David Hill

Tel: 01952 813004



Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday 25 April <i>Psalter week 4</i>	MASS 11am	Fourth Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday Day of Prayer for Vocations	Beryl Locket
Monday 26 April		Monday of 4th week of Easter	
Tuesday 27 April	7pm	Tuesday of 4th week of Easter Evening Prayer over Zoom	
Wednesday 28 April	MASS 10am	Wednesday 4th week of Easter St Peter Chanel St Louis de Montfort	Priest's Intention
Thursday 29 April		St Catherine of Siena Day of Special Prayer for Europe	
Friday 30 April	7pm	Friday of 4th week of Easter Pope St Pius V Rosary over Zoom	
Saturday 1 May		Saturday of 4th week of Easter St Joseph the Worker Day of Prayer for Human Work	
Sunday 2 May	MASS 11am	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Parishioners

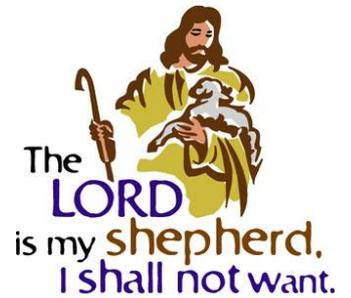


Parish Evening Prayer & Rosary Why not join those who celebrate **Evening Prayer (Tuesday 7pm) over Zoom** and the **Rosary (Friday 7pm) over Zoom**? It's never too late to start, please email ssthomasandstephen@gmail.com or phone Wilf on 07983 981931.

Gospel extract John 10:11-18 **The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep** Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

'I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep.

And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd.



Commentary Each year on this Sunday there is a reading from John about the Good Shepherd. To think of ourselves as woolly and cuddly sheep, obedient to the shepherd, would be a mistake. Sheep are renowned as being silly, contradictory creatures, always starting off in the wrong direction, getting themselves into tangles and difficulties. In the Holy Land they are scraggy beasts, pastured on rocky and often dangerous ground, amid boulders and rocky cliffs, threatened by wild animals and marauders. It was not simply a matter of the shepherd sitting on a rock and idly playing his pipe. He needed to be on the alert to save the sheep from hurting themselves. So Jesus as the good shepherd is kept well occupied by our foibles, our stubbornness, our mistakes and our fears. Again, as in the other two readings, there is the reassurance of a close relationship with the Father. Jesus knows us intimately, just as he knows the Father. It is questionable whether in real life a shepherd should lay down his life for his sheep: what would happen to the remainder of the flock? But it is an expression of his whole-hearted devotion to the sheep, and an assimilation to the case of Jesus. *Henry Wansborough OSB*



The Pope's Intentions for Prayer: April Universal Intention – Fundamental Rights We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Please keep the following Parishioners in your prayers ... Chris Pritchard, Sheila Bloxham, John McGrath, Doreen Dodd, Faye Hargreaves, Mary Goodwin, Julian and Dawn Huxley, Sheila Minnery, Emmie Justice, Shane McGroggan, Doreen Warrilow, Sylvia Mary Stanworth, & all the sick and housebound of the parish

Permanent Diaconate Wilf McSherry Wilf will be ordained as a Permanent Deacon on 24 July at 12 noon at St Michael & All Angels, Birkenhead CH49 5LB Further details to follow. Wilf would like to thank you for all your prayers and support during his time of formation.



Permanent Diaconate FAQs How do you address a permanent Deacon?

In writing ... The Rev Mr Joseph Bloggs. *In conversation* ... Deacon Joe.



Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries In 2020 our Parish raised £750 through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio & Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Communities and Missionaries around the world are so grateful for your support and have asked for their thanks to be passed on, together with their prayers for us all. Find out more at missio.org.uk

Saint of the Week St Peter Chanel 1803 - 1841 He was born in France, at Cuet near Lyon. He had been a priest for three years when he was accepted by the Marists, a missionary order. He was sent out to evangelize the island of Futuna in the Pacific, where cannibalism had only recently been banned by the local ruler, Niuliki. At first all went well, and Fr Chanel and his lay assistants made many converts; but as he learned the local language and gained the confidence of the people, Niuliki became jealous and fearful; and the baptism of his son and his son's friends was the last straw. While Father Chanel's companions were away, Niuliki had him to death. His mission had lasted only three years: he is the first martyr of the South Seas.



Do you read a Catholic Newspaper? **Weekly Newspapers** can now be delivered direct to your home by post.

The **Catholic Times**, and the **Universe** Special Easter Offer

Go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call us on 0161 820 5722 and we will arrange delivery for you.

Special Easter Offer: 3 months £25 12 Months £99

Digital copy 12 Months £55 Hard copy and digital copy, £115

The **Tablet** Special Easter Offer Quote Special Offer NE15 - thetablet@servicehelpline.co.uk

or The Tablet NE15 Offer 1 King St. Cloisters Clifton Walk London W6 0GY

Or call quoting 01795 414855 between 8am-8pm Mon- Fri & 9am-1pm Saturdays.

6 months £53.00 or £92.00 for 12 months (normal full annual rate £119)

Market Drayton Foodbank

The foodbank needs fundamental food items such as those on their shopping list. A list of most needed foods can be found on the website at marketdrayton.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/ Any donations can be dropped off at the Parish Rooms, Church Street TF9 1AF on Tuesdays and Fridays 9-11am only.

The following items are needed in order of urgency (We have plenty of Tea, Pasta, Rice - thanks)

UHT Milk	no stock	Cat food – wet
Long life cartons of fruit juice	no stock	Men's deodorant
Sponge Puddings/Slab cake	no stock	Cleaning products
Cereals (NOT oats/porridge)	low stock	Washing up liquid
Packets of flavoured pasta/rice and noodles		



Local Supermarket Gift cards, vouchers, - Morrison's, Lidl, Asda, Sainsbury's - Thank you

Market Drayton Churches Together - New webmaster needed

Churches Together are looking for a new webmaster to look after its website. The site uses WordPress, which is an easy to use platform. For the last ten years it has been looked after by Randall Hardy who would like to pass on the responsibility to someone else in the coming months. Randall is willing to spend time familiarising his replacement with the user interface if necessary. Could this be an opportunity for you to serve the local Christian community? Time, motivation and not being terrified by computers are all that is required. In the first instance please contact Helen McSherry.