

ST. ANNE'S NANTWICH NEWSLETTER

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH
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Parish Twitter Feed @stannesnantwich

Parish Priest: Fr. Tony Grace

Fr Michael Ryan OMI

Permanent Deacons: Rev. Peter Mascarenhas and Rev. John Penny

The Community Hub is available for private events during term time,

Information and bookings: <https://hallbookingonline.com/stanne>

IN NEED OF A PRIEST Please contact Fr Tony Grace on 01270 877736

Prayer and Mass Intentions can be sent by email to: stannesnantwich@btinternet.com

Saturday 31st May The Visitation of the Blessed Mary	5.00pm	Vigil Mass Seventh Sunday of Easter	Thanksgiving for Sheila Davenport's 94th birthday
Seventh Sunday of Easter 1st June Day of Special Prayer for World Communications	9.30am	Mass Seventh Sunday of Easter	Elizabeth Coburn RIP Anniversary Maureen Smith (sick)
Monday 2nd June Sts Marcellinus & Peter		No Mass or Service Today	
Tuesday 3rd June St Charles Lwanga & Companions	9.30am 10.00am	Exposition and Confession Mass	Thanksgiving Intention for Alan & Chin and all of the Eucharistic Ministers
Wednesday 4th June		No Mass or Service Today	
Thursday 5th June St Boniface	9.30am 10.00am	Exposition and Confession Mass	The Parish
Friday 6th June St Norbert		No Mass or Service Today	
Saturday 7th June	5.00pm	Vigil Mass Pentecost Sunday	Elizabeth Whalley RIP Recently Deceased
Sunday 8th June Pentecost Sunday	9.30am 11.00am	Mass Pentecost Sunday Baptism Arlo Thomas Jones	Pat Connors (sick) Jacqueline Green (sick)

COACH TRIP TO SHREWSBURY CATHEDRAL has been arranged for SATURDAY 7TH June 2025. The coach will leave St Gabriel's Church at 9.30am and pick up at St Anne's Church Nantwich at 10am. On return the coach will depart Shrewsbury at 4pm. **The coach is now full. If you wish to go onto the waiting list please give your details to Alan Brown or any member of the SVP.**

PLEASE BE IN CHURCH CAR PARK AT 9.45AM ON SAT 7TH JUNE FOR ARRIVAL OF COACH

200 Club

Congratulations to our May

Winners 1st £100 Anne

Alexander 2nd £60 Ursula

Hassall and 3rd £40 Patsy

Farrell

Diocesan Red Box Mission Mass – all are welcome!

When: Saturday 7 June 2025 at 12.15 p.m.

Venue: Shrewsbury Cathedral, Town Walls, Shrewsbury SY1 1UE

Mass with Bishop Mark Davies, Fr Anthony Chantry (National Director of Missio), Fr Anthony Grace (Missio Diocesan Director for Shrewsbury), and Fr Dermot Byrne MHM (British Regional of the Mill Hill Missionaries). Mass will be followed by refreshments.



OFFERTORY

Last week's Envelope & Loose Plate - £488.89
Card Machine - £155

Offertory received by Bank transfer in April = £2780

Thank you

Churches Together in Nantwich
 Christian Aid week Collection total
 = £1549.95 inc £158.55 from St
 Annes Thank you

Can the holder of envelope box 54 please contact Teri in the presbytery or via email at stannesnantwich@btinternet.com



The Card machine at the back of church is a convenient way of making donations to support the Mission of the Church in **St Anne's**, or there are options to support the **Red Boxes/ Missio and the SVP**

Alternatively, please scan QR code to take you to our donation web page or use the link. Many thanks. <https://donate.myдона.com/st-anne-nantwich>

Missio Red boxes – Please bring your boxes for year end counting by handing them to Pauline Binnie our Missio Local Secretary.

Gloria is hymn no.489
Creed is hymn no. 545

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 20-22 June www.retrouvaille.org.uk
Tel: 0788 7296983

The Diocesan Mass for Marriage is at Holy Angels Hale Barnes on Saturday 21st June 2025 at 12.00 noon. Anyone who would like to go, please let us know.

THE THREAT OF EUTHANSIA.

Bishop Mark writes, "The Assisted Dying Bill came to Report Stage in the House of Commons on Friday 16th May. The pathway of this Bill has not seen our parliamentary democracy at its best, marked by lack of debate and effective scrutiny. It is troubling that in these circumstances, a Bill threatening change to our society, continues unimpeded on its parliamentary path. The decisive vote is now likely to come on Friday 13th June. The final vote may be close and every effort in the next weeks to encourage our representatives in parliament to oppose this legislation could have a significant bearing on the final outcome. Please contact your local MP

sarah.russell.mp@parliament.uk and continue to encourage them to vote against Euthanasia. Sarah Russell MP, House of Commons, Westminster." Archbishop Elect John Sherrington, as the Lead Bishop on life issues has issued a helpful statement following the report stage in parliament and attached is the link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/statement-report-stage-terminally-ill-adults-end-of-life-bill/>

Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is seeking one volunteer from this parish please to help with Sea Sunday (which falls on 12/13 July this year) in this parish. This is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and takes a second collection to support the work of Stella Maris. The volunteer will read out the appeal (which Stella Maris will provide) at the end of Masses that weekend. If you can kindly do this, please contact roland.hayes@stellamarismai.org or call 07887 893 763.

The SVP are offering support to anyone who is in debt or struggling with energy bills. For confidential assistance please contact a member of the SVP or Deacon John.

St Annes 200 Club 2025 To date membership has raised £49,000.

We are looking forward to you renewing your membership - or most importantly: **Joining our community if you are not already a member** You might win £100 every month!! See flyer at church entrance on the ways to subscribe

Pope's May Prayer Intention Remembering Pope Francis, in May we pray that through work each person may find fulfilment; that families will be sustained in dignity, and that society becomes more human. <https://youtu.be/s-yWv5euD6Q>

Privacy Notice The parish of St Anne's sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes.

You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice. RC Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity No.234025

Celebrate the Jubilee at WeBelieve, a festival of Catholic Life gathering the Church to share the hope that we have in Christ. From 25th-28th July, join us for four days of music, keynotes, conversation & worship at St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham. Featuring Dr Gianna Emanuela Molla (daughter of St Gianna Molla), Fr Paul Murray, Msgr Michael Nazir-Ali, AnMari, The Southwell Consort, Fr Toby Lees & many more. Early Bird Tickets available now at www.webelievifestival.com

From St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine, Stockport
Day of Formation in Liturgical Prayer & Sacred Music: A day of study, prayer, music and reflection. Led by Fr Guy Nicholls, Director of the St John Henry Newman Institute of Liturgical Music. Saturday 28th June at St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine, Tatton Street, Stockport, SK1 1EJ. A practical day course on understanding the Liturgy and use of Sacred Music within Mass. Begins at 11am and ends with a sung Mass at 5pm. Cost £5 per person (suggested donation payable on the day). Bring a packed lunch. Tea/coffee and biscuits provided. To book or for more information, please email stockportshrine@gmail.com

LIX World Communications Day, 2025 - Share with gentleness the hope that is in your hearts (cf. 1 Pet 3:15-16) | Francis

Share with gentleness the hope that is in your hearts (cf. 1 Pet 3:15-16)

Dear brothers and sisters!

In these our times, characterized by disinformation and polarization, as a few centres of power control an unprecedented mass of data and information, I would like to speak to you as one who is well aware of the importance – now more than ever – of your work as journalists and communicators. Your courageous efforts to put personal and collective responsibility towards others at the heart of communication are indeed necessary.

As I reflect on the [Jubilee](#) we are celebrating this year as a moment of grace in these troubled times, I would like in this Message to invite you to be “communicators of hope”, starting from a renewal of your work and mission in the spirit of the Gospel.

Disarming communication

Too often today, communication generates not hope, but fear and despair, prejudice and resentment, fanaticism and even hatred. All too often it simplifies reality in order to provoke instinctive reactions; it uses words like a razor; it even uses false or artfully distorted information to send messages designed to agitate, provoke or hurt. On several occasions, I have spoken of our need to “disarm” communication and to purify it of aggressiveness. It never helps to reduce reality to slogans. All of us see how – from television talk shows to verbal attacks on social media – there is a risk that the paradigm of competition, opposition, the will to dominate and possess, and the manipulation of public opinion will prevail.

There is also another troubling phenomenon: what we might call the “programmed dispersion of attention” through digital systems that, by profiling us according to the logic of the market, modify our perception of reality. As a result, we witness, often helplessly, a sort of atomization of interests that ends up undermining the foundations of our existence as community, our ability to join in the pursuit of the common good, to listen to one another and to understand each other’s point of view. Identifying an “enemy” to lash out against thus appears indispensable as a way of asserting ourselves. Yet when others become our “enemies”, when we disregard their individuality and dignity in order to mock and deride them, we also lose the possibility of generating hope. As Don Tonino Bello observed, all conflicts “start when individual faces melt away and disappear”. [1] We must not surrender to this mindset.

Hope, in fact, is not something easy. Georges Bernanos once said that, “only those are capable of hope, who have had the courage to despair of the illusions and lies in which they once found security and which they falsely mistook for hope... Hope is a risk that must be taken. It is the risk of risks”. [2] Hope is a hidden virtue, tenacious and patient. For Christians, it is not an option but a necessary condition. As [Pope Benedict XVI](#) noted in the Encyclical [Spe Salvi](#), hope is not passive optimism but, on the contrary, a “performative” virtue capable of changing our lives: “The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life’ (No. 2).

Accounting with gentleness for the hope that is in us

In the First Letter of Peter (3:15-16), we find an admirable synthesis in which hope is linked to Christian witness and communication: “In your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence”. I would like to dwell on three messages that we can glean from these words.

“In your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord”. The hope of Christians has a face, the face of the risen Lord. His promise to remain always with us through the gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to hope even against all hope, and to perceive the hidden goodness quietly present even when all else seems lost.

The second message is that we should be prepared to explain the hope that is in us. Significantly, the Apostle tells us to give an accounting of our hope “to anyone who demands” it. Christians are not primarily people who “talk about” God, but who resonate with the beauty of his love and a new way of experiencing everything. Theirs is a lived love that raises the question and calls for an answer: Why do you live like this? Why are you like this?

In Saint Peter's words, we find, finally, a third message: our response to this question is to be made "with gentleness and reverence". Christian communication – but I would also say communication in general – should be steeped in gentleness and closeness, like the talk of companions on the road.

This was the method of the greatest communicator of all time, Jesus of Nazareth, who, as he walked alongside the two disciples of Emmaus, spoke with them and made their hearts burn within them as he interpreted events in the light of the Scriptures.

I dream of a communication capable of making us fellow travellers, walking alongside our brothers and sisters and encouraging them to hope in these troubled times. A communication capable of speaking to the heart, arousing not passionate reactions of defensiveness and anger, but attitudes of openness and friendship. A communication capable of focusing on beauty and hope even in the midst of apparently desperate situations, and generating commitment, empathy and concern for others. A communication that can help us in "recognizing the dignity of each human being, and [in] working together to care for our common home" (*Dilexit Nos*, 217).

I dream of a communication that does not peddle illusions or fears, but is able to give reasons for hope. Martin Luther King once said: "If I can help someone as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a word or song... then my living will not be in vain". [3] To do this, though, we must be healed of our "diseases" of self-promotion and self-absorption, and avoid the risk of shouting over others in order to make our voices heard. A good communicator ensures that those who listen, read or watch can be involved, can draw close, can get in touch with the best part of themselves and enter with these attitudes into the stories told. Communicating in this way helps us to become "pilgrims of hope", which is the motto of the present Jubilee.

Hoping together

Hope is always a community project. Let us think for a moment of the grandeur of the message offered by this Year of Grace. We are all invited – all of us! – to start over again, to let God lift us up, to let him embrace us and shower us with mercy. In this regard, the personal and communal aspects are inseparably connected: we set out together, we journey alongside our many brothers and sisters, and we pass through the Holy Door together.

The Jubilee has many social implications. We can think, for example, of its message of mercy and hope for those who live in prisons, or its call for closeness and tenderness towards those who suffer and are on the margins. The Jubilee reminds us that those who are peacemakers "will be called children of God" (*Mt 5:9*), and in this way it inspires hope, points us to the need for an attentive, gentle and reflective communication, capable of pointing out paths of dialogue. For this reason, I encourage you to discover and make known the many stories of goodness hidden in the folds of the news, imitating those gold-prospectors who tirelessly sift the sand in search of a tiny nugget. It is good to seek out such seeds of hope and make them known. It helps our world to be a little less deaf to the cry of the poor, a little less indifferent, a little less closed in on itself. May you always find those glimmers of goodness that inspire us to hope. This kind of communication can help to build communion, to make us feel less alone, to rediscover the importance of walking together.

Do not forget the heart

Dear brothers and sisters, in the face of the astonishing achievements of technology, I encourage you to care for your heart, your interior life. What does that mean? Let me offer you a few thoughts.

Be meek and never forget the faces of other people; speak to the hearts of the women and men whom you serve in carrying out your work.

Do not allow instinctive reactions to guide your communication. Always spread hope, even when it is difficult, even when it costs, even when it seems not to bear fruit.

Try to promote a communication that can heal the wounds of our humanity.

Make room for the heartfelt trust that, like a slender but resistant flower, does not succumb to the ravages of

but blossoms and grows in the most unexpected places. It is there in the hope of those mothers who daily pray to see their children return from the trenches of a conflict, and in the hope of those fathers who emigrate at great risk in search of a better future. It is also there in the hope of those children who somehow manage to play, laugh and believe in life even amid the debris of war and in the impoverished streets of *favelas*.

Be witnesses and promoters of a non-aggressive communication; help to spread a culture of care, build bridges and break down the visible and invisible barriers of the present time.

Tell stories steeped in hope, be concerned about our common destiny and strive to write together the history of our future.

All this you can do, and we can do, with God's grace, which the Jubilee helps us to receive in abundance. This is my prayer, and with it, I bless each of you and your work.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 24 January 2025,

Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales

Francis

[1] "La pace come ricerca del volto", in *Omelie e scritti quaresimali*, Molfetta 1994, 317.

[2] *La liberté, pour quoi faire?*, Paris 1995.

[3] "The Drum Major Instinct", Sermon (4 February 1968).