

See clearly

SUNDAY *Plus*

Ss Peter and Paul **Divine Office Week** | Year A

28 JUNE 2026

See and understand

[Peter] could see that the promise of the work already done by Paul, Barnabas, himself and many others, was far greater than had been that early growth in Jerusalem.

"Go and teach all nations," Jesus had commanded, and because Peter himself had taken the first real step to carry out the command, he knew that he must not let a small group of stubborn men in Jerusalem hamstring the glorious future offered for the further spread of the Gospel

by shackling it with restrictions that Jesus himself had long ago removed... Peter rose to his feet.

"Brethren, you know that a good while ago God made a choice among us that the Gentiles should hear the word of the Gospel through my mouth and believe it," he said, speaking with the simple, earthy logic that was such a vital part of him. "God, who knows the heart of everyone, bore witness concerning them by giving them the Holy Spirit, even as he did

to us, and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. Now we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, we shall be saved even as they" ...

When Peter sat down, Paul rose to tell of the journey he and Barnabas had made to Cyprus and the mainland of Asia Minor. With his usual eloquence, he described the longing of people everywhere to hear the teachings of Jesus and the good news that, through his death upon the cross, the Master had ransomed them all and given them the gift of eternal life.

Frank G. Slaughter, *Upon This Rock: a novel of Simon Peter*

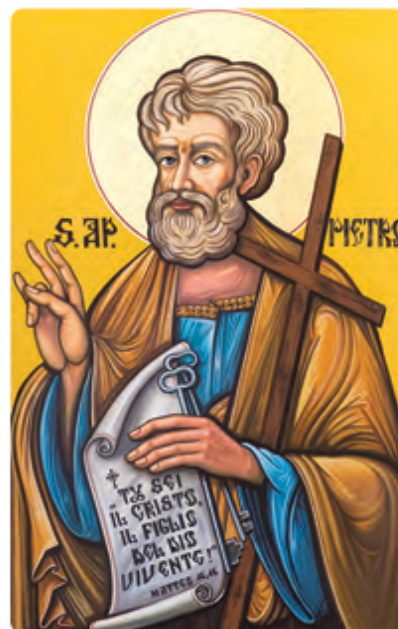


Image: The icon of Saint Peter (Simon) in The Church of Saints Gervasius and Protasius in Pavia, Italy. Adam Jan Figal © Shutterstock

Jesus, Son of the living God, build your Church upon my faith. Strengthen me whenever I feel weak and scared. May I see your mercy and truth in the love of the people around me. Amen.

Learn from each other

Six blind men heard that an elephant had been brought to the town, but none of them knew of its shape and form. Curious, they decided to investigate using their sense of touch. So, when they found the animal, they felt around it. The first person, who handled the trunk, said, "This being is like a thick snake." For another, whose hand

reached its ear, it seemed like a kind of fan. The third man placed his hand upon the elephant's leg and described it as a pillar like a tree-trunk. The man who felt the animal's side decided that the elephant resembled a wall. Another, who felt its tail, described it as a rope. The last man felt its tusk and believed the elephant to be hard, smooth and like a spear.

And so, all of them were right and all of them were wrong.

Ancient Hindu parable

Our patron saints followed different paths, had different ideas and at times argued with one another with evangelical frankness. Yet this did not prevent them from living... a fruitful harmony in diversity.

Pope Leo XIV

**Feast of the week
Monday 30 June**

**Blessed Philip Powell
(1594-1646)**

Blessed Philip Powell was a Benedictine monk and Catholic priest who became a martyr during the English Civil War. Born in Wales in 1594, he was raised as a Protestant but later converted to Catholicism and became a Benedictine. Ordained in 1628, he secretly ministered to Catholics in England at a time when Catholicism was illegal. Known for his deep spirituality and cheerful demeanour, he bravely served the faithful in South Wales and Devon, often at great personal risk. In 1646, during the height of anti-Catholic sentiment, he was arrested aboard a ship while fleeing to safety. He was imprisoned in London and tried for being a Catholic priest, which was considered treason. Despite the threat of execution, he remained calm and unwavering in his faith. On 30 June 1646, he was hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn. Blessed Philip Powell was beatified in 1929 and is remembered for his courage and joyful witness.

READINGS

Today:
Acts 12:1-11
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
Matthew 16:13-19

Monday:
Amos 2:6-10, 13-16
Matthew 8:18-22

Tuesday:
Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12
Matthew 8:23-27

Wednesday:
Amos 5:14-15, 21-24
Matthew 8:28-34

Thursday:
Amos 7:10-17
Matthew 9:1-8

Friday:
Ephesians 2:19-22
John 20:24-29

Saturday:
Amos 9:11-15
Matthew 9:14-17

Next Sunday:
Zechariah 9:9-10
Romans 8:9, 11-13
Matthew 11:25-30



**The Catholic Parish of
St Mary & St John Fisher,
Denton**

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**Saints Peter and Paul
Sunday 28th June 2026**

The Word This Week

The Gospel and First Reading this Sunday can be summed up in one word: "hospitality". But not hospitality in general - this is a very specific hospitality: welcoming the word of God. We must welcome the message of salvation into our homes and hearts, and show this by welcoming the messenger who brings us this good news. Perhaps when we consider the messages we allow into our homes nowadays this theme reveals its relevance to us: television, radio and newspapers are all welcome in our homes. Surely the Gospel tells us to keep our eyes peeled for the 'holy man' who brings real news. This Gospel also tells us about our mission: if we are welcomed or rejected, we should neither be proud nor worry for ourselves, but for Christ, because it is Christ who is welcomed or rejected.



Mass Times 28th June 2026		
Sunday 28th June	Vigil - Saturday 27th Sunday Morning	4pm - Nora & Jim Whelan (55th Wedding Anniversary) 11am - Parish
Monday 29th	Mass	9.30 –Veronica Byrne (A)
Tuesday 30th	No Mass	
Wednesday 1st July	Mass	9.30 - Sick & Infirm Clergy
Thursday 2nd	Exposition Mass	6pm 6.30pm –Kathleen Henderson (A)
Friday 3rd	Mass	9.30-Bernadette Regan (Sick)
Saturday 4th Sunday 5th	Vigil Mass	4pm— 80th Birthday 11am – Parish
Saturday & Sunday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass

Mass Offerings :- Kathleen Henderson (A); Bernadette Regan (Sick); Ashley Carter Lawlor (LD); 80th Birth day; Sr Catherine (Diamond Jubilee); Tom Lally (RIP); Trudy Mitchell (RIP)

Please obtain permission from any living beneficiary of a Mass offering before sending it in.)

Altar Prayer Candles W/C 28th June 2026	
The Sanctuary	Margaret Brown
Sacred Heart	Martin P Mitchell (B'day Memories)
Our Lady	Anthony Scanlon

Vigil Mass; 4pm St Mary’s, Denton ; 5pm St Josephs, Reddish; and 6.30pm Holy Family, Dane Bank

Sunday Morning; 9am St Joseph’s, Reddish; 10am Holy Family, Dane Bank and 11am St Mary’s, Denton

Marian Procession 2026 Madonna Del Rosario Procession

The annual Madonna Del Rosario procession, organised by the Manchester Italian Association, will take place on Sunday 5 July. The procession will begin at 1:15pm from The Halle, St Michael’s, George Leigh Street, Ancoats. It will continue through Manchester City Centre to St Peter’s Square. All are welcome.

Book on the history of the Diocese of Salford presented to Pope Leo

Monsignor John Allen has harnessed his love of the geography and history of our diocese, by penning a special book which is being sold in aid of our diocesan charity Caritas Salford. The book, A Poplar History of the Diocese of Salford, was presented to Pope Leo recently, and you can read about it, or get a copy for yourself or someone else, on the Caritas Salford website:
www.caritassalford.org.uk/pope-leo-book

Red Mission Boxes

Any Parishioner who have **Red Mission Boxes** please bring them in to be emptied. The Mill Hill Fathers rely on the money raised from these boxes to finance their missionary work overseas and appreciate your support and generosity. The red boxes are emptied every quarter— March, June, September and December.

Altar Prayer Candles

Our Seven Day Candles can be lit next to the Sanctuary, Our Lady’s Altar and The Sacred Heart Statue at St Mary’s. To dedicate a candle for your own intentions please pick up a green form at the back of church and return in an envelope with your donation. This is another way for your special intentions to be remembered and prayed for in the Parish.

Pastoral Visits to Hospitals and Care Homes.

If you have a relative or friend who has been taken into hospital or has moved into a Care home, and requires a visit from a Catholic Priest/Chaplin for Pastoral support, please ask the Nursing staff to contact the local Hospital Catholic Chaplin or Parish Priest in that area.

For Care home visits, this would have to be carried out by the Parish Priest local to the home itself and may be outside of our parish boundaries. Homes that are in Stockport; Dukinfield and Hyde, are located in the Diocese of Shrewsbury, and unfortunately Priests from our Diocese have no authorisation in these areas.

A Night of Music and Fun

The African Priests and Religious of the Diocese of Salford are inviting you to a concert in celebration of African Liturgical and folk music. This is to be held at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Failsworth, M35 0NN on 31 July 2026 at 7PM. This promises to be a night of good music (by the invited choir) and laughter (by the priests and religious who also try to sing!). Any priest(s) interested in also giving a solo (or band) performance on the night should email Michael.job@dioceseofsalford.org.uk before 30 June 2026. Above all else, let us come with our parishioners to have a fun evening

Lost Property:

We have recently found an item of Jewellery after one of the weekend Masses, if you have lost something, please contact the parish office, with a description of your lost Item. We would like to return this to the rightful owner

New Monthly youth Group for Yr4,5 & 6

As part of our young people's Faith in Action programme, **we will be offering a group for children in school years 4, 5 and 6.**

The group will take place monthly and be from 6:30pm until 7:30pm.

Our Faith in Action young people will run it (though there will be adult supervision as well) and it will consist of liturgy alongside games and activities.

There is a maximum of 20 places and this will be on a first come first serve basis.

This is a lovely opportunity to allow our Faith in Action young people to develop their skills further as well as bringing the young of the Parish together.

If you are interested in your child attending or would like any further information please could you speak to Claire Cull after Sunday mass for a parental application form.



S	I	P	N	Y	L	O	H	O	Y	PREFERS	FATHER	MOTHER
M	P	R	E	O	H	O	Y	L	R	WORTHY	DAUGHTER	CROSS
O	S	E	A	F	S	T	D	C	E	FOOTSTEPS	LIFE	WELCOMES
C	E	F	T	P	I	A	R	R	T	PROPHET	HOLY	WATER
L	M	E	R	S	U	L	E	O	A			
E	O	R	E	G	T	C	H	S	W			
W	C	S	H	I	M	O	T	S	U			
A	L	T	T	E	H	P	O	R	P			
T	E	F	A	T	H	E	M	F	C			
R	W	A	F	I	N	D	S	N	O			

