

## Welcome Fr. Peter

This weekend we welcome our new priest to the parish of St. Wilfrid. Fr. Peter Ross joins us straight for his ordination in July and I know that we will give him a wonderful welcome in his first appointment. You never forget your first appointment as a priest, and I have every confidence that Fr. Peter will have a good one here!

As an assistant priest, Fr. Peter is primarily here to learn, to learn how to be a priest within a parish and to become part of the community of faith. Fr. Peter brings many gifts and talents that he will share with us and we have many things that he can learn by being part of our story.

In the next couple of weeks, when you meet Fr. Peter, let him know, with a smile, a hug or word that he is welcome here!

**Please say this prayer for our new priest.**

*'O Jesus, our great High Priest, hear our humble prayers on behalf of your priest, Father Peter. Give him a deep faith, a bright and firm hope, and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his priestly life.*

*In his loneliness, comfort him; in his sorrow, strengthen him; in his frustration, point out to him that it is through suffering that the soul is purified. Show him that he is needed by the Church, he is needed by souls, he is needed for the work of redemption.*

*O loving Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your son who is close to you because of his priestly ordination, and because of the power which he has received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs him so much. Be his comfort, be his joy, be his strength, and especially help him to live and to defend the ideal of consecrated celibacy'.*

**Amen.**