



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY – YEAR OF THE WORD
The Presbytery, Hope Road, Sale, M33 3BF Tel: 0161 973 1615
 Email: info@sjhf.co.uk **and** Parish Website: www.sjhf.co.uk
Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley
Retired Priest, Father David Peters and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 17th May 2020

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| Sunday 17th May SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 9.30 am | People of the Parish | |
| Monday | 9.30 am | Kath Rennie | Ferial |
| Tuesday | 9.30 am | Michael Smithwick (Requiem Mass) | St. Milburga |
| Wednesday | 9.30 am | John Billington (30th Ann.) | Ferial |
| Thursday | 9.30 am | Patrick (Pat) Howard Jones (1st Ann.) | THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD |
| Friday | 9.30 am | Mansour Habis (Ann.) | The Dedication of the Cathedral |
| Saturday | 9.30 am | James Joseph Tansey (Ann.) | Ferial |
| Sunday 24th May SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 9.30 am | People of the Parish | |

Please note the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.

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| SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION No Confessions at 11.00am Saturdays until further notice. By appointment only | SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM & MARRIAGE By arrangement with Father Woolley | LAST WEEK'S OFFERING SJ: - HF: - We receive approximately £520 from standing orders Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. |
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Calling Upon the Holy Spirit

Why do we keep rules? Probably to avoid penalties, punishment or adverse consequence! Rules are a necessary evil if we are to live in a well-ordered society. Commandments however are different from rules. Commandments are expressions of how we are to love each other. Perhaps we shouldn't need commandments, perhaps we should know how to love each other intuitively, but sadly it seems we need a little guidance and a lot of help.

In today's section of the gospel known as the 'Farewell Discourse'. Jesus gives his disciples some final assurances. He tells them that although he will no longer be with them in the flesh, they will always abide in each other's love. The disciples will have plenty of opportunity to express that love by keeping his commandments. In return Jesus will send them, and us, an advocate, a spirit of truth the Holy Spirit. How easy life would be if Jesus had stayed with us in the flesh. All we would have to do is keep running to him for answers every time we got stuck. There wouldn't be any great long debates on abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, stem cell research or anything else for that matter we would simply send Jesus an email and twiddle our thumbs awaiting the answer. Because he knew that he could not stay with us in person, Jesus left us with the Holy Spirit to take his place but how often do we call on it? We are good at thinking we can get through life under our own steam. Sometimes we can be opinionated, quite sure that we can work out all the answers for ourselves. Today we are reminded that the Holy Spirit is with us from our baptism and ready to be called upon whenever we need direction or revelation. For most of us, that probably means a daily call.

Entrance Antiphon : **Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.**

Responsorial Psalm : **Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

Gospel Acclamation : **Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: **If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.**

Year A

Acts 8: 5-8 14-17

Psalm 32

1 Peter 3: 15-18

John 14: 15-21

CORONAVIRUS

During the coronavirus pandemic and following the instruction of the Prime minister St. Joseph's and Holy Family are closed for personal prayer until further notice.

Please follow with great care public health guidelines to maintain hygiene and social distancing.

During the public health crisis and following official advice, Sunday and weekday masses are not being publicly celebrated until further notice.

However, celebration of Mass at St. Joseph's still takes place each day at 9.30am, without a public congregation, and can be seen via Facebook or the parish website.

We continue to monitor the situation both nationally and locally very carefully and pass on any information we receive as soon as possible.

HOME SUPPORT - SVP

The SVP now have a dedicated phone number for anyone needing support at this time – be it a regular phone call, help with shopping, etc.

Please don't hesitate to call 07942 670277.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Mary Conway** and **Michael Smithwick** who have died recently. May they rest in peace. We extend to their families and friends our deepest sympathy at this sad and extremely difficult time.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

If you are following Mass on any of the social media live streaming, Father Woolley suggests that, during the silence after Communion, everyone prays this prayer.

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

ONLINE GIVING TO THE PARISH

An online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish (St. Joseph's or Holy Family) has been added to the Parish website.

Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way.

The page can also be used to set up a regular monthly donation, and you can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further.

If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order.

Thank you for your support.

WEDDINGS AT ST. JOSEPH'S

Due to the pandemic, all our spring and summer weddings have had to be postponed. One was due to take place this Saturday. We remember all the couples in our prayers at this difficult time. We look forward to celebrating these weddings on their new dates.

Sarah Kay & Robert Rodrigues, Hannah Lloyd & Joseph Higson, Antonia Marsden & Edward Seager, Lisa Maguire & Christopher Clarke, Hannah Palmer & Luke Soars, Donna Griffe & David Murphy, Tracy Dwyer & Dominic McDonald.

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Ailsa McNabb has asked us to let those due to see Phantom of the Opera last week that she has now received a refund for all tickets. She will arrange individual repayments once the church is open for Mass again but if you need a refund in the meantime please give her a ring on 962 8572.

FATHER STEPHEN WRITES

After the Prime Minister's announcement last week and the slight change to the 'Lockdown' message, it seems that the first stage of the re-opening of churches may be delayed for at least two months. The bishops of

England and Wales are meeting with the Government in response to their statement and document 'Our Plan To Rebuild On Society Re-emerging From the National Lockdown'. In an initial response, the bishops say 'In dialogue with the Government, the Catholic Church will continue its engagement in the process and has already submitted a detailed plan, in full accordance with public health guidelines, for churches to be opened for private prayer. The Church is ready to play its full part in the task force, understanding that this included the possible earlier use of church for private prayer, as a first safe step towards their use for public worship.' I will keep everybody fully informed of any developments from these discussions.

There will be another Songs of Praise for Pentecost on Sunday 31st May at 4.00pm. If you have any requests for hymns with a Holy Spirit theme, please do send them in.

In this month of May we are having extra devotions to Our Lady in this time of need. In your homes why not place a statue of Our Lady in a place of honour and gather each day to pray the Hail Mary or other prayers to Our Lady.

I am delighted that so many people are finding the streaming of the Masses so helpful. If you have any intentions, prayer requests or people you would like remembered, please email me at info@sjhf.co.uk. We are all strengthened in these difficult days by our faith and unity as people of God. I continue to hold you all in my prayers each day.

KEEP SAFE, KEEP WELL. GOD BLESS ALL!

CONFIRMATION

Last Friday over 70 of our young people from St. Joseph's & Holy Family were due to be confirmed by Bishop Mark at St. Joseph's. Due to the pandemic this has obviously been postponed. Father Woolley prayed for all the candidates and their families at last Friday morning's Mass. At the moment the new date has yet to be agreed.

ASCENSION THURSDAY – REAL & PRESENT

On this day we imagine Jesus going to some place high above the clouds, to some faraway place beyond death. But if the disciples felt any sense of abandonment that's certainly not how they acted. The disciples didn't leave the scene of the Ascension in mourning; they returned with great joy and praised God in the temple day after day. It is clear that the disciples did not experience Jesus as absent. It is clear that in everything they did from then on that Jesus was real and present in their lives.

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low:
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING FOR ALL FRONT LINE WORKERS

Father Woolley would like to thank all our Doctors, Nurses, First Responders, other health care workers and ALL who are working on the front line continuing to care for us during this coronavirus crisis. We pray that the Lord will bless and protect them **all** in their work of care and support. Thank You ALL.