



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley
and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for – SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 11th February 2024

Saturday 10 th February	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Ronnie Boyle (B'day Rem.)	
Sunday 11 th February SIXTH SUNDAY IN OPRDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Péraz Dalgardo Family Patrick Lynch (22 nd Ann.) Jack Foster (RIP) People of the Parish	HCPT coffee morning after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12.00 noon	Gavin O'Donoghue (SI)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Doris & Marie (90 th & 70 th B'days.) Rena McGarry	Ferial Adoration HF 10.00am
Wednesday ASH WEDNESDAY	9.30 am 9.30 am HF 12.00 noon 7.00 pm	Private Intention (BS) Tess Bayada (RIP) Michael McAuley (10 th Ann. 2.2) Richard Donnelly (Get Well)	
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Maureen Gordon (2 nd Ann.) Bridget Murphy (Requiem)	Thurs. after Ash Wednesday Tea & Toast after Mass at HF
Friday	9.30 am	Dermot Dunleavy (RIP)	Fri. after Ash Wednesday
Saturday 17 th February	12.00 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Lucy Marie (Sick) Maureen Howie	Sat. after Ash Wednesday Adoration SJ 11.00 am for Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis
Sunday 18 th February FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	People of the Parish Martin Jennings (RIP) Peter Fleming (RIP) Mary Josephine Fitzsimmons	Tea & Coffee after 11.00am Mass

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment	SACRED HEART LAMP This week the lamp is lit in loving memory of Mary Hatton (33 rd Ann. 14 th February)	OFFERINGS WEEKEND 4 th February 2024 SJ £2088.25 HF £381.85 Many Thanks
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The Power of Empathy

In the 1870's, the idyllic sunny island of Molokai might not have been one of your top holiday destinations. Molokai was a settlement where the government kept segregated all persons afflicted by leprosy. It was here that a young priest named Joseph Damien de Veuster (Fr. Damien), at his own request arrived at the settlement to preside as its resident priest. There were then six hundred lepers many rendered helpless by the disease. For a long time, Fr. Damien was the only person to bring them the help they needed, both spiritual and practical. After twelve years of this heroic service he eventually contracted the disease himself. At the age of forty-five he stood before his brethren and addressed them, "My dear brethren . . . my fellow lepers. . . I am one of you now."

In today's gospel Jesus is called upon to cure a leper. Jesus could have done this with a few words, but he does more than this . . . he reaches out and heals the leper not only with words but the touch of his hand. This might seem a small detail, but the simple gesture speaks volumes. The gesture tells us that Jesus was setting aside the stigma that accompanied this terrible disease. Jesus is able to take on the leper's condition and know his needs. We call it empathy, an empathy essential for true compassion. This is the example that we see Fr Damien live to the letter.

To learn from Jesus' example, we do not have to rush off and find a leper colony as Fr Damien did. There are plenty of social lepers everywhere we look. There are all sorts of social misfits that we stigmatise and push to the edges of our society. If we are to learn by Jesus' example, we have to employ all our powers of empathy before we can even begin to make changes.

That Jesus uses his powers to cure leprosy is amazing, but more important is how we can learn from this miracle in changing the lives around us.

Entrance Antiphon :	Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.		
Responsorial Psalm :	You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.		
Gospel Acclamation :	Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, So that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!		
Communion Antiphon:	They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.		
Year B	Leviticus 13: 1-2.44-46	Psalm 31	1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11: 1 Mark 1: 40-45

LENT 2024

During this Holy Season we shall have additional Masses, devotions and activities to help us focus our hearts and minds on the Passion and Death of Christ.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be Lenten Adoration at Holy Family on a Tuesday at 10.00am and at St. Joseph's on Saturdays between 11.00am and 11.50am, during confessions. Come and spend some quiet time.

ADDITIONAL MASS

Father Stephen will celebrate an additional Mass on the Wednesdays of Lent at 7.30am at St. Joseph's.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays, 7.00pm at St Joseph's.

This week the Stations of the Cross are for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

STATIONS MASSES AROUND THE DEANERY

In this Year of Prayer, in preparation for the Holy Year 2025, Mass will be celebrated in a different parish around the Deanery each week. Mass will be at 7.00pm with an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6.30pm or after Mass. Refreshments will also be served after Mass.

Dates as follows:

Tuesday 20th February St Hugh & St John Timperley
Wednesday 28th February *St Joseph's Sale*
Wednesday 6th March St Vincent's Altrincham
Wednesday 13th March Sacred Heart Wythenshawe
Wednesday 20th March Holy Angels, Hale Barns

Please try and support this new initiative.

CAFOD

Lent Fast day Friday 23rd February. The idea is to make a small sacrifice, remembering and praying for those in our world who have very little, and to donate something to CAFOD.

Fast day envelopes will be given out after all Sunday masses on the weekend 17th and 18th February and collected on the 24th and 25th February

Fast Day Lunch Friday 23rd February 12.00 to 13.30 in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Delicious home-made soup and bread for a donation to CAFOD. Bring your friends; there's always a lot of soup!

CAFOD Stations of the Cross also Friday 23rd Feb.

READERS' MEETING

There will be a meeting for all St. Joseph's readers on Sunday 25th February at 4.30pm in church.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Harry Dixon, Bridget Murphy and Colleen Pratt 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.

Death is not extinguishing the light.

It is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.

BITE SIZE

People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Bonnie Jean Wasmund

HCPT GROUP 230 FUNDRAISER

Today Sunday 11th February is Our Lady of Lourdes feast day when we mark 'World Day of the Sick'.

This year's theme is

"It is not good that man should be alone".
Healing the Sick by Healing Relationships.

...*"Brothers and sisters, the first form of care needed in any illness is compassionate and loving closeness. To care for the sick thus means above all to care for their relationships, all of them: with God, with others – family members, friends, healthcare workers – , with creation and with themselves. Can this be done? Yes, it can be done and all of us are called to ensure that it happens. Let us look to the icon of the Good Samaritan (cf. Lk 10:25-37), to his ability to slow down and draw near to another person, to the tender love with which he cares for the wounds of a suffering brother."*

From Pope Francis' Message for the World Day of the Sick

Please come to the Parish Centre after the 11.00am Mass for a cake sale and raffle for HCPT group 230, taking sick and bereaved children to Lourdes at Easter. Enjoy some sweet treats before Lent begins.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of soul searching and repentance. On this day we are reminded to change our ways and get our priorities straight. Lent is a season of hope and good intention. On this Ash Wednesday we go about our business wearing the sign of penitence and hope.

THE CAFOD BIG LENT WALK:

This is the CAFOD national initiative for Lent. Details are on the CAFOD website. if you would like to join in by walking, pedalling or otherwise actively travelling 200km during lent and would like your efforts to be linked to others' in the parish, please email cafod.sjh@gmail.com for details.

CONGRATULATIONS

to the children from Holy Family and St. Joseph's who celebrated their First Forgiveness this week. We look forward their First Holy Communion on Saturday 18th May.

ST. JOSEPH'S AND HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Next Sunday 18th February

An easy 4 mile walk around Dunham and little Bollington but not suitable for buggies or wheelchairs Meet at St. Joseph's car park at 1.00pm for 1.15pm departure. Strong shoes or boots and possibly waterproofs will be needed. Return to St Joseph's for 4.30pm

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO

SAN GIOVANNI, ROTONDO AND ASSISI

Pilgrimage to the shrines of Padre Pio, Saint Francis, Saint Clare and Blessed Carlo Acutis. We will be visiting San Giovanni Rotonda and Assisi. The dates will be Sunday 22nd September to Saturday 28th September.

The cost will be £1620. The itinerary is available on the noticeboards and also on the parish Facebook page. Booking forms are available in the sacristy. This is open to everyone.