



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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

St Joseph's
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Mass Times and Intentions for SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - DIVINE MERCY -12th April 2026

Saturday 11 th April	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Mary Roper (39 th Ann.)	
Sunday 12 th April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	James Monaghan (6 th Ann.) Jane Ward (RIP) Henry Patrick Keogh (6 th Ann.) Eric & Carole Shakeshaft (Diamond Wedding)	DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12 noon	John Ward (Sick)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Mary Woods (RIP) Gretta McDonnell	Ferial <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u>
Wednesday	9.30 am	Special Intention	Ferial
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12 noon	Pauline Delaney (RIP) Jean Morgan (RIP)	Ferial
Friday	9.30 am	Pat Quaile (Recovery)	Ferial
Saturday 18 th April	12 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	The Bevzo Family David Rackie (RIP)	Ferial <u>Confessions 11.00am – 11.50am</u>
Sunday 19 th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Michael Dowds (Easter Blessing) Anne Coughlan Marie Coyle (RIP) People of the Parish	<u>Manchester Marathon</u> Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
OUR LADY'S LAMP this week is lit for John Flynn B'day Rem. RIP	SACRED HEART LAMP this week is lit for -	ST CARLO ACUTIS'S LAMP This week is lit for Maureen Rice & Family	OFFERINGS WEEKEND Thank you for your generosity in last week's Easter collection. This goes to support Fr Stephen

MOVING MOUNTAINS

We live in an age where everything has to be 'seen to be believed'. If we haven't heard it on Breakfast News or read it on the front page of 'The Independent', then it can't be true. For a scientist to act in faith rather than on proven fact, or for a detective to make an arrest without hard evidence would be deemed negligent. Faith is the domain of the non-scientific. Faith is reserved for when we follow our hearts and our instincts. The solely scientific see no validation for faith, and yet we are told that faith has the power to move mountains.

The story of 'Doubting Thomas' is interesting in that it addresses doubt in the first place. If Jesus wasn't expecting us to suffer doubts, why address the subject in the first place? We are brought up to think of faith as good and doubt as bad, but would God really want us to bury our doubts and fake our religious experience? For all of us who do not have the benefit of Thomas's first hand experience, the good news is that doubt and faith are opposite sides of the same coin. Honest doubt can ultimately lead to a stronger faith. Doubt leads to questions, and whereas questions don't always lead to answers, they almost always lead to spiritual growth.

Today we are encouraged to believe without seeing. No, we're not being asked to silence our doubts or to leave our brains at the church door! The reality of our faith boils down not to what we are able or not able to believe, but who we believe in. Can trusting Jesus give us faith enough to move mountains?

<i>Entrance Antiphon :</i>	<i>Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.</i>
<i>Responsorial Psalm :</i>	<i>Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.</i>
<i>Gospel Acclamation :</i>	<i>Alleluia, alleluia. You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.; Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.</i>
<i>Communion Antiphon:</i>	<i>Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth alleluia alleluia.</i>
Year A	Acts 2: 42-47
	Psalm 118
	1 Peter 1: 3-9
	John 20: 19-31

NOT JUST EASTER SUNDAY

The Easter Season isn't just Easter Sunday. It's fifty days long, and the last of those days is Pentecost (Greek for 'fiftieth') marking the birth of the Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. In older traditions, it's called 'Whitsunday' because the traditional colour for church clothing and decor on Pentecost is white. On that day the Holy Spirit arrives to be with us, and that Spirit sends a fresh wave of joy. During these fifty days of Easter, while we are singing alleluia to our Risen Saviour, we are also listening to the stories of the struggles and hardships of the early followers of Jesus.

CATHOLIC FAMILY HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site.

Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. Head to www.castleriggmanor.com >> stay with us or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or phone 01768772711

YOUTH MINISTRY GAP YEAR OPPORTUNITY

Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and also work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. Interested? Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or www.castleriggmanor.com >> join the team

PIETRA FITNESS

classes restart from 16th April. They are unique whole person fitness classes which include stretching and strengthening the body. Christian prayer and meditations are woven throughout the classes, with a background of beautiful sacred music. The classes help restore strength and harmony to body and soul.

Classes are held at St Joseph's Parish centre Thursdays 6.30pm and Fridays 10.30am. Classes are suitable for women of most fitness levels. Any queries, please contact Trish Morgan on 07759081273.

More information on a poster in the narthex of church

ST JOSEPH'S ROSARY GROUP

All welcome to join a rosary group on Fridays. This group will restart from Friday 17th April at 11.45am in St Joseph's parish centre. Praying the rosary for peace and any personal intentions. For further information, please contact Patricia Nugent 07788 764039 or Trish Morgan 07759081273

SAINTS' CLUB FOR CHILDREN

Sunday 19th April, 4.30 pm - 5.00 pm

Celebrating the life of St Damien of Molokai who cared for people suffering from leprosy.

Email Ilona Harrison on Ilonaharrison19@gmail.com for the zoom link.

READERS' DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Saturday 25th April in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Led by Natalie Orefice, Diocesan Director of Evangelisation & Catechesis. The day will begin at 10.00am with registration and tea and coffee, and will finish at 2.00pm. Mass at 12 noon. Please bring your own lunch. Please would all readers make every effort to come along to this important day.

MANCHESTER MARATHON

is next Sunday 19th April and, once again, access to St. Joseph's and Holy Family will be affected by road closures. To see route maps and how this will affect see the route map in the narthex or visit www.manchestermarathon.co.uk/road-closures

HOUSE BLESSINGS

It is a long held tradition of the Church to bless the homes of parishioners with the Easter water. If you would like your home blessed in the Easter season, please contact Father Stephen.

MAY AFTERNOON TEA & CAKES

For the month of May, once again, Father Stephen would like to have Afternoon Tea on Sunday afternoons 2.00pm – 4.00pm to celebrate Our Lady's special month. The first on 10th May will be hosted by Dougie Gordon, 18 Selsey Ave, Sale, M33 4RL. If you would like to host on 17th or 24th May please contact Father Stephen.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Mary Kiely who has died recently. May she rest in peace. We extend to her family and friends our deepest sympathy at this sad and difficult time.

DAY OF DIVINE MERCY

This special celebration will be held today at Holy Angels Church, Hale Barns (WA15 0HF). The church will be open from 1.30pm, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 2.00pm and Confessions from 2.00pm. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be read at 3.00pm and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated at 3.30pm. You are invited to recite the 9 day Novena Prayers and Chaplet commencing on Good Friday. The Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet can be found at

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena>

ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

This year the Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Mark on Saturday 13th June at 12 noon at Saint Columba's, Chester. All married couples and families are welcome but, if you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year (25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th), please email / let Father Stephen know and he will arrange for you to receive a special letter of invitation. He will need names, date of marriage and address.

BITESIZE

"Doubt your doubts." We need to look at our doubts straight in the eye and doubt them, not let them control our minds. *Dr. Harry Emerson*

BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Please note the café will reopen after the Easter break on Friday 24 April – 12.30pm – 2.30pm in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Please support.