



# 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 - THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT - 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	6.00 pm (Vigil)	S.I.M.T.	
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> March THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Christine Challender (RIP) Margaret Power (RIP) Tommy Weighill (B'day Rem.) People of the Parish	
Monday	9.30 am	Bernie Bowe (RIP)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	NO MASS Martin Brown (RIP)	Ferial <u>Adoration HF 10.00am</u>
Wednesday	9.15 am 7.00 pm	Bernie Redhead (RIP) Neil Noone (Ann.)	Ferial
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Paddy Power (B'day Rem.) Joan Smith (Sick)	Ferial Tea and Toast after Mass at HF
Friday	9.30 am 12.00 noon 7.00 pm	Mary Ann Hughes (79 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) Noel Fitzmaurice (RIP) Stations of the Cross	St Patrick Patron of Ireland
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	12.00 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Alan Humphries Kathleen Smith (RIP)	Ferial <u>Adoration SJ 11.00am</u>
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> March FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Brendan Davies (RIP) Margaret Smith (RIP) Bernard Nevin (1 <sup>st</sup> Ann.) People of the Parish	Mothering Sunday

<b>SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION</b> 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment	<b>SACRED HEART LAMP</b> Austin & Nell Lyons and sons Paddy & Martin RIP	<b>OFFERINGS WEEKEND</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 SJ £2132.09 HF £494.72
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## BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS.

“Are you hiding anything?” It’s an uncomfortable question that probably invites a heated denial from most of us; yet most of us are probably hiding something. We might be trying to shrug off a nagging guilt or an unforgiving sin. We might be trying to forget an episode in our lives where we behaved unwisely. We might be trying to cover up the agony of a failed relationship or putting a brave face on a lifetime of loneliness and rejection. How many of us are covering up weaknesses and flaws in our character? Most of us are trying to hide something, yet we would all acknowledge that burying something isn’t the best way to find healing or improvement.

The woman at the well in today’s gospel was struggling through life with a great deal of baggage. Firstly she was a woman with a lesser role in society, not only that, but a woman without a husband and to add insult to injury, a woman with a bad reputation. Secondly the woman was a Samaritan, a foreigner, and as such, regarded by most as a person to be avoided altogether. Jesus puzzles the woman. He is a man and he is a Jew, in other words, the very last person she would have expected to strike up a conversation. Life had taught the woman to expect something very different. Life had taught her to expect contempt and rejection. Is this why we keep our own failings under wraps? Do we, like the Samaritan woman expect our friends family and work mates to be unforgiving and uncompromising if they knew the real us? God’s love is like a sprinkler system spreading Christ’s unconditional life giving water without prejudice or judgement. Lent is the time to unravel all our hidden pain and set it before God. Lent is the time to take a leaf out of Jesus’ book, to see the pain in the lives of others and break down the barriers society has built.

Entrance Antiphon :	<i>My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor</i>			
Responsorial Psalm :	<i>O that today you would listen to his voice: ‘Harden not your hearts.’</i>			
Gospel Acclamation :	<i>Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Lord, you are really the saviour of the world; give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!</i>			
Communion Antiphon:	<i>For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.</i>			
Year A	Exodus 17: 3-7	Psalm 94	Romans 5: 1-2 5-8	John 4: 5-42

### MISSIONARY APPEAL

This weekend 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> March we welcome Sr Brenda who is making a Diocesan Appeal at all Masses for the Missionary Sisters of England and Wales. The Sisters have missions in Kenya, Uganda and Ecuador. Please make her very welcome.

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS / READERS MEETING

Meeting for all Readers and Eucharistic Ministers this afternoon Sunday 12 March 2023 at 4.00pm in St Joseph's Church (not the Parish Centre).

### LENT 2023

During this Holy Season we 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

In addition to the regular Adoration at Holy Family on a Tuesday at 10.00am, there will be Adoration at St. Joseph's on each Saturday of Lent between 11.00am and 11.50am, during confessions. Come and spend some quiet time.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays, 7.00pm at St Joseph's. This week the Stations of the Cross are for Our Lady.

### MASS

There is an additional Mass each Wednesday evening at 7.00pm at St. Joseph's.

### SERVICES OF RECONCILIATION

As part of our Lenten journey you are invited to attend Deanery Reconciliation services as follows: Monday 13th March at 7.00pm in Saint Elizabeth's church in Peel Hall and Monday 20th March at 7.00pm in Sacred Heart church on Floatshall road. A number of priests will be hearing Confessions, including Father Stephen on Monday 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be additional times for Confessions here at St. Joseph's from 10.00am until 11.50am on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### PROPOSED PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Father Stephen is in the early process of planning another Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in October 2024. The cost of the pilgrimage for a week will be in the region of £1800 per person. If you are interested and would like more information please sign the Holy Land form in the sacristy at St Joseph's.

### COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Pat John** and **Ann Kelly** 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.*

### CANTORES OECUMENICA

This year present 'The Passion of Christ' by Percy E Fletcher at **Holy Angels RC Church Wicker Lane, Hale Barns**. The Presentation is from 4 to 5pm on Palm Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 with three top rated soloists. Free admission – there will be a retiring collection for charity (cash only). ALL are welcome. Further details available at <https://cantoresoec.org/>

### ST PATRICK'S DAY AFTERNOON TEA

Hosted by St. Joseph's school PTA. Next Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 2.00pm in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Tea, cakes, Irish Coffee and entertainment from the school children.

All welcome.

*There will be an additional Mass for St. Patrick's day this Friday at 12 noon at St. Joseph's.*

St. Patrick's day cards available in the repository.

### CHILDREN'S WAY OF THE CROSS

will take place at 10.30am on Good Friday. If any child in the parish (Reception and above) would like to take part, please email Alison Macdonald - [ali.macdonald2@virginmedia.com](mailto:ali.macdonald2@virginmedia.com) with your child's name, age and a contact phone number. Names will be needed by Wednesday 29th March.

After the performance, there will be the tea and coffee in the parish centre, with arts and crafts for the children.

### SUPPORTING CAFOD THIS LENT

#### CAFOD Challenge This Year – The Big Walk

The Challenge this year is to cover 200km or 125 miles in Lent under your own steam, walking, running, cycling, whatever you can think of!

You could sponsor Father Stephen who, this year, will be cycling 150 miles!

*(Sponsorship forms available at the back of church)*

*Father's wish this year is that all money raised by him is split 50-50 between CAFOD and Smile Train (a specialist charity providing corrective surgery for children with cleft lips and palates).*

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023

Booking are now open for this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. This year's overland pilgrimage will depart on Thursday 27 July returning on Friday 4 August. Those pilgrims wishing to fly will depart from Liverpool airport on Friday 28 July returning on Thursday 3 August.

More details, brochure and booking forms are available on the pilgrimage website <http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk>. Young pilgrims (aged 16 - 22) who wish to join us in Lourdes and offer their time and energy to assist and serve the sick and elderly pilgrims are asked to contact Sandy Fairley at the Youth Mission Team ([youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)) for more details.

### ONLINE COURSE ON VATICAN II

Thank you to those who have been in touch to say how interesting/informative/helpful/even 'excellent' (!) you have found the first two podcasts.

The next two on *Divine Revelation* are now available on the diocesan website at [dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://dioceseofshrewsbury.org). They are not time-bound and may be listened to any time. There are also 3 handouts for downloading or printing: An introduction to the document; A guided reading of the text; A suggested reading list for the whole course. Should you have difficulty accessing this material, any questions or reflections, don't hesitate to call Barbara Davies: 07730 526821.

### VACANCY

St Ambrose RC Primary School, Adswold, Stockport has a vacancy for a new Headteacher from September 2023. For further information, please contact the school on 0161 486 8466 or the Diocesan Education Vacancies website (<https://educationshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/>). Closing date March 22nd