



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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
and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for - THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 19th November 2023

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| Saturday 18 th November | 6.00 pm (Vigil) | Josie Kirk (RIP) | |
| Sunday 19 th November THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm | Christine Weighill People of the Parish Gerry Murray (10 th Ann.) D'cd. Gandy Family | Tea, Coffee & Cake Sale after 11.00am Mass for Motor Neurone Disease Association |
| Monday | 12.00 noon | Greta & D'cd Family Members | Ferial |
| Tuesday | 9.30 am HF 12.00 noon | Maureen O'Hara (B'day Rem.) Special Intention (SO) | The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Adoration at HF 10.00am |
| Wednesday | 9.15 am | Michael Keith Joran | St Cecilia |
| Thursday | 9.30 am HF 12 noon 2.00 pm 7.00pm | Bill Eckersley (Get Well) Paula Entwistle Seamus Gordon (Funeral Service) Reception of Agnes Stewart's body | Ferial Tea and toast after 9.30am Mass |
| Friday | 10.30 am | Agnes Stewart (Requiem) | Ss Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions |
| Saturday 25 th November | 12.00 noon | Dc'd Coyle & O'Connor Families | Ferial Adoration at SJ 11.00 am for Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis |
| Sunday 26 th November OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE | 6.00 pm (Vigil) 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm | Ronnie Boyle (5 th Ann.) McAllister Family (Bereavement) Dot Norris Maria Hodcroft (3 rd Ann.) People of the Parish | Tea & Coffee after 11.00am Mass |

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| SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment | SACRED HEART LAMP In loving memory of Angela Pope Rest in Peace | OFFERINGS WEEKEND 12 th November 2023 SJ £1589.76 HF £ 338.75 |
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No Pain No Gain

The third servant in today's parable was trying to bury a responsibility that he wished to avoid. The treasure he had been given was an opportunity for him to invest and please his master, but instead of putting himself out, he buried the treasure where he could forget about it and go about his own affairs. Buried deep, the treasure was no longer an uncomfortable reminder of his master's expectations. Meanwhile, the other two servants, realising that there is no gain without pain, risked everything on their master's account. They invested and multiplied their gifts, and their master was pleased by their efforts.

Like the three servants in this story we too have been given talents and gifts, and with those talents comes a responsibility to use those talents as an opportunity to make the world a better place. Our talents are varied, some great some small but we are all gifted in some way. Some have high profile and very obvious talents ... there are those who are great musicians, surgeons, sports people and scientists. The rest of us might have less obvious talents. We might have a talent for caring, listening, speaking, growing things or solving practical problems. Whatever our particular gift we are urged to step out with it ... stick our neck on the line and invest our gifts in God's cause. God will not be so impressed if we are too afraid, embarrassed or lazy to use our talents. Ever heard the expression 'Use it or lose it.' If we ignore our gifts long enough, there will come a time when we can no longer rely upon them.

This is what happened to the third servant.

One of the excuses that the third servant made for not investing his gift was that he was fearful of losing it. But the message today is not to be fearful. God never asks us to do something we are not capable of doing, and he is not judging us by our levels of productivity. The master in the story did not judge the third servant for producing nothing from his gift, but rather for being lazy and for his bitter indifference to his master's generosity. The master would not have judged him harshly, if he had tried his best but failed.

Today we are invited to look again at what gifts we have been given and how we are using them for the benefit of all. We are asked to examine what gifts we might be ignoring because we are too embarrassed or afraid, and we are asked to live a little dangerously and invest more of ourselves in God's cause.

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| Entrance Antiphon : | <i>The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me and I will answer you and I will lead back your captives from every place.</i> |
| Responsorial Psalm : | <i>O blessed are those who fear the Lord.</i> |
| Gospel Acclamation : | <i>Alleluia, Alleluia! Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia!</i> |
| Communion Antiphon: | <i>To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.</i> |
| Year A | Proverbs 31: 10-13. 19-20. 30-31 Psalm 127 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6 Matthew 25: 14-30 |

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

The November Dead Envelopes are available at the back of church. Please place the envelope containing the names of those you wish to remember at all Masses, along with your offering, in the basket in front of the cross on the sanctuary.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Father Woolley will bless family graves and lead us in prayer for our deceased loved ones next Sunday 26th November at 3.00pm at Brooklands/Sale Cemetery.

All welcome to come along.

If your loved one is not buried at Brooklands but you would like their grave blessed, please contact Father Stephen.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE-CWL

The next meeting of CWL is at 7.00pm tomorrow 20th November in the Parish Centre. There will be the usual meeting followed by Cheese and Wine refreshments and a shared Celebration of Thanksgiving.

Bookings will be taken for the Christmas lunch on Monday 4th December at the Conservative Club

A heartfelt Thank You for all the donations towards the contents of the PACT bags – it is much appreciated.

CHILDRENS LITURGY:

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Next Sunday 26th November we will be celebrating the Feast of Christ the King at the 11.00am Mass.

After Mass there will be craft activities and lunch for the children in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome, so please do come along.

PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR

Next Saturday 25th November St Joseph's PTA annual Christmas Fair after 1.00pm - 3.00pm. All parishioners are warmly invited – and any donations of cakes would be much appreciated.

ADVENT SUNDAY

Holy Hour at St Joseph's
3rd December 7.00pm – 8.00pm

As we prepare to greet the Prince of Peace, born for us in Bethlehem, we will spend an hour praying for peace in the Holy Land. Quiet time, songs, prayer.

All welcome for the whole hour or for a short period of prayer.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will take place on 17th May 2024, which will be the 140th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone at St. Joseph's.

Forms are available in the sacristy for anyone in Year 8 and above wishing to be confirmed next year.

The Confirmation Programme will begin in the New Year & registration must be received before the programme begins.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Agnes Stewart, Seamus Gordon, Neil Thallon** and **Yuen Wong** 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.

ST JOSEPH'S REPOSITORY

We have a number of 2024 catholic diaries and 2024 religious calendars (small and medium sized); a number of boxed cards – 16/18 per box for £3.50; snow globes; children's nativity story / colouring books, advent calendars – and much more.

COFFEE MORNING & CAKE SALE

Tea & Coffee after 11.00am Mass today Sunday 19th November will be a special coffee morning & cake Sale in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Please come along and support.

TRAVELLING NATIVITY

During Advent, part of our journey to the crib will be the Travelling Nativity. This is a custom, originally from South America, where statues of Mary and Joseph travel from house to house in the parish during Advent, finally reaching the church on Christmas Eve.

If you would like to house the Holy Family for one night, please sign the list in the sacristy, or for more information see Father Woolley.

THE PLAYERS' SALE – A CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

The Players' Sale are proud to present a new Christmas-themed musical called 'A Touch of Magic'. Can magic save the local Christmas Show? Come and see on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th December at 7.30pm and Saturday 9th December at 2.00pm at St. Joseph's Parish Centre, Hope Rd. M33 3BF. Adults £6, Under 18's £4 and a Family Ticket £15. Please ring Teresa on 0161 969 0270.

ST. JOSEPH'S & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Today Sunday 19th November

Delamere Forest (Parkrun route) around the lake. Circular 3 miles. Meet 1.00pm for prompt 1.10pm departure from St. Joseph's car park to Delamere Visitor Centre, CW8 2JD. Return by 5.30pm.

Forest trails, mostly flat, small inclines. Poster in the narthex. Phone Teresa for further details – 07395354931

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

The next Open Afternoon at St. Joseph's for prospective new parents of Nursery and Reception children will be next Tuesday 21st November between 3.30pm and 4.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to see our learning environments, visit the whole school and get to know staff who will be working with the children! There will be one further open afternoon in January.

Further to this, we are inviting prospective parents and carers of Nursery and Reception children into school on Thursday 23rd November at 9.00am for a tour of our school 'in action'! We will take our visitors on a tour of the school and then go into the hall for a short presentation over coffee (after the SEND coffee morning).

We warmly welcome all parents of children who have not yet started Nursery or Reception to come and visit St. Joseph's to see what our vibrant school can offer. We look forward to seeing you there!

BLESSING OF CRIBS

The CTis crib outside the town hall will be blessed on Tuesday 5th December at 7.00pm with St. Joseph's choir and Salvation Army Band.

Blessing of parishioners' house cribs after 11.00am Mass on Sunday 10th December.

SVP ANNUAL REPORT

Copies of the Annual Report for 2022-2023 are available at the back of church.

MANY THANKS

To John Connell and his team for the new fencing at Holy Family.