



## ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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Email: [info@sjhf.co.uk](mailto:info@sjhf.co.uk) and Parish Website: [www.sjhf.co.uk](http://www.sjhf.co.uk)

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

### Mass Times and Intentions for – MARY, MOTHER OF GOD – 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023

Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> December	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Brian & Mary Hargreaves & Family	
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January <b>MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</b>	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Francesca Smithers (B'day Rem.) People of the Parish Catherine (Renee) Dean (RIP) Therese Wijetunge	
Monday <b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	<u>10.00 am</u>	Peter David Jackson (B'day Rem.)	Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	John Drinkwater (RIP) Nora Rigby (RIP)	Most Holy Name of Jesus
Wednesday	9.30 am	Quayle, Gough, Green, Turner (D'cd.)	Wednesday of the Christmas Season
Thursday 7.00pm Vigil of Epiphany	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon 7.00 pm.	Cyril Booth (Ann.) Kathleen Keegan (Ann.) Don Gill	Thursday of the Christmas Season
Friday <b>HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION</b>	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Bill Morris Sarah & Alfred Boston	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	12.00 noon	Marion Josephine Miller (1 <sup>st</sup> Ann.)	Saturday after Epiphany
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January <b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	6.00 pm (Vigil) 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Neil Bramfit (6 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) Rachel McPeake (RIP) Brian Lilley (B'day Rem.) John James Gilhooley (RIP) People of the Parish	

<b>SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION</b> 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment	<b>SACRED HEART LAMP</b> This week the lamp is lit for Gary & Pamela Corbett RIP	<b>OFFERINGS WEEKEND</b> 18 December 2022 SJ £1632.31 HF 320.49
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### A Fresh Start

Mary's destiny had been revealed to her by the Angel Gabriel. Joseph too had been foretold in a dream of the virgin birth. But just in case there were any malingering doubts, to have a gang of excited shepherds gate-crash the stable re-telling the news that the angels had brought to them out on the hills must have been wonderfully reassuring for the new parents. Mary certainly had plenty to ponder. For Mary there was a fast unravelling realisation that she was part of God's plan. The birth of the new baby represented a new and exciting beginning, not only for Mary, but for us all.

The first day of the year is the day the Church sets aside for honouring Mary. Mary represents true discipleship. Mary exhibits a life of hearing, seeing, and telling of God's marvellous deeds. Mary inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events in our own lives. How much in our lives is valuable and how much is not? Do we journey through life oblivious to the world around us, or do we resolve to make some kind of impact? If to date we have moved blinkered through life, wasting the opportunities that God has scattered in our path, now is the time to make a fresh start. Now is the time to make a fresh start based not on the values of our celebrity driven society, but on the model of Mary's selfless love. If Mary had made a new year's resolution in that stable all those years ago, it probably would have been to make herself an instrument for God's will. As for our own resolutions, we could live another year of frustration and disappointment, or we could resolve to make Mary our model, and look harder for God's direction in our lives.

Entrance Antiphon :	<i>Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King who rules heaven and earth for ever.</i>			
Responsorial Psalm :	<i>O God, be gracious and bless us.</i>			
Gospel Acclamation :	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son. Alleluia!</i>			
Communion Antiphon:	<i>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.</i>			
Year A	Numbers 6: 22-27	Psalm 66	Galatians 4: 4-7	Luke 2: 16-21

## THANK YOU

After all the Christmas celebrations I would like to say a big **thank you** for all the cards and gifts received for Christmas. Each and every one is greatly appreciated. Also, there is a need to thank all who worked so hard to make the Christmas Masses so uplifting and inspiring - the musicians, the servers, the readers, ministers of communion, all the cleaners, flower arrangers, sacristan, Mass booklet preparation and those who donated poinsettias to help decorate the church this year. The church looks beautiful and many people have commented on this. Thank you all very much.  
*Father Stephen Woolley.*

## NEW YEAR FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

Enjoy an evening out with parishioners and friends with good British food and a seasonal film.  
Next Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 6.45pm (after 6.00pm Mass) in St. Joseph's Parish Centre. £10 with fish and chips, mushy peas, tea, bread & butter! Booking forms in the sacristy.

## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be celebrated on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.00pm 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 **Peter David Jackson** who has died recently.  
May he rest in peace.

We extend to his family 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.*

## DIOCESAN YEAR BOOKS

for 2023 are available in the repository

## PRAY FOR PRIESTS

for January are now available at the back of church.

## CRIB OFFERINGS

Please support *Caritas* by placing your offerings in the basket by the side of the Crib. Thank you.

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION - JANUARY

The best schools are not necessarily those that come out at the top of the league tables. The best students are not necessarily those who come out with the best grades and go on to the best universities. The best schools are schools that develop the 'whole child'. The best students are those who go out into the world caring not just about their own success but the world around them. This month Pope Francis asks us to join in his prayer that "...educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023

## PRAYERS FOR BENEDICT XVI

Pope Francis has asked for special prayers for Benedict XVI who is very ill:  
"I would like to ask you all for a special prayer for Pope Emeritus Benedict, who in silence is supporting the Church. Remember him - he is very ill - asking the Lord to console him, and sustain him in this witness of love for the Church, until the end."

This is the prayer shared by the Vatican for Benedict XVI:

*Let us pray. Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear our prayers for your sick servant Benedict. Amen.*

## CAFOD 39<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS FUN RUN/WALK

CAFOD FunRun/Walk at Wavertree was completed by 23 Parishioners /friends and Father Stephen did his walk with Izar Star at Sale Water Park on a very wet Wednesday! All sponsorship monies and donations will be collected after All Masses this weekend. On line donations also accepted - <https://cafod.enthus.com/pf/st-joseph-holy-family-runners-walkers-sale>  
*Thank you for your generosity- helping the poorest of the poor this Christmas/New Year.*

## REFUGEE

We think of him as safe beneath the steeple,  
or cosy in a crib beside the font,  
but he is with a million displaced people  
on the long road of weariness and want.

For even as we sing our final carol  
His family is up and on that road,  
fleeing the wrath of someone else's quarrel,  
glancing behind and shouldering their load.  
Whilst Herod rages still from his dark tower  
Christ clings to Mary, fingers tightly curled,  
the lambs are slaughtered by the men of power,  
and death squads spread their curse across the world.  
But every Herod dies, and comes alone  
to stand before the Lamb upon the throne.

*Malcolm Guite (b 1957)*

## BITESIZE

We spend 1<sup>st</sup> January walking through our lives,  
room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done,  
cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives... not looking for flaws, but for potential.

*Ellen Goodman*

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to the Church and Parish Community **Luna Aparicio Gallardo, Alexia Susan Binil** and **Nancy Rae Smith** who were baptised at St. Joseph's recently. We welcome **Luna, Alexia** and **Nancy** into the Church and commend their parents for passing on to them the Faith of the Apostles.

## MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS – 3<sup>rd</sup> January

The name of Jesus means 'saviour'. 'We read in the Bible how the Angel Gabriel revealed the name to Mary. "You shall call His name Jesus." And to Joseph the angel not only revealed the name but explained its meaning "You shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." So on this day we are reminded that Jesus' very name tells us of the greatest gift we are ever to receive ..... 'salvation'!