



St Joseph's  
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**ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY**  
**YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope**  
*“In Service to God’s Kingdom of love, justice and peace.”*  
**The Presbytery, Hope Road, Sale, M33 3BF Tel: 0161 973 1615**  
 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 – EASTER SUNDAY- 20<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>8.00 pm(Vigil)</b>	<b>John Richards (RIP)</b>	
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April EASTER SUNDAY</b>	<b>9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm</b>	<b>Val &amp; Bob’s Intentions People of the Parish Gabrielle Davis (RIP) Brian Rogers (RIP)</b>	<b>ALLELUIA THE LORD IS RISEN Tea &amp; coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass</b>
<b>Monday EASTER MONDAY</b>	<b>12.00 pm</b>	<b>Ray McMahan (RIP)</b>	<b>Monday of the Easter Octave</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9.30 am HF 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Joan &amp; Bob Smith (RIP) Stella &amp; Adrian McGrath (RIP)</b>	<b>Tuesday of the Easter Octave <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u></b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b><u>9.15 am</u> (school)</b>	<b>Father John Ashton</b>	<b>Wednesday of the Easter Octave</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9.30 am HF 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Billy Thomas (RIP) Sheila Langeveld (RIP)</b>	<b>Thursday of the Easter Octave</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Christine Hackland</b>	<b>Friday of the Easter Octave</b>
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Johnny Igoe (1<sup>st</sup> Ann.)</b>	<b>Saturday of the Easter Octave</b>
	<b>6.00 pm(Vigil)</b>	<b>Tomy Turnbull (1<sup>st</sup> Ann.)</b>	
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish Alf Rochford (10<sup>th</sup> Ann.) Harry Hanley (RIP) John Kelly (RIP)</b>	<b>DIVINE MECY SUNDAY Tea &amp; coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass</b>

<b>OUR LADY’S LAMP</b> This week the lamp is lit for <b>John Flynn</b> Birthday Remembrance	<b>SACRED HEART LAMP</b> This week the lamp is lit for <b>Dorothy Tidobi</b> Rest in Peace	<b>OFFERINGS WEEKEND</b> <b>13<sup>th</sup> April 2025</b> SJ £1961.73 HF £403.07 Many Thanks
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**What if We Had Reached the Tomb Earlier**

Do you ever wonder how different things would have been if we had reached the tomb a little earlier? What if we had reached the tomb in time to witness the detail of what happened next? Would witnessing what happened next have changed the way we live? We are told that the empty tomb gives our life purpose. Belief in the resurrection means we can live life boldly and well, looking forward to eternal life. The empty tomb gives us a means to deal with pain and suffering, it means that death is not a meaningless end of life, but the door to the fullness of life with the risen Christ. So given that the resurrection is essential to our faith, is it a little disappointing that this bit of the Bible does not give us more detail? Are we left feeling as confused as the original disciples?

We are not of course required to solve the unwritten details of something that happened over two thousand years ago. In our human search for certainty all we can do at his point is put the resurrection into the context of the rest of Jesus’ life and teachings. We have to trust that everything Jesus has told us is true, and that the resurrection is not just an invention to give a tragic story a happy ending, but the realisation of the promises Jesus made all along. Jesus promised all along that death couldn’t contain us, and the empty tomb points to this not necessarily as proof, but as truth. Scientists teach us that something has to be proven repeatedly before we can call it a truth, but as Christians, we know that truth abounds all around us whether anyone has proved it or not. Truth does not wait to be proven.

We are not of course, asked to leave our brains at the church door, but we are asked to approach Easter with a broad mind and an open heart, and not to see ‘truth’ as something we can only find with a textbook and a microscope.

<i>Entrance Antiphon :</i>	<b><i>The Lord is truly risen, alleluia. To him be glory and power for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia.</i></b>
<i>Responsorial Psalm :</i>	<b><i>This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.</i></b>
<i>Gospel Acclamation :</i>	<b><i>Alleluia, alleluia. Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord. Alleluia.</i></b>
<i>Communion Antiphon:</i>	<b><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></b>
Year C	Acts 10: 34a, 37-43      Psalm 118      Colossians 3: 1-4      John 20: 1-9

## HAPPY EASTER

I, together with Father Jim, and Deacon John, wish you all a very happy and holy Easter.

We are the Easter people and Alleluia is our song! I would like to thank all our servers and readers on whom a lot of the responsibility for the presentations of the services depends. Thanks, too, to the readers of the passion, the 12 'apostles' who volunteered to have their feet washed, and the ushers who helped to keep the movement of the congregation around the church flowing easily.

We are most grateful to the church cleaners who, on a week-to-week basis, do a magnificent job to keep the church clean and tidy. Thanks, too, to our florists who have made the churches look so beautiful.

I also need to thank all those in the back office who have been responsible for getting all the leaflets ready for Holy Week. Special thanks to all our musicians and singers for uplifting the liturgy over holy week and Easter.

The success of Holy Week depends on so many people cooperating together to help all of us take part in the unique ceremonies that take us through the last days of Christ, his passion, suffering, death and resurrection.

Thank you to all.

A Blessed Easter to you all!

*Father Stephen Woolley*

## THE PASCHAL CANDLE - THE PILLAR OF FIRE

What is this great paschal candle that stands in our midst, which during the Fifty Days of Easter seems always to be burning, and never to go out?

It is the pillar of fire by which God led the children of Israel from slavery to freedom, through the dusty desert to the land flowing with milk and honey.

Behind it, we marched freed from sin from the gloom of exile back into our church's house on Easter's eve.

For fifty days it shines gloriously in the assembly of the church. Then, held in a place of honour near the font, it is brought out and lit for every evening sacrifice of praise, for every baptism and every funeral, every birth and every birth unto eternal life. And as the days and seasons turn, slowly this pillar of finest wax and strongest wick is consumed, burned down, eaten up

by fire, sacrificed – like Christ himself – and never truly extinguished. And, so it measures our days and seasons until it is Easter again, until once more we sing in the light of a new paschal candle:

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

## 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.

## COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Kieran Deeny and Edith Mary Saberton who have died recently. May they rest in peace.

We extend to their families and friends our deepest sympathy at this sad and difficult time.

## THE CONVENT OF ST. EMILIE, BOWDON.

require care assistants to join our staff providing care to small community of religious sisters. Flexible hours day, night and weekends shifts. Please contact the Convent tel: 0161 928 2119 for application form and further information

## MANCHESTER MARATHON

is next Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 you visit <https://www.manchestermarathon.co.uk/route/road-closure-info/>

## VE DAY 80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2.00pm – 4.00pm in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Tea, coffee and entertainment  
Donations of cakes, etc would be appreciated.

## DAY OF DIVINE MERCY

This special celebration will be held next Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at St. Vincent's Altrincham. The church will be open from 1.30pm with Exposition 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 Good Friday which can be found at <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena>.

## SPUC PRO-LIFE CHAIN 2025

A peaceful public act of witness to commemorate the millions of unborn babies killed, and the families hurt, by abortion since the implementation of the 1967 Abortion Act. This peaceful act of witness spreads the message that abortion kills unborn children and hurts women and families. Please consider participating.

Next Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 11.00am – 1.00pm at Washway Road at Harboro Road, Sale, M33 4RA  
If you have any queries please contact Michael on 07810 791032

## CAFOD NEWS

A sincere thank you to all our parishoners for their very generous donations to our Myanmar Earthquake Appeal in April of £2530.00!! You also raised £1568.00 from the Lenten Family Fast Day and £30.50 from the Soup Lunch. We have sent a cheque to CAFOD for £4,400, including monthly collections from earlier in the year.

## SALE ROTARY CLUB

are celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day, next Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April, at their annual St. George's Dinner, 7.00pm for 7:30pm at Ashton-upon-Mersey Golf Club, Church Lane Sale M33 5QQ. Tickets are priced at £32- the evening includes a three course meal and music from the era will be provided by Anna, The Golden Age Songbird - a young lady who comes dressed in WWII uniform and, just for fun and entirely optional, you may wish to dress in fashions or uniforms of the era...For tickets, please contact Michael Riley on 07855 406406.

## ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

This year the Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Mark at noon on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at Holy Angels, Hale Barns. All married couples and families are welcome but, if you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year (25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>), 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.

## BIRTHDAY WISHES

We wish Father Stephen's mum a very happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.