



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley

Father Marco Salvagnini and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 20th September 2026

Saturday 19 th September	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Charles Dwyer (Get Well)	
Sunday 20 th September TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Ailish Doyle (RIP) Michael Nugent & Margaret Lee Maria Wadsworth (RIP) Sara Duffy (RIP)	Tea & Coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12.00 noon	Paul Grimes (Requiem)	St Matthew
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Roy Houghton (18 th Ann.) Winifred Mary Scollan (Requiem)	Ferial <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u>
Wednesday	<u>9.15 am</u> (School)	Mary Foley (RIP)	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Eamon O'Hara (B'day Rem.) Thanksgiving – starting medical school	Our Lady of Walsingham <u>Tea & Toast after 9.30 HF</u> <u>Mass today</u>
Friday	9.30 am	Joseph Mulgrew (RIP)	Ferial
Saturday 26 th September	12 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Sylvio Tamin (8 th Ann.) Anastasia Tansey (Ann.)	Ferial <u>Confessions</u> <u>11.00am – 11.50 am</u>
Sunday 27 th September TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Marin Quinn (22 nd Ann.) Sonny Mannion International Friendship Mary Thompson (B'day Rem.)	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass

OUR LADY'S LAMP
this week is lit for
Celine Soars &
Richard Thomas
RIP

SACRED HEART LAMP
this week is lit for
Roy Houghton
RIP

ST CARLO ACUTIS'S LAMP
this week is lit for
all young people in
their new school year

OFFERINGS WEEKEND
13th September 2026
SJ £1834.97 HF 415.62
Many Thanks

QUEUING FOR HEAVEN

One of the most expensive department stores holds a sale and shoppers form a queue. The most ardent bargain hunters bring sleeping bags and queue overnight. Other shoppers arrive five minutes before the sale. When the store finally opens the doors the queue surges forward in a frenzy. Shoppers 'push in' from every direction greedy for the bargains. Does this make us cross? Of course it does and rightly so. The people who arrived first should get the bargains first. Most of us would agree that that is only fair. The problem comes when we try to use this same sense of 'justice' in earning a place in God's Kingdom. Surprise surprise! Gaining God's grace is not like queuing for bargains, neither has it got anything to do with how many more hours we have worked in a vineyard, nor has it got anything to do with measuring how many years we have served as disciples.

Once again we are reminded that things that count for so much in this world are turned upside down in God's world. We are taught not to think we are worth more as Christians than those who have found Christianity late in life. If we have lived life as God asks from the outset then we should simply count ourselves as lucky. For others, life's paths may have taken more difficult and painful twists.

The employer in today's parable pays his employers exactly the same amount regardless of the time they arrived at the vineyard. Jesus is telling us that there are no 'partial benefits' in God's kingdom. If we have earned a place in heaven we have earned a place, there won't be some places better than others. God's love is God's love. We are each promised the same measure of his grace.

"... So the last will be first and the first will be last." We would be foolish to expect some kind of pecking order at heaven's gates. We would be even more foolish to expect some kind of organised queuing system or loyalty cards for the longest serving. Those who arrive late should certainly not be regarded as somehow cheating the system.

We must recognise God's generosity in giving a level field for all and emulate it. We must be happy for the latecomers, especially if we have played a part in attracting them by our shining example!

Entrance Antiphon:	<i>I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them and I will be their Lord for ever.</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	<i>The Lord is close to all who call him.</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your Son. Alleluia!</i>
Communion Antiphon:	<i>You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.</i>
Year A	Isaiah 55: 6-9 Psalm 145 Philipians 1: 20c-24, 27a Matthew 20: 1-16

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The next meeting of CWL is at 7.00pm tomorrow Monday 21st September in the Parish Centre. There will be the usual meeting with information about Branch and National events. After the break for refreshments there will be a talk given by Fr. Ned Wall on My Time spent in Peru. Visitors who would like to hear the talk would be very welcome at 7.30pm the entrance fee is £3.

MASS OF ALL NATIONS

Next Sunday 27th September at 11.00 am Mass we will once again celebrate the diversity and world wide aspect of our parish family.

After Mass we will celebrate in the Parish Centre with a shared international table where we can sample the delights of food from across the world. Thank you in advance for your generous offerings!

Father Stephen needs to know which of the different nations will be taking part so please can we ask you to complete a form in the sacristy.

FIRST FORGIVENESS AND HOLY COMMUNION IN 2027

The date for First Holy Communion 2027 has been arranged for Saturday 15th May (schools) and Sunday 16th May (those at Non-Catholic schools).

However, if your child is at a Non-Catholic School and is 7 years old or above and in year 3 or above and would like to celebrate their First Forgiveness and Holy Communion, please collect a Form of Enrolment from the Sacristy. There will be a meeting for all First Sacraments parents – schools and parish on Thursday 12th November at 6.00pm at St. Joseph's

It is very important that the children are enrolled before the course begins.

CONFIRMATION 2027

Forms are now available in the sacristy for anyone in Year 8 and above wishing to be confirmed on Friday 14th May next year. The Confirmation Programme will begin in the autumn term with a welcome session for all candidates, *together with their parents.*

Further details soon.

Registration must be received before the programme begins.

CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF LIVING WATER PRAYER GROUP!

Join us for a special anniversary celebration next Sunday 27 September at St Hugh and St John's Parish, Timperley. All friends, former members and parishioners are warmly invited.

We begin at 3.00pm with praise, worship and shared memories, followed by Mass of Thanksgiving at 4.00pm, then refreshments in the Parish Hall from 5.00pm.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Paul Goddard, Paul Anthony Grimes, Mary Scollan and Brenda Mary Palin 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Monday 30th November – Bridgewater Hall
Father Stephen has now booked tickets for all who put their names down. The cost is £18 per person.
There are envelopes in the sacristy in alphabetical order with your name on.

Please can you return to the office with your money asap

CHURCH ORGAN – URGENT

When the organ was inspected last week one of the 8ft trumpet stop Bass pipes had collapsed and had to be removed. On further inspection, the main problem became clear. The pipes are made of soft lead alloy which makes them prone to metal fatigue and the recent hot weather has added to this problem. A number of other pipes had also collapsed. Consultation has taken place with a pipemaker. They have suggested that repair of the pipes may only be a temporary solution due to the fatigue and their age of over 100 years. New pipes would be very expensive and may take 9 months to supply.

A more prudent solution is to fit a replacement reconditioned set. These would be made mainly of zinc - a harder and lighter material. These would be far more durable and not subject to collapse.

The total cost of this, including supply and fitting of the replacement pipes, tuning & voicing and a general service visit would be £4000 including VAT.

This is a matter of urgency and the work to replace the pipes needs to go ahead as soon as possible. One of the damaged pipes can be seen in the Sacred Heart chapel.

'THE PLAYERS' PRESENT AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND STORIES WITH ROGER BROWNE'

From Salford to New Orleans via New York: Next Friday, 25th September, Roger Browne (a professional pianist, raconteur and writer), will be performing in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.

He will take you on a musical journey with songs and anecdotes about how music has developed through the decades. Tickets: £10 from Rosie 07941 887638. Pre-booking essential.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS ADOREMUS

will be held on Saturday 10th October. The day will begin with Holy Mass at St George's Cathedral Southwark and there will be a Eucharistic Procession from St George's Cathedral Southwark to Westminster Cathedral. If any parishioner wishes to be part of the Shrewsbury Diocese Pilgrimage Group to Adoremus, please register an interest with Mrs Natalie Orefice via email:

Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to the Church and Parish Community Obinna Edmond Pennington who was baptised at St. Joseph's last weekend. We welcome Obinna into the Church and commend his parents for passing on to him the Faith of the Apostles.

MANCHESTER HALF MARATHON Sunday 4th October

Once again, the route will affect some access to Holy Family and St Joseph's. For more information see <https://www.manchesterhalfmarathon.com/road-closures/>