



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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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 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 21st April 2024

Saturday 20 th April	6.00pm (Vigil)	Ciara McGuigan (RIP)	
Sunday 21 st April FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	People of the Parish John O'Boyle John & Diana (Golden Wedding Thanksgiving) Winifred (Win) Fitzgibbon (RIP)	Fr Bernard's Golden Jubilee celebration after 10.00am Mass HF
Monday	12.00 noon	Mary Woolley (89 th B'day)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Bob Townsend (RIP) Timothy (Timmy) Boyle (RIP)	St George Adoration 10.00am
Wednesday	9.15 am	John Lyons	Ferial
Thursday	9.30 am 12.00 noon	Get Well (Quinn Family) Mary Ryan (Requiem)	St Mark Tea & Toast after Mass HF
Friday	9.30 am	Kath Connors (RIP)	Ferial
Saturday 27 th April	12 noon 6.00pm (Vigil)	Mary John John Farrell (B'day Rem 26.4)	Ferial
Sunday 28 th April FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	People of the Parish Kenneth Topp (RIP) Harry Dixon (RIP) Mary & Michael Unwin	Tea & Coffee after 11.00am Mass for SVP / Bone Cancer Trust

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment	SACRED HEART LAMP This week the lamp is lit in loving memory of Faye Mooney (Ann. Rem.) RIP	OFFERINGS WEEKEND 14 th April 2024 SJ £1233.42 HF £431.93 Many Thanks
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Counting on the Shepherd

Today's gospel is for anyone who has ever felt unloved or insignificant. Today's gospel is for anyone who feels his or her life doesn't count for much. At some time or another that probably means most of us. In biblical days shepherding was a highly dangerous business. Herds might consist of thousands of sheep, and shepherds had to be highly skilled in tending for the sheep and protecting them from wolves and robbers. The shepherd's care and courage was legendary. A good shepherd would not think twice about his own life in protecting his sheep. This is the image that Jesus chose for himself in today's gospel. He is the good shepherd. His leadership is a mixture of tenderness, strength and self-sacrifice. Jesus loves us so much that he would lay down his life. That's a powerful belief to take out into the world!

But what if we don't quite believe it? Surely there are too many of us to love and look after individually. People fall by the wayside all the time. We hear tragic stories of elderly people who die alone and are not discovered for days because no one cares enough to visit. We see down and outs sleeping in subways because their family and friends have given up on them. Can God really be looking out for each and every one of us? Surely there are too many of us to look after – to love individually. Not so! Jesus we're told would not let even one of his sheep stray without coming to the rescue. He knows each and every one of us by name. If we are one of his, then he will recognise us and take care of us. That's another powerful belief to wake up with. The next time you are feeling lost and forgotten, try looking for the Good Shepherd's love in your life. God's help is always there when we look to him.

Entrance Antiphon :	<i>The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.</i>
Responsorial Psalm :	<i>The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.</i>
Gospel Acclamation :	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!</i>
Communion Antiphon:	<i>The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.</i>
Year B	Acts 4: 8-12 Psalm 117 1 John 3: 1-2 John 10: 11-18

CONGRATULATIONS

to Father Bernard McDermott on his Golden Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood. Father Bernard, a son of the parish, was ordained 50 years ago here at St. Joseph's

Father Bernard will celebrate Mass at Holy Family at 10.00 am this morning. After Mass he will cut his jubilee cake and refreshments will be served.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING FOR LIFE Saturday 27th April

On this day, the 56th anniversary of the legalisation of abortion, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. Pray especially that 'buffer zones' will not be introduced around abortion centres. For further information on the day of Prayer & Fasting contact The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740 Poster in the narthex gives further information.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

There will be a meeting tomorrow (Monday) 22nd April at 7:30pm in St. Joseph's church for all booked on the pilgrimage to discuss practical aspects of the pilgrimage and answer any queries that you might have.

PIETRA FITNESS CLASSES

Pietra Fitness is a unique fitness workout which includes stretching and strengthening the body. Christian prayer and meditations are woven throughout the classes, with a background of beautiful sacred music. This holistic workout restores harmony and wholeness to both body and soul.

Classes are on every week – Thursdays at 6.30pm & Fridays at 10.30am in St Joseph's Parish Centre. They are suitable for women of most fitness levels. First taster class is free - £5 per class after that. Please contact Trish Morgan, the certified Pietra Fitness Instructor at trishmorganj2.5@gmail.com for more information.

ST. JOSEPH'S & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

next walk is today Sunday 21st April.

Meet at St Joseph's Car Park at 1.15pm for 1.30pm departure for Walton Hall Gardens, Warrington. A gentle walk, suitable for all ages, taking in country lanes, canal path, local reservoir and the gardens. As well as formal gardens there is a small zoo, putting green and play area for families. Distance 4 miles - returning before 5.00pm. For further details see poster in narthex.

SAINT MARK April 25th

Most likely Mark's is the first of the four Gospels. The Gospel of Saint Mark is brief and to the point. Saint Mark has one goal, to present Jesus as God's crucified messiah, and he fulfils that goal concisely. This is the shortest of the gospels. You could sit down and read it in under an hour and a half. Give it a go!

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Mary Ryan** who has died recently. May she rest in peace.

We extend to her 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.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND CONSECRATED LIFE

is today 21st April.

It's Your Call

For each of us God has a plan, and for some, that plan is for priesthood and consecrated life.

On this day, we are invited to:-

- Pray for the priests who have ministered to us throughout our lives, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests in our prayers throughout the week.
- Pray the Rosary for more young men and women in our communities to respond to God's call.

SANDSTONE TRAIL WALK

On Sunday 5th May, a group from St Joseph's and Holy Family Walkers and their families and friends will be walking the 32 mile Sandstone Trail to raise money for two charities: Jude's Fund (within the Bone Cancer research Trust, which is the leading charity in the UK fighting primary bone cancer), and for the SVP, (specifically to help provide a new holiday caravan for the use of families in need). Walkers will be outside masses at St Joseph's this weekend 20th/21st April and next 27th/28th April to collect sponsorship.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

CAKE SALE

In support of the Sandstone Trail sponsored walk for the SVP and the Bone Cancer Research Trust, there will be a cake sale after 11.00am Mass next Sunday 28th April. Please come and enjoy a tea and cake.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE GOSPELS AND SCRIPTURE,

Thursday 9 May 8-9pm

Parishioners are invited to this new lay led venture! We will spend up to an hour reflecting and praying on the Gospel reading of the week (the Sunday after – 12th May is 7th Sunday of Easter - Gospel will be John 17: 11-19). There is some information on the notice board in the narthex. It really is very simple and those who pray in this way have found it to be a richly rewarding experience, in addition to further building our Parish Community. You may find it helpful to read the passage beforehand (we are using the reading from The Sunday Missal, Year B) although there will be copies available on the evening. All are welcome.

CAP TALK

This Tuesday 23rd April, 6.30pm in Holy Angels Parish Hall, Hale Barns. A speaker from CAP (Christians Against Poverty) is visiting to talk about the impact of poverty and how, as Christians, we can respond with hope, love and faith. All welcome.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

This year the Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Mark at noon on Saturday 8th June at St. Columba's church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA

All married couples and families are welcome but, if you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year (25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th), please email / let Father Stephen know as soon as possible and he will arrange for you to receive a special letter of invitation. He will need names, date and address.