



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

The Presbytery, Hope Road, Sale, M33 3BF Tel: 0161 973 1615

Email: info@sjhf.co.uk Parish Website: www.sjhf.co.uk

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

Mass Times and Intentions for TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 23rd August 2026

Saturday 22 nd August	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Brian Hargreaves	
Sunday 23 rd August TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Anne Bonner Rena Nixon David Quaile (RIP) People of the Parish	Tea & Coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12.00 noon	John Coyle (RIP)	St Bartholomew
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Priest's Intention Family of Sainsbury, Butterworth, Beau & Booth	St Thomas of Hereford Adoration 10.00am HF
Wednesday	9.30am	NO MASS	Ferial
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Priest's Intention Paul Tanney	St Monica <u>No Tea & Toast after</u> <u>9.30 HF Mass today</u>
Friday	9.30 am	Hilda Martin (RIP)	St Augustine
Saturday 29 th August	12 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Bridget Murphy (RIP) Harry Dixon (RIP)	The Passion of St John the Baptist Confessions <u>11.00am – 11.50 am</u>
Sunday 30 th August TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Andy Gudgeon (RIP - Australia) People of the Parish David Donlan Bernadette Regan (RIP)	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass

OUR LADY'S LAMP
this week is lit for
David Broadhurst
(17th Ann.) Rest in Peace

SACRED HEART LAMP
this week is lit for
Ivy Lloyd
Rest in Peace

ST CARLO ACUTIS'S LAMP
this week is lit for
Joseph Kennedy
(30th B'day Rem) Rest in Peace

OFFERINGS WEEKEND
16th August 2026
SJ £1751.89 HF 369.93
Many Thanks

THE KEY

Who do you think Jesus is? As children we are told that Jesus is the Son of God, and we accept it readily. When we are children God is a kindly father figure who lives in Heaven and listens to our night prayers or Jesus is the baby we see in the Christmas Nativity scene. As young adults we begin to see Jesus as a great teacher, a healer, a worker of miracles and a revolutionary. For some of us, doubts creep in. Is Jesus really the Son of God or simply a good man and a great prophet?

In today's gospel Jesus asks his disciples "Who do you say I am?" "You are the Christ," replies Peter promptly, "the Son of the living God." But this wasn't Peter's opinion from the start. By working with Jesus and following his ministry daily, Peter and the other disciples gradually came to the extraordinary conviction that God was working through Jesus; speaking, healing, working miracles and offering eternal salvation.

Today we listen again to Jesus' question. "Who do you say I am?" It seems that the question is aimed not just at the disciples but at us. Jesus doesn't want us to just give the answer we've been taught to give ... our answer has to be from the heart. Our answer might be, "I don't know!" Our answer might be, "I'm not very sure right now." Or our answer might be a resounding, "You are Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus knows that faith is a journey and our answer reflects at exactly what stage of that journey we have reached.

It may be that we think of Jesus as little more than a good man and a great prophet. If this is what we believe, the Bible becomes little more than a book filled with good stories and sound philosophy. If, like the disciples, we are convinced that Jesus is the Son of God, we are immediately opening ourselves to great possibilities.... we have found the key to life's greatest adventure.

Entrance Antiphon:	Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God; Have mercy on me, O Lord for I cry to you all the day long.
Responsorial Psalm:	O Lord your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Alleluia!
Communion Antiphon:	The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Year A

Isaiah 22: 15, 19-23

Psalm 138

Romans 11: 33-36

Matthew 16: 13-20

LOCAL HISTORY - GUIDED HERITAGE WALK

Michael Riley will be leading a new local history walk this Tuesday 25th August, focused on the Wardle Road area of Sale.

Starting at 7.00pm from outside St. Joseph's Parish Centre, the tour will last about an hour and a half and will end at St. Joseph's Parish Centre where tea and coffee will be served.

St. Joseph's car park will be available.

All welcome - voluntary donation if desired for Sale Rotary Club can be made on the night.

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 in 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.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Join March for Life UK in London for the annual march, the 'Pro-life Family on Saturday 5th September Summit' and 'Youth Summit'. Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event, where we recognise the value of life from conception and help all people understand why abortion is a tragedy in itself and one that harms the family to its very core. Find out more

at marchforlife.co.uk or email info@marchforlife.co.uk

To book a place on a coach from Hale Barns, High Legh or Sandbach please contact Gerry on 07990 970 103 or g.c.mcgettigan@gmail.com

CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF LIVING WATER PRAYER GROUP!

Join us for a special anniversary celebration on 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.

Come and give thanks, reconnect, and celebrate all God has done through the group over the past 40 years. We would be delighted to welcome both familiar faces and new friends.

If you have a special memory or short testimony to share about what the Living Water Prayer Group has meant in your life, or if you plan to attend, please let us know.

RSVP / testimonies: Brenda at bvackroyd@aol.com

FRANCISCAN MISSIONARIES OF ST JOSEPH

Briege Sivills, an Associate of the FMSJ, will make an appeal at all Masses at St Joseph's next weekend.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Once again this year, Father Stephen is going to book tickets for the Manchester & District Hospitals' Choir Carol Concert on Monday 30th November. If you would like to start December off with a Christmas cracker of a concert please sign the form in the sacristy by 6th September. Father Stephen will book the tickets during that following week. The cost will be around £20. This annual concert is in aid of Young Lives versus Cancer. Well worth supporting!

DO I HAVE TO GO TO MASS ON HOLIDAY?

Most of us simply don't think much about Church when we are on holiday or if we do think about it, we usually don't put the effort into making it happen. The trick is to plan Church into your holiday. Don't think of your Sunday obligations as an inconvenience, finding a new church is part of the adventure and will be part of your holiday memories when you come home. So while you are planning your trip, take some time to search for a Catholic Church using a 'phone book, the internet or ask at your hotel reception. Don't just rely on the chance that you will pass by a church near your hotel.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH CHESTER

As part of the Jubilee Year and in preparation for the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi, Franciscan churches have been designated as places of pilgrimage where the faithful may obtain a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions. We are therefore inviting parishioners from across the Diocese to join us for a special Pilgrimage Day at St Francis Church, Chester, on Thursday 17th September 2026, the Feast of the Stigmata of St Francis

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 Southward 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.

EXAM RESULTS

Many of our young parishioners will recently have received their exam results. Some of our young parishioners will be happy and excited about their results, some will be feeling a little disappointed perhaps. What we all need to remember is that whilst getting the grades you want can open doors, not getting them doesn't necessarily mean the door has shut. Life is all about finding the best path through life, and that 'best path' certainly isn't the same for everyone.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers John Long and Charles Howie 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.