



St Joseph's  
140

**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 –TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2025			
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Kathleen Ashley (RIP)	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> August TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Kevin Keaveney Annie Finan (RIP) Tony O'Shea (RIP) Ethne McGeoff (RIP)	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12.00 pm	Anthony Leigh (RIP)	St Thomas of Hereford
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Michael Christopher Coughlan Stella Millner (RIP)	Ferial <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u>
Wednesday	9.30 am	Angela & Terry Brennan (Recovery)	St Monica
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	NO MASS Mary Bryant (Requiem Mass)	St Augustine of Hippo
Friday	9.30 am	Philomena McGinity (Birthday Rem)	The Passion of St John the Baptist
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	12.00 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Brian, Anthony & Margaret Leigh (RIP)  Marie O'Driscoll	Ss Margaret Clitherow, Margaret Ward & Anne Line <u>Confessions and Adoration 11.00am – 12 noon</u>
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> August TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Michael Muldoon (Recovery) Rosaline John Fernandes Maria Wadsworth (RIP) Kurt and Ursula Kaufmann (RIP)	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
OUR LADY'S LAMP This week the lamp is lit for Jane Gerrard		SACRED HEART LAMP This week the lamp is lit for Margaret Rigby (5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 27/8)	OFFERINGS WEEKEND 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2025 SJ £1865.92 HF £385.18 Many Thanks

### The Narrow Door

Surely the days of teaching about hell fire and damnation are gone. Surely our ever loving and forgiving God wouldn't exclude anyone from Heaven. Well according to today's gospel reading we can't bet on it! We might imagine Heaven's gates as big and welcoming, but today we hear that it may instead be a narrow door through which it might be difficult for us to gain entry... and worse, there's a time limit on how long it might remain open.

Today's theme is a continuation of last week's. Today we are warned against complacency. Having the right books is no guarantee of passing the exam. Being baptised a Christian is no guarantee of a place in Heaven.

Life is a testing ground in which we should be continually striving, continually bettering ourselves, continually increasing our understanding and forever moving forwards spiritually. We might think that because we attend Mass on Sunday and dip our hands in our pockets for the odd collection that we are doing all that is required. Are we going to be unpleasantly surprised to find ourselves at the back of Heaven's queue when we fondly imagined we might be somewhere near the front?

For all of us who think we've got it right .... think again! Have we really planned for eternity, or have we only planned as far as our next mortgage repayment? Have we really determined the priorities in our lives, or have we allowed life to shape us into something we never intended? Do we imagine we are good people simply because we have never done anything bad?

God is ever loving and forgiving, but we could exclude ourselves from Heaven simply by not striving to get there. What measures do we each need to adopt to earn our place at the narrow door?

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 :	Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.		
Gospel Acclamation :	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me. 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 C	Isaiah 66: 18 - 21	Psalm 117 (116)	Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13      Luke 13: 22-30

### **THURSDAY COFFEE MORNINGS**

In the month of August when lots of people are away and the weather is, hopefully, is sunny and warm, why not come together before Mass on Thursday at 10.45am for our last coffee morning in the Parish Centre at St. Joseph's. It was wonderful to see so many people last Thursday. Father Stephen is looking forward to welcoming you this Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> August

### **ALTAR SERVERS' OUTING**

Father Stephen has arranged a crazy golf outing - Australian Adventure Golf in Adlington in Cheshire - on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September evening 6.30pm. If your child would like to go, please could parents/guardians sign the form in the sacristies at St Joseph's & Holy Family. Father Stephen asks that parents/guardians provide transport, meeting with their children in St Joseph's car park at 6.00pm or at the venue at 6.30pm. Father Stephen greatly appreciates all the altar servers do and hopes they enjoy some time together.

### **PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

Father Stephen is in the middle of organising a parish pilgrimage to Lourdes for 2026 – Proposed date would be early June, staying for one week. More details will be available soon.

### **CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT**

Father Stephen is going to book tickets for the Manchester & District Hospitals' Choir Carol Concert on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December at The Bridgewater Hall. There will be a limited number of tickets available so if you would like to start December off with a Christmas cracker of a concert please sign the form in the sacristy. The cost will be around £20. This annual concert is in aid of Young Lives versus Cancer.

### **ST JOSEPH'S CAR PARKING**

During the summer holidays the boundary wall on Marlborough Road is being rebuilt because of safety concerns about its stability. We apologise for any inconvenience.

### **COMMENDED TO GOD**

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Mary Bryant** and **Ada Murphey** 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.

### **SVP RAFFLE**

The SVP are holding their annual raffle. Details of prizes are given on the poster in St Joseph's narthex. Around 50% of the money raised from tickets sold at St Joseph's will come back to our conference. Raffle tickets cost £1 each or you can buy a book of 5 for £5. They will be available for purchase after all masses on the weekend of the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August. Thank you.

### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

We welcome to the Church and Parish Community **Elias Nathaniel Marcus Hanley-Moore** and **Eliyannah Bobbi Hanley-Moore** who were baptised at St. Joseph's last week. We welcome Elias and Eliyannah into the Church and commend their parents for passing on to them the Faith of the Apostles.

### **HOLIDAY SEASON**

Father Stephen wishes everyone a happy and restful time with family and friends wherever you are spending your holiday, in the UK or abroad. We also especially welcome all visitors to St. Joseph's and Holy Family. We wish you a happy holiday in company with your loved ones.

### **EXAM RESULTS**

Many of our young parishioners will 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.

### **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. A very useful website is [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org)

### **HERITAGE OPEN DAY**

Saturday 20th September 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

To mark English Heritage Week, combined with the 140th anniversary celebrations of St. Joseph's, we will open the church and Parish Centre to the local community.

Parishioners & members of the community will have the opportunity to see the exhibition in the Parish Centre, view archived parish registers as well as see a variety of historical artefacts associated with the church.

Throughout the day there will be a program of organ recitals and music. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre alongside the exhibition.

If you are able to assist on a rota basis with supervising in the church, present parish registers to visitors or make cakes, please sign the lists in the sacristy. Thank you.

### **CONFIRMATION 2026**

Confirmation for St Joseph's & Holy Family will be on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026, in St Joseph's church. Forms are now available in the sacristy for anyone in Year 8 and above wishing to be confirmed next year.

The Confirmation Programme will begin in **November** & registration must be received before the programme begins.

### **TRAFFORD SOUTH FOOD BANK**

Many thanks for all the recent donations. Items currently being requested are: cordial, small jars of coffee, tea, cleaning materials, biscuits, "treats", angel delight, jelly, tinned sponge puddings, tinned custard, jam.