

ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY - HANDS - FACE - SPACE

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

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Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley

Retired Priest, Father David Peters and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 24th January 2021				
Saturday 23rd January	6.00 pm	Ciarain O'Hare		
Sunday 24th January THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am нг 11.00 am	Pat Johns (SI) Kath Dunning Peilober, Richardson, Mathews, Ujszaszi Families People of the Parish		
Monday	9.30 нг 12 noon	NO MASS Carmel Moorhead (Requiem)		The Conversion of St. Paul
Tuesday	9.30 нг 12 noon	Priest's Intention Elizabeth Mary Thallon (Requiem)		Ss Timothy & Titus
Wednesday	9.30 am hf 9.30 am	NO MASS Sylvio Tamin (B'day Rem.)		Ferial
Thursday	10.00. am нг 12 noon 7.00 pm	Anna Catto (Requiem) Thomas O'Shea (25th Ann. 25.1) NO MASS		St. Thomas Aquinas
Friday	9.30 нг 9.30 am	Priest's Intention Rosetta (continuing recovery)		Ferial
Saturday	12 noon	Mike O'Har	e (Sick)	Ferial
Saturday 30th January	6.00 pm Michael A		dnitt	
Sunday 31st January FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Catherine Culliney (25th Ann.) Josephine McQuaid (3rd Ann.) Denis Kelly (18th Ann.) Mary Clerkin		
SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION 11.00am – 12 noon Saturdays, observing social distancing. Or by appointment		SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM & MARRIAGE By arrangement with Father Woolley	LAST WEEK'S OFFERING Collection over weekend 10th January 2021 SJ £677.72 HF £173.45	

Wanted:- Something More Important

"Wanted:- Men and women willing to leave behind their old way of life and become fishers men." There aren't many of us who would jump at this job application. It isn't that we don't want to become fishers of men, its leaving behind our old way of life that we're not too keen on. It seems that there is very little that would persuade us to abandon our own self-interest.

In today's gospel one of the most impressive elements is that the early disciples accept the call to repent, abandon their fishing nets and follow Jesus. That they turn away from a successful business in order to become 'fishers of men' is a measure of their commitment.

Today there are still those who accept the challenge to abandon everything and become fishers of men. Each year, thousands of men and women give their lives to God and join religious orders. How do the rest of us answer to call to become 'fishers of men'? We can't all join religious orders; we have to find a way of answering the call in our own situation, and we might have lots of questions to ask first. What would being a disciple involve? Would we be up to the job? What would we have to leave behind? What would we have to give up?

Would part time discipleship be okay ... after all we've got lots else to do!

There would be lots of questions we would ask, but sadly no easy answers. There is no one answer that is right for everybody. But the one important message for us today is that discipleship usually means a major shift in direction; a change that involves leaving behind things that get in the way of our relationship with God. It is left to each of us to decide what our particular mode of discipleship might be, and what stands in the path of our new direction. Our new direction has to start with some good hard soul searching, and a real desire to do something more important with our lives.

Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour,

strength and honour in his holy place.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, make me know your ways.

Alleluia, alleluia. The kingdom of God is close at hand: believe the Good News. Alleluia! Gospel Acclamation:

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. Communion Antiphon:

Jonah 3: 1-5.10 Psalm 24 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31 Mark 1: 14-20 Year B

FATHER STEPHEN WRITES

With the new Lockdown communal worship is currently still permitted. However, the guidance does state that those who are regarded as being at increased risk should be strongly discouraged from attending 'faith gatherings' — in our case, the celebration of Mass. I, as your Parish Priest, fully support this advice.

Last Sunday afternoon I received a very unexpected phone call from my GP surgery inviting me to take up the offer of vaccination due to my role in the community. I was delighted to go to the Altrincham NHS Wellbeing Centre at 12.24pm on Monday when I received the Pfizer vaccine from my GP.

The Holy Father and Pope Benedict both received their vaccinations last week and so I encourage everyone to take up the offer of vaccination for the good health of yourself and the wider community and to help keep everyone safe.

If you have received a letter to self isolate or are among those at increased risk through age or medical condition, please remain safe and, if you can, be united with those in church through

the online Mass. Also, if you are not part of the above groups, but feel anxious / worried about being in groups of people then my advice would be the same. I am keeping a very close eye on the infection levels in Sale and surrounding area. If these dramatically increase I will consider closing the church for your safety and the safety of the community.

The important thing must be to

STAY SAFE – STAY WELL! PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

If you are following Mass on any of the social media live streaming, Father Woolley suggests that, during the silence after Communion, everyone prays this prayer.

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I lóve you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive

You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit mé to be separated from you. Amen

HOME SUPPORT - SVP

Please do continue to notify the SVP of anyone you know who may need help, whether that is just a regular phone call, help with shopping, lifts to hospital/for vaccinations, or provision of essential household items that they cannot afford to replace.

Please speak to Father Woolley, one of the SVP members or phone their dedicated line 07942 670277.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Carmel** Josephine Moorhead, Anna Patricia Catto, Mary Brigid Concar and Elizabeth Mary Thallon, Alan Anghelides, Lillian Habis and

Anthony Regan who have died recently. May they rest in peace. We extend to their family and friends our deepest sympathy at this sad and extremely difficult time.

BITESIZE

The man who is happy is fulfilling the purpose of existence.

Fyodor Dostoyevsky

WEEK OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

We pray for the Churches Together in Sale during this week of Christian Unity. Unfortunately, due to the Pandemic, we have been unable to meet together for twelve months apart from the Advent Taize Service here at St. Joseph's.

We particularly remember the Rey. Barbara Sharp as she leaves St. Paul's to take up her well earned retirement. It has been a great pleasure to work so closely with the Rev. Barbara for the last eight years, especially around Remembrance Sunday.

CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

When we are struggling to find change in our lives, we could hardly do better than look to the story of Saul, the great persecutor of Christians, who saw the light on the road to Damascus. The story of the conversion of Saul, from the persecutor of Christians to the zealous and holy instrument of evangelisation, Paul, shows the strength of God's power in our lives, and how He can change anything. Although misguided, Saul had always been sincere and committed. In him God saw a tremendous instrument for all that he wanted to accomplish. The lesson here is to remember that for God, nothing is impossible.

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

As you are aware Bishop Mark entrusted our Diocese of Shrewsbury to St Joseph in September, Pope Francis soon followed suit and announced the year of St Joseph in 2021 for the whole church on the 8th of December. Father has received a donation of books which are *free to parishioners* - entitled 'Consecration to St Joseph'. The next date to start the consecration is the 15th of February so that the daily readings are completed on the 19th of March (Solemnity of St Joseph). Anyone who wants to take part can contact the presbytery to arrange to collect a book free of charge.

Prayer to St. Joseph

The Heavenly Father chose you, St. Joseph, to be the husband of the Holy Mother of God, and to watch over His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

In times of joy and trial, pray for us so that we too can recognise the loving plan of the Eternal Father, who always works for the good of those who love Him

Teach us, Guardian of the Holy Family, to be attentive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit; and to draw closer to the Lord Jesus in all the circumstances of our lives and above all, in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist.

At the last, pray for us that we may happily join you, the just and faithful servant, to praise God forever in the company of Our Lady

and all the saints. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY <u> 27th January 2021</u>

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2021 is 'Be the light in the darkness'. It encourages everyone to reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, but also the ways individuals and communities resisted that darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide.

Be the light in the darkness is an affirmation and a call

to action for everyone marking HMD. This theme asks us to consider different kinds of 'darkness', for example, identity-based persecution, misinformation, denial of justice; and different ways of 'being the light', for example, resistance, acts of solidarity, rescue and illuminating mistruths. We can all stand in solidarity. We can choose to be the light in the darkness in a variety of ways and places – at home, in public, and online.