



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY – YEAR OF THE WORD

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

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

Parish Priest: **Father Stephen Woolley**

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

Mass Times and Intentions for – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 24th May 2020

Sunday 24th May SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.30 am	People of the Parish	
Monday	9.30 am	Philomena McGinity (Successful Recovery)	Our Lady Help of Christians
Tuesday	9.30 am	Roy Houghton (B'day Rem.)	St. Philip Neri
Wednesday	9.30 am	John Pugh (B'day Rem.)	St. Augustine of Canterbury
Thursday	9.30 am	George Thornley (10th Ann. 30.4)	Ferial
Friday	9.30 am	Vincent English (1st Ann. 20.5)	Ferial
Saturday	9.30 am	Father John (Kevin) Ashton	Ferial
Sunday 31st May PENTECOST SUNDAY	9.30 am	People of the Parish	Songs of Praise 4.00pm

Please note the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Confessions now available
11.00am – 12 noon Saturdays,
observing social distancing.
Or by appointment

SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM & MARRIAGE

By arrangement with
Father Woolley

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

SJ: - HF: -
We receive approximately £520 from
standing orders
Thank you for your continued
generosity to the parish.

Eternal Life Is This

'Eternal Life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent...'

Today we are privy to Jesus' prayer made on our behalf at the close of his ministry on earth. In this prayer, we are reminded that Jesus had finished the work that he had come to do. Jesus had made God's name known, so that all could share in eternal life. However, for this to happen, we have to carry the baton and keep Jesus' teaching alive in a world bursting with conflicting values.

On this Sunday we celebrate World Communication Day, and it feels a timely opportunity to consider the task we have been set. The first disciples continued Jesus' mission without planes, trains, without a postal service, without TV or radio and without the internet. Yet thanks to these early disciples we are all very familiar with the promise of eternal life, even though these words were spoken over two thousand years ago.

Today we are set a very particular challenge. Because of the Coronavirus pandemic we are asked to bring Christ's teachings to others, without leaving our homes. We are tasked with keeping Jesus' teaching alive by the use of social media, websites, radio, TV and by platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams. Suddenly we are all becoming experts on platforms from which we can host Bible groups, prayer meetings, live streamed Mass and even virtual 'coffee mornings', (albeit you need to provide your own coffee and biscuit.) We can publish our own books on KDP, produce our own films on YouTube, mount our own campaigns digitally using websites and online petitions. The opportunities for evangelising in our twenty first century are boundless and exciting.

In the 'old normal' we might have protested that we were all far too busy to take on the important task of evangelisation. However, with the 'new normal', and with most of us still stuck at home, the time is ripe for Christians everywhere to reach out with fresh imagination and the determination of Jesus' very first disciples.

Entrance Antiphon: **O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken:
Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.**

Responsorial Psalm: **I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.**

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.' Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: **Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.**

Year A

Acts 1: 12-14

Psalm 26

1 Peter 4: 13-16

John 17: 1-11

CORONAVIRUS

During the coronavirus pandemic and following the instruction of the Prime minister St. Joseph's and Holy Family are closed for personal prayer until further notice.

Please follow with great care public health guidelines to maintain hygiene and social distancing.

During the public health crisis and following official advice, Sunday and weekday masses are not being publicly celebrated until further notice.

However, celebration of Mass at St. Joseph's still takes place each day at 9.30am, without a public congregation, and can be seen via Facebook or the parish website.

We continue to monitor the situation both nationally and locally very carefully and pass on any information we receive as soon as possible.

CONFESSIONS

Father Woolley is now hearing confessions on Saturdays between 11.00am and noon. These take place at the porch of the presbytery door. Please come through the black gates, go along the wall of the church following the two metre lines. Please keep social distancing at all times. If it is more convenient, you may wish to ring Father Woolley and make an appointment

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Thomas Peter Bambrick** and **Issac Hill** who have died recently. May they rest in peace. We extend to their families and friends our deepest sympathy at this sad and extremely difficult time.

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 love 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 me to be separated from you. Amen

ONLINE GIVING TO THE PARISH

An online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish (St. Joseph's or Holy Family) has been added to the Parish website.

Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way.

The page can also be used to set up a regular monthly donation, and you can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further.

If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order.

Thank you for your support.

Please contact our Planned Giving Organisers with any queries re offertory envelopes, standing orders, etc.

St. Joseph's – Anne Stanley – 0161 973 9159

Holy Family – Veronica Saunders – 0161 973 3773

A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

All-powerful God,

You are present in the whole Universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty,

Fill us with your peace that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

Pope Francis Laudate Si' (extract) – 5th Anniversary 24 May 2020

FATHER STEPHEN WRITES

We continue to live in 'Lockdown' and, unfortunately, the pilgrimage that was due to take place from 26th May – 2nd June to Medjugorje has been cancelled. We now look forward to next year, making a pilgrimage to a shrine of Our Lady. I am sure many of you may have had to cancel your holidays during this half term but, again, let us look forward to happier times when we can gather safely together and enjoy holidays once more.

There will be another 'live streaming' of Songs of Praise for Pentecost next **Sunday 31st May at 4.00pm**. *If you have any requests for hymns with a Holy Spirit theme, please do send them in.*

In this last week of May, we continue to have extra devotions to Our Lady in this time of need. In your homes why not place a statue of Our Lady in a place of honour and gather each day to pray the Hail Mary or other prayers to Our Lady. At Mass last Sunday I asked all children to send in a picture of Our Lady that they have coloured in. These will be displayed next Sunday at Our Lady's altar. I look forward to receiving them.

I am delighted that so many people are finding the streaming of the Masses so helpful. If you have any intentions, prayer requests or people you would like remembered, please email me at info@sjhf.co.uk. We are all strengthened in these difficult days by our faith and unity as people of God. I continue to hold you all in my prayers each day.

KEEP SAFE, KEEP WELL. GOD BLESS ALL!

HOME SUPPORT - SVP

The SVP have a dedicated phone number for anyone needing support at this time – be it a regular phone call, help with shopping, etc.

Please don't hesitate to call 07942 670277.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY 2020

World Communications Day 2020 falls today 24th May as much of the world remains in lockdown as we attempt to recover from the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. The way we communicate in situations of self-isolation and separation has shifted from hand shaking, hugging and close contact to encounters through phone, tablet and computer screens. The virtual has replaced the physical.

This year's theme seems to fit perfectly with our virtual world. In his World Day message, Pope Francis asks us to consider how 'story' can become part of our fabric.

Jesus, who is "the quintessential storyteller -- the Word," he said in the message, spoke of God "not with abstract concepts, but with parables, brief stories taken from everyday life" so that "the story becomes part of the life of those who listen to it, and it changes them." "God has become personally woven into our humanity, and so has given us a new way of weaving our stories."

BLESSING FOR ALL FRONT LINE WORKERS

Father Woolley would like to thank all our Doctors, Nurses, First Responders, other health care workers and ALL who are working on the front line continuing to care for us during this coronavirus crisis. We pray that the Lord will bless and protect them **all** in their work of care and support. Thank You ALL.

FOR PEACE OF SOUL

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you.

All things are passing:
God alone is changeless.
Patience gains all things.
Who has God wants nothing.
God alone suffices.

St. Teresa of Avila