



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

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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 OF EASTER – 26th April 2020

Sunday 26th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.30 am	People of the Parish	
Monday	9.30 am	Peter Nawn (Requiem Mass)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am	Andy Quinn (35th Ann.)	Ferial
Wednesday	9.30 am	Sister Aida Gill	St. Catherine of Siena
Thursday	9.30 am	Faye Mooney (1st Ann.)	Ferial
Friday	9.30 am	Francis Grimes (Requiem Mass)	St. Joseph the Worker
Saturday	9.30 am	Ann Rushworth (Requiem Mass)	St. Athanasius
Sunday 3rd May FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.30 am	People of the Parish	

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

<b>SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION</b> No Confessions at 11.00am Saturdays until further notice. By appointment only	<b>SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM &amp; MARRIAGE</b> By arrangement with Father Woolley	<b>LAST WEEK'S OFFERING</b> SJ: - HF: - We receive approximately £520 from standing orders Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.
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### WE'LL NEVER WALK ALONE

As we look for meaning in life, for fulfilment and happiness, our frantic quest often becomes a vicious circle. The more we search, the more life eludes us. We reach the age of thirty, then forty, fifty, sixty and so on, with the increasing frustration that we have achieved little of what we set out to achieve in our optimistic youth. Then a nagging doubt sets in. Perhaps we will never amount to anything! Is this all that life holds for us?

The 'Road to Emmaus' can be perceived as a metaphor for our own life span. On Palm Sunday we heard how in a state of huge expectation, Jesus' supporters met Jesus on his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. There were those who had expected Jesus to start something of a revolution, and they desperately wanted to be a part of it. There were those who had expected Jesus to transform and improve their lives only to have their hopes dashed. In today's gospel, two such disciples are making their way back home and discussing the events of the last days. They are feeling defeated, gloomy and considerably let down. But as their journey progresses, they meet a stranger who teaches them how to look on things differently and where to look for the answers they lack. The stranger of course is Jesus. For the two disciples what begins with the shattering of an immature faith ends up with them giving witness to a mature and sustaining faith.

Could the story be about us? Every broken dream, disappointment and doubt is out there on the Road to Emmaus. Each of us is challenged to decide which part of the journey we have reached. Are we disillusioned and beating our heads against the proverbial brick wall? Or have we recognised that perhaps if life's rewards are eluding us, we need to be doing things differently. Could it be that we are looking for answers in all the wrong places? Most importantly, have we reached an awareness that we are never alone? Jesus promises that he is still with us just as he was with those unsuspecting early disciples. He is with us in scripture, and in his teaching. He is with us in the Eucharist, and he is with us in our prayers.

*Entrance Antiphon:* **Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.**

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Show us, Lord, the path of life.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!**

*Communion Antiphon:* **The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread, alleluia.**

Year A

Acts 2: 14.22-33

Psalm 15

1 Peter 1: 17-21

Luke 24: 13-35

## 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 Utube, 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.

## COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers

**Thomas Daulby, Francis Grimes, Henry (Harry) Keogh, James Monaghan, Peter Nawn and Ann Rushworth** 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

## OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Many people have been asking Father Woolley about the weekly collection. He suggests you could put envelopes to one side and bring them when the isolation is over.

Alternatively, you may wish to set up a Standing Order, either permanently or in order to continue to make your regular Offertory giving to the Parish during the period when Mass is not being celebrated in public, please contact the parish Gift Aid organisers.

St. Joseph's parishioners contact Anne Stanley, on 0161 973 9159 and Holy Family parishioners contact Veronica Saunders on 0161 973 3773.

## Online giving to the Parish

In addition to the above an online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish 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.

## BLESSING FOR ALL FRONT LINE WORKERS

Father Woolley would like to thank all our Doctors, Nurses, First Responders and other health care workers who are continuing to care for us during this coronavirus crisis. Thank you, too, to the half a million people who have 'signed up' as NHS volunteers and to all who are working on the front line. We pray that the Lord will bless and protect them all in their work of care and support. Thank You ALL.

## FATHER STEPHEN WRITES .....

As we continue in the 'lockdown' for a further number of weeks, 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](mailto: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!

## PRAYER FOR PROTECTION & HEALING

### HOPE

This is the time to be slow,  
Lie low to the wall  
Until the bitter weather passes.  
Try, as best you can, not to let  
The wire brush of doubt  
Scrape from your heart  
All sense of yourself  
And your hesitant light.  
If you remain generous,  
Time will come good;  
And you will find your feet  
Again on fresh pastures of promise,  
Where the air will be kind  
And blushed with beginning.

*Excerpt from To Bless the Space Between Us  
by John O'Donoghue (2008)*

## PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey  
as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.  
At the foot of the Cross you participated in  
Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the People of your Dowry, England,  
know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide,  
so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,  
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.  
Help us, Mother of divine Love, to conform ourselves  
to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself,  
and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross,  
to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection,  
O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our plea – we who are put to the test  
– and deliver us from every danger,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.

## ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER – 1st May

### For the work of human hands

At a time when we give huge votes of thanks to our NHS workers, it is tempting for the rest of us to think that perhaps our own jobs aren't worth as much. The truth is, that everyone's job is reliant on someone else's. We are all part of a big human jigsaw and we are all valuable. Whether we are currently working or currently in lockdown, this is a time for us all to consider how to make our skills more valuable to others.

### BITESIZE

It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers.

*James Thurber*

*US author, cartoonist, humourist, & satirist (1894 - 1961)*