



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

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

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

Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley

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

Mass Times and Intentions for - THE HOLY FAMILY - 27th December 2020

Saturday 26th December	6.00 pm	NO MASS	
Sunday 27th December THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Nora Rigby Warren Francis Kathleen Phillips People of the Parish	
Monday	10.00 HF 10.00 am	Special Intention Francesca Smithers (16th Ann.)	The Holy Innocents
Tuesday	10.00 HF 12 noon	Priest's Intention Michael John Keogh (B'day Rem.)	St Thomas Becket
Wednesday	9.30 am HF 9.30 am	Thanksgiving (Prayers Answered) Sarah Ellen and Alfred Boston	Sixth Day of Christmas Octave
Thursday NEW YEAR'S EVE	9.30 am HF 12 noon Midnight	Priest's Intention Jane Crowley Year of Recovery, Health & Safety	Seventh Day of Christmas Octave
Friday NEW YEAR'S DAY	10.00 HF 10.00 am	Father Peter Robertson Francesca Smithers (B'day Rem.)	Mary the Mother of God
Saturday	12 noon	Laurence Tully	St Stephen
Saturday 26th December	6.00 pm	Kathy & Kevin Murray	
Sunday 27th December SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Patrick Culliney (B'day Rem.) Ethel Warrington John Meyrick & Francis Sherrard (3rd Ann.) Elizabeth Thallon (Sick)	

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
No count made this week

Moral Foundation

We've survived Christmas! All the toys that shot up in price just prior to Christmas are all in bits under the sofa and our children are playing happily with the cardboard boxes. Meanwhile we are living on turkey leftovers and whatever else is stuck to the back of the freezer. In all truth we are feeling a little calmer. Now is actually a better time to think about the Christmas meaning than Christmas day itself. Now that the pressure has lifted, we find ourselves with a bit of time to think about the Holy Family, and our how their values impact own family values.

In today's gospel we see Mary and Joseph presenting their new baby at the temple. They both knew that their child was destined for great things. How would they prepare their child for the role he was born for? There's a famous quote by Martin Luther King Jr. It reads, "If we are to go forward, we must go back and rediscover those precious values – rediscover that all reality hinges on moral foundations, and that all reality has spiritual control" The spirituality that each of us holds today began in childhood, from a time we cannot even remember.

Mary and Joseph were simple folk who would bring up their son in exactly the same way regardless of whether he was destined to be a carpenter or the Messiah. We can all learn a valuable lesson from this about family values and parenting. We don't have to lavish expensive iPads and Xboxes on our children for them to know they are loved. Jesus was born into the poorest of circumstances but he grew up with parents who led by example in an atmosphere of love, wisdom and courage.

Whether our children are destined for greatness or not is irrelevant, today we are told to teach our children by our own good example. If we want our children to grow up in a particular way, we have to start by demonstrating it in our own lives from today.

Entrance Antiphon : **The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in a manger.**

Responsorial Psalm : **O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!**

Gospel Acclamation : **Alleluia, alleluia. May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: **Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.**

Year B

Ecclesiasticus 3: 2-6. 12-14

Psalm 127

Colossians 3: 12-21

Luke 2: 22-40

THANK YOU

After all the Christmas celebrations I would like to say a big **thank you** for all the cards and gifts received for Christmas. Each and every one is greatly appreciated.

Christmas is about families family is family, whether it is the one you start out with; the one you are in love with, or the family you gain. 2020 has been a year which has been for everybody a very difficult and, for some, tragic year at the loss of loved ones. Let us love and appreciate our families always.

To mark the beginning of a year we hope and pray will be so much better, when we will once again be able to meet, hug and show affection to our family and friends, Mass on New Year's Eve will be at 12 noon and **midnight**. We pray for a better 2021.

At this difficult time, there is a special need to thank all who worked so hard to make the Christmas Masses so uplifting and inspiring - the musicians, the servers, the readers, ministers of communion, all the cleaners, flower arrangers, sacristan, and those who donated poinsettias to help decorate the church. A special thanks must go to the stewards who helped us to open the church safely so our Christmas Masses could take place.

Thank you all very much.

CHRISTIAN NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

- 1 Spend more time with God, family and friends. Get to know God better and that will increase your appreciation for those he has put into your life to share your days with.
- 2 Enjoy life more. God created us to know him, love him and serve him. Life is intended to be a joyful experience, not a drudge. Knowing God makes us more grateful for all we have been gifted with, and it allows us to enjoy every moment as precious.
- 3 Get rid of a habit that's been holding you back and doing you no good. Whether it's a negative attitude or even some obvious sin, choose something obvious to work on during this coming year.
- 4 Try to learn something new about God each week. Read your bible more to see what God is asking of you. Listen more attentively to sermons and homilies that try to deepen your relationship with God. Find some way of continuing your lifelong religious education.
- 5 Make a more determined effort to help others. Volunteer for some community task or go out of your way to keep an eye on someone you know needs it. By helping others you are showing them the face of God and are giving proof of your faith.

BITESIZE

It's not that some people have willpower and some don't. It's that some people are ready to change and others are not. *James Gordon. M.D.*

HOME SUPPORT

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 if you need assistance, or know of anyone who is in need of help over this Christmas period. 07942 670277.*

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD

On Friday 1st January we observe the solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. This is a natural theme having just celebrated the birth of her son Jesus. The birth of a child is always a sign of hope . . . hope not just for the parents and immediate family, but also for the whole community. The lives of Mary and Jesus spell a vision of a hope, a vision of justice and peace, a vision of freedom and liberation, a vision of social change and concern for the common good. It spells a vision of God present in the poor child and the holy young woman of Nazareth; a vision of God to be found in all the people and things of our world and especially among the poor.

THE 37TH CAFOD CHRISTMAS

RUN / WALK

will be a "Fun Run Like No Other" today Sunday 27th December at 2.00 pm at Sale Water Park. The 5km course can be run or walked (socially distanced) - family and friends very welcome. If you would like participate details from Kieron Walsh 07785 344102 (See poster in narthex). "All proceeds to CAFOD – to help especially the poorest who are greatest affected by the pandemic this Christmas".

In addition donations gratefully received via www.justgiving.com/campaign/funrunlikenoother

CRIB OFFERINGS

Please support *Caritas* by placing your offerings in the basket at the back of church. Thank you.

IT IS NOT OVER

It is not over, this birthing.

There are always newer skies into which God can throw stars.

When we begin to think that we can predict the Advent of God, that we can box the Christ in a stable in Bethlehem, that's just the time that God will be born in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.

Those who wait for God watch with their hearts and not their eyes, listening always listening for angel words. *Anne Weem*

HOLY INNOCENTS DAY

Childermas Monday 28th December

Holy Innocents Day, once also known as 'Childermas', falls on 28th December. It commemorates King Herod's massacre of all male infants in and around Bethlehem under the age of two in an attempt to kill the young Christ. In the days when Christmas was less child centred, Childermas was a time for indulging children with treats and parties.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Antonia Marsden & Edward Seager who were married at St. Joseph's last weekend.

We wish them long lives together of good health and happiness.

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Prayer for Priests for January are available as you leave church by the car park exit.