



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley
and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 2nd August 2026

Saturday 1st August	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Special Intention (James)	
Sunday 2nd August EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Catherine McLonilon People of the Parish Mollie & Bernard Nevin (RIP) Mike Tetlow (RIP) Australia	Tea & Coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12.00 noon	Anne Widdecombe (RIP)	St Oswald
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Michael Baldwin (Sick) Rosina Morrell (Sick)	St John Vianney <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u>
Wednesday	9.30am	NO MASS	Ferial
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Brian Walker (RIP) Michael J Kelly (18th Ann.)	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Friday	9.30 am	Angela Goodwin & Family	Ferial
Saturday 8th August	12 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	John Martin (80th B'day) Davey Family	St Dominic <u>Confessions</u> <u>11.00am – 11.50 am</u>
Sunday 9th August NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Pauline Schindeler Greene (3rd Ann.) Birthday Thanksgiving (XH) Josie Owen (RIP) Ursula & Kurt Haufmann	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
OUR LADY'S LAMP this week is lit for Special Intentions	SACRED HEART LAMP this week is lit for Louis Ashley (26 th Ann. 5 th Aug.) Rest in Peace	ST CARLO ACUTIS'S LAMP Fred Lloyd Rest in Peace	OFFERINGS WEEKEND 26 th July 2026 SJ £1833.99 HF 410.82 Many Thanks

The Real Miracle

Today's gospel speaks directly to those of us who feel helpless in the face of great need. A multitude of people follow Jesus to a deserted place. As it grows late, the disciples point out to Jesus that the crowds are hungry and should be dispersed to the nearest villages. Jesus however doesn't see a problem. "They need not go away," he says, "you give them something to eat." The disciples have nothing to hand but five loaves and two fishes. We can easily imagine how the disciples must have felt. They must have felt as helpless as we feel when we see a humanitarian disaster on our TV sets. Undaunted Jesus takes the loaves, blesses them, breaks them, and instructs his disciples to feed the multitude. There was such an abundance of food that evening that there were twelve baskets of left overs.

Jesus provides an abundance of everything we need for our physical and spiritual needs. The world is full of food, drink, wealth and opportunity. For those who feel unloved, short of money or starved of food, these words might sound hollow, but this is where the real miracle comes into play. It is significant that when the disciples tell Jesus that his followers are hungry, that Jesus tells the disciples to do something about it themselves despite their limited resources. Jesus is making his disciples part of the solution just as he makes us part of the solution. The point of the miracle is that God looked upon the small amount of food to be shared and made it more than enough.

This is how we have to approach life. The world's need might seem beyond us, but if we each do our bit, however small, collectively it will become something big. If every one of us made a regular donation, if every one of us gave food and clothes, if every one of us cared and loved the next person, there would be food and shelter and love in abundance. That would be the real miracle.

<i>Entrance Antiphon:</i>	O God, come to my assistance; O Lord make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.			
<i>Responsorial Psalm:</i>	You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord			
<i>Gospel Acclamation:</i>	Alleluia, alleluia! One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Alleluia!			
<i>Communion Antiphon:</i>	You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.			
Year A	Isaiah 55: 1-3	Psalm 145	Romans 8: 35, 37-39	Matthew 14: 13 - 21

MASS COVER

From Monday, Father Stephen will be away visiting friends in Australia. During his holiday Masses will be celebrated at Holy Family and St Joseph's by Father Jim Robinson, Father Marco Salvagnini, Fr Keith Butterworth, Fr Peter Sharrocks and Fr Peter Ezekpeazu. Father Stephen appreciates their help and please give them a very warm welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Next Friday evening 7th August. Spud Wood, Lymm.
Meet at St Joseph's Car Park at 6.15pm for short (2 miles), gentle evening walk with refreshments afterwards at local pub for those that wish. For more details please see the website www.stjosephswalkers.org.uk.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Join March for Life UK in London for the annual march, the 'Pro-life Family on Saturday 5th September Summit' and 'Youth Summit'. Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event, where we recognise the value of life from conception and help all people understand why abortion is a tragedy in itself and one that harms the family to its very core. Find out more at marchforlife.co.uk or email info@marchforlife.co.uk
To book a place on a coach from Hale Barns, High Legh or Sandbach please contact Gerry on 07990 970 103 or g.c.mcgettigan@gmail.com

LOURDES DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

You can follow the pilgrimage services on Lourdes TV, via the Sanctuaries website <https://www.lourdes-france.com>
Bishop Mark has asked us to pray for the following intentions:

- To pray for our Holy Father, Pope Leo.
- To pray for all who have gone before us in the pilgrimage of Lourdes over the 75 years of our Diocesan Pilgrimage.
- To pray that we and all pilgrims will respond to the message of prayer and conversion, walking together in Eucharistic faith and love, all our lives.
- To pray we will generously respond to our calling and for an abundance of new vocations in our Diocese to the great callings of Marriage, the Priesthood and the Consecrated Life.
- To pray for the peace of the world amid many dangers and conflicts.
- To pray the threat of euthanasia to the sick and the aged will be averted and the lives of the most vulnerable cherished and safeguarded.
- To pray with Our Lady and Saint Bernadette that through the pilgrimage of life we will always remain in the joy of the Gospel.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS ADOREMUS

will be held on Saturday 10th October. The day will begin with Holy Mass at St George's Cathedral Southwark and there will be a Eucharistic Procession from St George's Cathedral Southward to Westminster Cathedral. If any parishioner wishes to be part of the Shrewsbury Diocese Pilgrimage Group to Adoremus, please register an interest with Mrs Natalie Orefice via email: Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org.

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 & Holy Family. We wish you a happy holiday in company with your loved ones.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Once again this year, Father Stephen is going to book tickets for the Manchester & District Hospitals' Choir Carol Concert on Monday 30th November. If you would like to start December off with a Christmas cracker of a concert please sign the form in the sacristy by 6th September. Father Stephen will book the tickets during that following week. The cost will be around £20. This annual concert is in aid of Young Lives versus Cancer. Well worth supporting!

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Margaret Kennerk and Mary Foley 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to the Church and Parish Community Rosa Devi Evans Henriques who was baptised at St. Joseph's last weekend. We welcome Rosa into the Church and commend her parents for passing on to her the Faith of the Apostles.

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. Don't just rely on the chance that you will pass by a church near your hotel.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION - August

For evangelization in the city. Let us pray that in large cities, often marked by anonymity and loneliness, we may find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative ways to build community

PRAY FOR PRIESTS

For August are available at the back of church

SEA SUNDAY

Thank you for giving to Sea Sunday. Our parish raised £180. Your generous gifts will ensure that Stella Maris Chaplains can continue to be a friend for seafarers and fishers in time of need. To find out more about how your support helps those who live and work at sea please visit www.stella.maris.org.uk.

BITESIZE

You can hear the footsteps of God when silence reigns in the mind.

Sri Sathya Sai Baba