



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY – GET BOOSTED NOW

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 – SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 2nd January 2022

Saturday 1 st January	6.00pm	Gertie Coleman & Family	
Sunday 2 nd January SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Maria Galbraith (Continued Recovery) Patrick Culliney (B'day Rem.) John Sherrard (4th Ann.) People of the Parish	
Monday BANK HOLIDAY	10.00 am HF 10.00 am	Paul Dynes Don Gill	Monday of the Christmas Season
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12 noon	Priest's Intention Muriel & Eric Quayle	Tuesday of the Christmas Season
Wednesday	9.30 am HF 10.30 am	Albina Hamilton (B'day Rem.) George Brian Lilley (Requiem)	Wednesday of the Christmas Season
Thursday HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION	9.30 am HF 9.30 am 12.00 noon 7.00 pm	Cyril Booth (Ann.) People of the Parish Pat John (Sick) Mary D (SI)	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Friday	9.30 am HF 9.30 am	Priest's Intention Kathleen Keegan (Ann. 5.1)	Friday after Epiphany
Saturday 8 th January	6.00 pm	Neil Bramfit (5th Ann. 10.1)	Saturday after Epiphany
Sunday 9 th January THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Dowds Family Brian Lilley Alison (Ali) Dunk Elizabeth Thallon (1st Ann.)	

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 week /weekend
ending 19th December 2021
SJ £1012.85 HF £287.19

Called To Witness

People often declare that their faith is a private and a very personal thing. Of course our faith is very personal, but does that mean it should be private? In keeping our faith private we are missing a very important opportunity. How often has our own faith taken a little leap forward because of something we have heard or something we have read? Similarly there may be something you have heard or learnt that would help someone else. You might not consider yourself a theologian, but there might be something seemingly small that you could contribute that would make a big difference to someone else.

Someone else's testimony is the way we learn. Without the internet, books, Catholic papers, TV documentaries, homilies and the testimonies of friends and family, how would we develop our faith? Without the work of missionaries, teachers and parents, how would our faith have been handed from generation to generation? Without the gospel writers, how would Jesus' work and God's word be remembered? Without John the Baptist and the first disciples, how else would Jesus' identity have been known?

Bearing witness is essential. Without witnesses we would know nothing of Jesus. Staying quiet and making religion a private matter is simply not an option. There are still those that would benefit from Christ's teaching either directly or indirectly. If Christianity is something very important to us, why be reticent about sharing it? If bearing witness to Christ can change lives, shouldn't we make our voices ever more persistently heard by friends, neighbours, family, politicians, community leaders TV producers and anyone else with the willingness and the know-how to bring about change?

Like John, we are called in our baptismal promises to be witnesses to the work of Christ. We are called to be witnesses in every circumstance of our lives.

Entrance Antiphon : **When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.**

Responsorial Psalm : **The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.**

Gospel Acclamation : **Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans; Glory be to you O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: **To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.**

Year C Ecclesiasticus 23: 1-2, 8-12 Psalm 147 Ephesians 1: 3-6, 15-18 John 1: 1-18

THANK YOU and HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022!

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, not only for our Christmas Masses, but throughout the whole of last year.

Thank you all very much.

At the start of 2022, we hope and pray for a better year when we will once again be able to meet, hug and show affection to our family and friends without any worry.

REACH FOR THE STARS

Epiphany of the Lord - Thursday

At this time of year lots of us are making new year resolutions, but how many of us have the nagging feeling that we have made the same resolution many times before, yet despite our best intentions each year has followed the same path as previous years. Some of us refuse to make resolutions, knowing only too well that change is out of reach. It's not that we don't want change. Most of us want life to be a little different. Some of us long for a new way of life, so how come 'change' is so elusive?

Today the Church commemorates the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. We call it the 'Epiphany' a word derived from the Greek meaning 'to appear' or 'to be shown forth'. The Epiphany is about searching for meaning purpose and revelation.

The Magi were men of great learning, intellect and wealth, yet they weren't prepared to sit back and imagine they knew it all. Guided by a star and motivated by a hunger for truth, they stepped out of their comfort zone and set out across the desert not knowing what they would find or how long it would take. It was a journey of faith and great courage.

The biggest barrier we encounter in our quest to find change is the inability to realise that we have to do something a bit different. We do the same things day in and day out, yet expect a different outcome. Today we are invited to look for something that will pull us free of our old way of doing things. In the same way as the star got the wise men questioning, so too we find guiding stars in our lives that make us question.

What circumstances get us looking for deeper meaning? The desire to leave a mind-numbingly meaningless job, the need to make sense of a family illness, or the curiosity to research the background to a motivational book are all circumstances in which we might find our 'guiding stars'.

Today's gospel reading is an invitation for all God's people to step out of their old way of life and search for something new.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS 2022

There's a saying that goes, "If God is your co-pilot, swap seats!" It has resonance for all of us who think that God is simply there to assist us, instead of handing our lives over to him. Perhaps if we break our new year resolutions year after year we are making the wrong resolutions, or not asking God to shape our resolutions. Now is the time to reconsider the direction in which our lives are travelling.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Linda Booth, Alan Frank Royle, Sean Murtagh** and **Brian Lilley** who have died recently. May they rest in peace.

CAFOD 38th CHRISTMAS FUN RUN/WALK

was completed on Monday 27th December by 21 parishioners and friends in Liverpool and Fr Stephen at Sale Water Park. It was cold, dry but very muddy!

Sponsorship monies and donations will be collected after all Masses this weekend and if you pay tax please take an envelope and complete the Gift Aid form – this way CAFOD can increase your donation by 25% at no extra cost to yourself. You can also donate on-line CAFOD's Christmas Fun Run - JustGiving (under fundraisers click on Kieron Walsh and St Joseph Walkers & Runners page).

Help CAFOD help the poorest in communities around the world.

ST. JOSEPH'S & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Next Sunday 9th January A 4 mile circular walk through Denzell Gardens and into Dunham Massey. Meet at St. Joseph's car park 1.15pm for 1.30pm departure. Contact 0161 969 0270 for more details.

CRIB OFFERINGS

Please support *Caritas* by placing your offerings in the basket by the crib on the altar. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION 2022

Father Stephen is delighted to announce, after discussion with the Bishop, that Confirmation will be at St. Joseph's on Friday 20th May at 7.00pm The Confirmation Preparation Programme will be starting in a few weeks. Please can we remind anyone in Years 8 & 9 who wishes to be confirmed this year to return their completed application form. Registration must be received before the programme begins.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION

JANUARY 2022

You don't need to be much of an expert to know that a lack of inter-religious understanding leads to a lack of empathy. At worst, a lack of empathy can lead to religious discrimination, and at its very worst, discrimination can even lead to persecution. It is true that the basis of most world religions has values such as love and kindness and peace by which to live our lives.

So if living by a universally agreed set of values is central to all beliefs, how do we find it so difficult to get along? How is it that our brothers and sisters across the globe are persecuted for what they believe in? How is it that we shun those of other beliefs in our own communities? This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis's prayer intention "...for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family."

SAINTS CLUB

The Saints Club winners for November & December are:

November	1 st Prize	St. Paul
	2 nd Prize	St. John XXIII
	3 rd Prize	Blessed Thomas Holford
December	1 st Prize	St. Therese Lesiere
	2 nd Prize	St. Thomas More
	3 rd Prize	St. Salvator of Horta

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to the Church and Parish Community **Bea Carmichael Brogan** who was baptised at St. Joseph's this week. We welcome Bea into the Church and commend her parents for passing on to her the Faith of the Apostles.