



# ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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St Joseph's  
140

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

## Mass Times and Intentions for SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS – 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Madge, Jim, Kevin & John McKeown	
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> January SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Michael Dockery (RIP) Patrick Culliney (B'day Rem.) Patricia Ganderton (RIP) People of the Parish	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12.00 pm	In Thanksgiving (G Cook)	Monday of the Christmas Season
Tuesday HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION	9.30 am 10.00m HF 12.00 noon 7.00 pm	People of the Parish Cyril & Martin Booth (Ann.) Jeanine Rocca (RIP) Pat Perkin (RIP)	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u>
Wednesday	9.30 am	Families of Mary Prayer Partners	Wednesday After Epiphany
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Peggy Jackson Sr Eileen O'Dorothy	Thursday After Epiphany
Friday	9.30 am	Elizabeth Thallon (5 <sup>th</sup> Ann.)	Friday After Epiphany
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	12.00 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Augustine & Maria Crasta (49 <sup>th</sup> Wed Ann.) Niel Bramfit (9 <sup>th</sup> Ann.)	Saturday After Epiphany <u>Confessions 11.00am –</u> <u>11.50am</u>
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> January BAPTISM OF THE LORD	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Ann Phillips (RIP) Helen & Joseph Riley (RIP) Maura & Bob (RIP) People of the Parish	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass The Christmas Season ends today.
<b>OUR LADY'S LAMP</b> This week the lamp is lit for Kathleen & John William Reegan Rest in Peace	<b>SACRED HEART LAMP</b> This week the lamp is lit in loving memory of Dennis Leehy Rest in Peace	<b>ST CARLO ACUTIS'S LAMP</b> This week the lamp is lit for Gavin O'Donoghue for Healing from Cancer	<b>OFFERINGS WEEKEND</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> December 2025 SJ £1699.98 HF £320.94 Many Thanks

## The Word

We're still in the season of Christmas, and today the Church invites us to slow down and look again at what has really happened. We're not at the crib anymore; instead, we're listening to John, who doesn't tell us about shepherds or angels, but about the *Word*.

"The Word was made flesh and lived among us." That's a sentence we've heard so often that it can whoosh straight over our heads. But it's worth thinking about what that actually means. God didn't shout at humanity from a great distance or send instructions from heaven. God came close — close enough to share our ordinary lives, our joys and our struggles, our confusion and our hope. That's important. Because the Word was made flesh and lived among us, we can be confident that God knows our lives inside out.

John reminds us that Jesus is light, and that light shines into the dark corners of our lives. It's a light that guides us in the right direction if we allow it. It's a light that reveals truth and meaning for anyone who cares to look hard enough for it.

This Gospel also speaks about welcome. Some recognised Jesus and received him; others didn't. Today we are invited to answer the question, do we welcome God into our lives? Are we open enough to notice?

As the Christmas season continues, this Sunday reminds us that Christmas isn't a long-ago event in a faraway stable, God is still with us, still present, still speaking, still offering us guidance and life.

*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 became flesh and dwelt among us.**

*Gospel Acclamation :* **Alleluia, alleluia. Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations.**

**Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world. Alleluia.**

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

Year A

Sirach 24: 1-2 8-12

Psalm 147

Ephesians 1: 3-6. 15-18

John 1: 1-18

## **CRIB OFFERINGS**

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

**“Your compassion brings comfort, dignity, and hope.”** Through your generosity, Caritas is able to accompany individuals and families across our Diocese who are facing hardship, offering crisis food vouchers, practical help, and the assurance that they are not alone.

Donations may also be made online at: [www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk](http://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk)

## **ST JOSEPH'S AND HOLY FAMILY WALKERS**

Sunday 25th January. Stretford and Urmston - 3 miles; 1 boot. Expect some mud, but generally good paths! Meet at St Joseph's 1.15pm for 1.30pm start. Back about 4.00pm. Led by Phil. See Poster in Narthex <https://sites.google.com/view/stjosephswalkers>

## **APF – MISSIO ST JOSEPH**

The RED BOXES for the Mill Hill missions are due to be emptied over the next couple of weeks.

Last quarter we raised a total of £587.33.

If you have any queries or need more information, please contact Mick Ryan on 0161 905 3468 . Thank you for your continued support.

## **FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – 6<sup>th</sup> January**

God reaches out far and wide to announce the birth of his Son. He reaches out to simple shepherds in the fields around Bethlehem, and to great intellectuals from the East. He reaches out to those of different religions, to politicians and to scientists. The revelation that a saviour has been born is bigger than anybody. The story of the Magi, who followed the star and sidestepped the evil Herod, is tempting in its appeal to romanticise, but if we are to learn anything, we have to focus on the nature of God's revelation. Most of us get through life relying on the knowledge we already have. Today's challenge is to look for something new. Knowing where to look for our own guiding star is up to us, but one thing is for sure: if we are not looking for revelation, we will never find it.

## **PREVENT BREAST CANCER**

Volunteer Open Day Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January 10.00am – 12 noon at the Nightingale Centre, Wythenshawe Hospital. Whether you are ready to volunteer or simply want to learn more, the team would love to see you. No experience needed – just bring your enthusiasm!

The poster in the narthex gives full details.

## **COMMENDED TO GOD**

We hold in loving memory and prayers Anne Maloney, Bernie McDermot, Marie Coyle and Sadie Bell 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.

*Death is not extinguishing the light.*

*It is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.*

## **POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY**

In this new year, Pope Leo reminds us that Scripture should be more than words on a page. We are asked to pray that the Gospel shape our mornings, our conversations, our work and our whole lives. We are invited to join Pope Leo's prayer intention for this month, *For prayer with the Word of God. ... Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.*

## **ALTAR SERVERS' CHRISTMAS 'THANK YOU'**

Father Stephen would like to invite all the altar servers at St Joseph's & Holy Family to an evening out at the Christmas Pantomime - Cinderella

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm at Robert Bolt Theatre

If you would like to go and have permission of your parents/guardians then please sign the list in the sacristy. Parents/guardians do not need to attend. Meet at the theatre at 7.00pm.

## **CAFOD 41ST CHRISTMAS FUN RUN / WALK**

Over 30 family and friends and Parishioners took part on a very cold morning in Liverpool - **FINAL Collection** of Sponsorship & Donations after ALL Masses this weekend

On line donations are also possible : <https://www.justgiving.com/page/stjoseph-holyfamily-sale> St Joseph Walkers & Runners page

*Help CAFOD help the poorest in communities around the world.*

## **NEW YEAR FISH 'N CHIP SUPPER & FILM NIGHT**

Enjoy an evening out with parishioners and friends with good British food and a great film.

Next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 6.30pm in St Joseph's Parish Centre. £12 with fish and chips, mushy peas, tea, bread & butter. Booking forms in the sacristy.

Please note we need final numbers by tomorrow

## **PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026, staying at the Hotel Padoue which is central to the Domain. Full board. The cost is £949, sharing a room or £1119 for single occupancy. Full liturgical programme, including Holy Mass, every day. Completed forms (available in the sacristy at St Joseph's) to be sent as soon as possible direct to Northern Star with a deposit of £300 per person.

## **BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY CAFÉ**

opens again after the Christmas break this Friday in St Joseph's Parish Centre. 12.30pm – 2.30pm. The café is open each Friday during term time and the students serve hot and cold drinks, toasted teacakes and delicious cakes. Please support.

## **PIETRA FITNESS**

**Looking for a fitness class for 2026, that benefits physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing?** Pietra Fitness is a unique whole person

fitness class which includes stretching and strengthening the body. Christian prayer and meditations are woven throughout the classes, with a background of beautiful sacred music. This powerful combination restores harmony and wholeness to both body and soul. Classes start again at St Joseph's Parish centre, from Thursday 8th January at 6.30pm and Friday 9th January 10.30am. They are suitable for women of most fitness levels. First taster class is free-£5 per class after that. For any queries, Please contact Trish Morgan, the certified Pietra Fitness Instructor at [trishmorganj2.5@gmail.com](mailto:trishmorganj2.5@gmail.com). Information poster in the narthex of church.

## **PRAY FOR PRIESTS**

For January are now available at the back of church.