



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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
and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 4th December 2022

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| Saturday 3 rd December | 6.00 pm (Vigil) | Maureen Howie (6 th Ann.) | |
| Sunday 4 th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm | Paul Brookes Brian Lilley Clare Kirrane (1 st Ann.) People of the Parish | |
| Monday | 9.30 am | John O'Hara (Get Well) | Ferial |
| Tuesday | 9.30 am HF 12.00 noon | NO MASS Special Intention | Ferial |
| Wednesday | 9.15 am 12.15 pm | Noel Fitzpatrick (Sick) Antonio (Tony) Billota (Requiem) | St Ambrose |
| Thursday | 9.30 am HF 12.00 noon 7.00 pm | Paddy Power (4 th Ann. 7.12) Maureen O'Hara (B'day Rem 21.11) Mavis Jenkins (RIP) | Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary |
| Friday | 9.30 am | John Gilmartin (B'day Rem.) | Ferial |
| Saturday 10 th December | 12.00 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil) | Marie Bower (Sick) Dennis Simmons (4 th Ann.) | Ferial |
| Sunday 11 th December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm | Angela Moore (RIP) Des Taylor Sheila Ivill (RIP) People of the Parish | |

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| SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment | SACRED HEART LAMP This week the lamp is lit for Michael Fogarty (3 rd Anniversary) RIP | LAST WEEK'S OFFERING SJ £1490.35 HF 324.33 |
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CHOOSE A NEW DIRECTION

We embark on a diet and the days of lettuce and low calorie drinks loom gloomily. We embark on a fitness regime and our subconscious whispers, "Fifteen more minutes under a warm duvet versus a jog round a freezing park I know what I'd choose!" In today's gospel, John the Baptist preaches "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." The idea of 'repentance' fills us with about as much excitement as a cold shower on a winter's morning, but it doesn't have to be like that. Diets, fitness regimes and repentance all have one thing in common we emerge as new people as a result of choosing a new direction. Repentance doesn't mean throwing ourselves round in fits of Catholic guilt, it simply means having a change of heart, and becoming new and better individuals as a result. There are areas in all our lives that can be improved or turned around. The idea of repentance is actually quite exciting. John's Advent call for a change of heart is for each and every one of us. We might think we are good enough as we are, but that's probably how the Pharisees and Sadducees in today's reading also felt. True enough they turned up for John's baptism, but had they really turned up in a spirit of repentance? John is clearly suspicious of their motivation, and challenges them to prove their commitment. Declaring our intention to change is all well and good, but our commitment must also 'bear fruit' ... show results.

At this time of year, every year, we are asked to change our lives. For the less optimistic amongst us, the idea reminds us of new year resolutions; easily made, easily broken and all a little bit pointless. John's message is a tough one. Changing our lives is far from easy. One of the problems of course is that when we try to change we usually rely solely on our own will power, which is notorious for letting us down. John the Baptist reminds us that when we are baptised in the name of Jesus we will receive the Holy Spirit, a divine power that will help us towards God when our will power fails. All we have to do is ask and keep on asking. Change is not beyond any of us however much you think it probably is. John might have given the Pharisees and Sadducees a hard time but in truth the message is clear. "There is none so lost, they cannot be found, none so helpless that their life cannot be changed."

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| Entrance Antiphon : | <i>O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.</i> | | | |
| Responsorial Psalm : | <i>In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.</i> | | | |
| Gospel Acclamation : | <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord make his paths straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!</i> | | | |
| Communion Antiphon: | <i>Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.</i> | | | |
| Year A | Isaiah 11: 1-10 | Psalms 71 | Romans 15: 4-9 | Matthew 3: 1-2 |

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be celebrated on Friday 19th May 2023 at 7.00pm at St. Joseph's. Forms are available in the sacristy for anyone in Year 8 and above wishing to be confirmed next year.

The Confirmation Programme will begin in the New Year & registration must be received before the programme begins.

CHRISTIAN ICONS

An icon exhibition at St Teresa's Church, Wilmslow 11th-18th December 7.15am – 6.00pm
The exhibition introduces viewers to the art and history of icon painting, the symbolism of icons and their role in Christian worship.

A CHRISTMAS SHOW!

The Player's Sale are proud to present 'A Very Scrooge Christmas' which tells Charles Dickens' story set to music of Mr. Scrooge and three ghostly visitors.

Also audience participation singing festive songs!

At St. Joseph's Parish Centre, Hope Rd on Thursday 8th, Friday 9th and Saturday 10th December at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 adults and £2.50 under 18s from Teresa 0161 969 0270.

CHILDREN'S SAINTS CLUB

Families are invited to zoom in to the Saints' Club on Saturday 10th December, 4.30 - 5.00 pm to celebrate St Lucy and Our Lady of Guadalupe together. For more details please email

Ilona Harrison ilonaharrison19@gmail.com

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84333187985?pwd=eFU3NHNEa0Z2WEw0Yy9mNmVEMWR5QT09>

Meeting ID: 843 3318 7985

Passcode: 404491

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Thank you to all who supported this year's Poppy Appeal. St. Joseph's raised £529.94 and Holy Family £155. Your support has made a real difference to those in the Armed Forces community.

SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Saturday 10th December is the SVP Christmas lunch at 1.00pm. This will mean parking for the 12noon mass will be affected and there will be some parking stewards in the car park. We would appreciate your consideration if you are attending that mass.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers, **Tony Billota**, **Theresa Cronin** and **Veronica Burke** 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.

Death is not extinguishing the light.

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

PRAY FOR PRIESTS

Leaflets for December are now available in the sacristy.

ST. JOSEPH'S REPOSITORY

CHRISTMAS SHOP

Christmas at St. Joseph's Repository. Do come and visit and see the Cards, Candles, Cribs, Calendars, Advent Calendars, Children's Activity Books, Snowglobes, Diaries, etc.

ADVENT 2022

Advent Adoration

There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on each Saturday of Advent.

11.00am – 11.50am 10th & 17th December.

An opportunity for quiet reflective prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Blessing of the CTis Crib

The Churches Together in Sale crib outside the town hall will be blessed by Father Stephen on Monday 5th December at 7.00pm. The Salvation Army will be playing traditional carols.

Please come along and support this important witness of faith in our local community.

Blessing of cribs

On Sunday 18th December Father is inviting families to bring their family cribs for a blessing. The Parish Centre will be open before 11.00am Mass to set your cribs up. Father Stephen will bless the cribs after 11.00am Mass, when there will be tea & coffee, mince pies and Christmas music.

Service of Carols and Nine Readings

This will take place on Monday 19th December at 7.00pm. Come and hear once again the beautiful story of Christmas. After the service, join Father Stephen in the Parish Centre for Christmas drinks and mince pies. (*If you are able to read, please sign up on the list in the sacristy.*)

PARISH ADVENT RETREAT DAY

The parish Advent Retreat Day to Wistaston Hall in Crewe is on Tuesday 6th December 2022.

The cost will be £25 per person.

Spaces are available in cars.

Booking forms are in the Sacristy.

Registration at 9.30am with tea and coffee. Day ends at 4.00pm. Lunch will be provided.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP

On Sunday 11th December the Holy Family Cafod Group will be serving mulled wine and mince pies after 10.00am Mass. All are welcome to join the group in this annual event.

YOU ARE A GIFT

Saturday 10 December at St Wilfrid's, Northwich. A

day of talks and discussion examining our true identity through the Theology of the Body and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Fr David

Marsden, a Clinical psychologist, and Dr Christine Ward will be the guest speakers at this one-day event which is dedicated to unpacking the beautiful teaching of this great work of St Pope John Paul II. Booking essential at tobnetworkuk@gmail.com or more

information from

lisa.martinez@dioceseofshrewsbury.org