

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We congratulate the six children and their families from the parish who celebrate their First Holy Communion at 11.00am Mass. The first three available benches on each side will be reserved for the FHC families. This will mean this Mass will be especially busy.

Next Sunday at 2.00pm we, hopefully, will celebrate the First Holy Communion Mass for the second class at St. Joseph's school who, unfortunately, had to postpone their Mass last Saturday.

COVID 19

The Bishops of England and Wales have recently issued revised guidelines as we come out of Lockdown. Holy Communion continues to be recommended on the hand. However, outside of localities suffering high spikes of infections (which Greater Manchester is) those wishing to receive on the tongue are now recommended to wait until the end of the distribution of Holy Communion and receive on the tongue with the priest or deacon sanitising their hand after each communicant.

At St. Joseph's and Holy Family, Father Stephen is assessing the infection rate daily. At present, if you wish to receive Communion on the tongue you will be invited to come forward at the end of the distribution of Holy Communion. The priest or deacon will sanitise their hands before and after giving Holy Communion to each person.

As you receive Holy Communion those who distribute Holy Communion will say in a clear voice 'The Body of Christ'. You are now able to respond in an audible and clear way 'Amen'. Also, please remember to consume the host as soon as you receive it. You are not to walk away with the host. Thank you.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Bernard Logue** and **Elizabeth Gettins** 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.

SAINTS CLUB

Saints Club winners for June are:

- 1st Prize St. Cecilia
- 2nd Prize Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
- 3rd Prize St. Veronica

Thank you to those who continue to support the Saints Club draw.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do I respond when someone is critical of me? Do I search myself to find my failings or do I merely look for reasons to reject their criticism.

BITESIZE

Learning sleeps and snores in libraries, but wisdom is everywhere, wide awake, on tiptoe.

Josh Billings

ST. JOSEPH'S MUSIC GROUP

During these difficult months when we have not been able to sing, at St. Joseph's we have had the wonderful music at 9.00am from Fiona and Rick and at 11.00am the 'music bubble groups'. Happily, this will continue throughout the summer. We await announcements by the government on when we will, once again, be able to sing as a congregation.

Don't forget the wonderful CD produced by the music group which is available at £10 per disc and they make wonderful gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, Christmas, Easter, etc. Songs include 'As I Kneel Before You', '10,000 Reasons', 'On Eagles Wings', 'As The Deer Pants' and many more favourites. To buy one, just ask Father Stephen after Mass or call at the presbytery.

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Holy St. Joseph, You were a man of great hope and faith. You faced many difficult times in your life, fleeing into Egypt, caring and fearing for Mary and Jesus, you lived like us today in uncertain times. Your strength came from knowing that the power and faithfulness of God would always be constant.

Fill us with the confidence that you had in the Lord, Our God. Help us to know that God is close to us that He will deliver us from the trials and troubles we are now encountering.

May the light of the Lord give us hope. May it guide us every day of our lives and uniting our prayers with yours, may we be assured by the peace and joy of the Lord, that will strengthen us in all our difficulties.
Holy St. Joseph, pray for us.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY

"A Better Normal"

As we move from lockdown and Covid restrictions we hear a lot of people speak of the "new normal" while others want to return to how things were before all this. Will the 'old normal' ever be the same? How will the 'new normal' look? Either way, it's clear that we all have some rebuilding to do, and in rebuilding, we all have to create a 'better normal'. Pope Francis's challenge for this month is to look for areas of conflict either locally or globally and think how we can approach that conflict in a spirit of friendship and dialogue. We all imagine that we work very hard, but when it comes to making a mark on the world, perhaps we are all a little lazy. Our lives cannot just be about providing for our families. As Christians we have to look to the common good. This month we are asked to join in Pope Francis's prayer intention "... that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship."

HOME SUPPORT - SVP

Reminder that the SVP have a dedicated phone number for anyone needing support – be it a regular phone call, help with shopping, lifts for hospital appointments, etc.

Please don't hesitate to call 07942 670277.