



# ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY – HANDS – FACE – SPACE - AIR

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 OF ADVENT 5th December 2021

Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00pm	Maureen Howie (5th Ann.)	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Douglas Smith (30th Ann.) Dave Sykes Kay Thompson People of the Parish	Tea and Coffee after 11.00am Mass
Monday	9.30 am HF 9.30 am 11.00am HF	Des Taylor Anne Marie O'Connor (25th Ann. 28.11) Joan Hunt (Requiem)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12 noon	Paddy Power (3rd Ann.) Dennis Simmons (3rd Ann.)	St Ambrose
Wednesday	9.30 am HF 9.30 am	Priest's Intention Brigid Killoran (Ann.)	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon 7.00 pm	John Dolan (9th Ann.) John Gilmartin (B'day Rem.) Eileen Sheehy	Ferial Tea & Coffee at HF after 9.30 am Mass
Friday	9.30 am HF 9.30 am	Alicia O'Hare (Sick) Gary Corbett (Sick)	Ferial
Saturday	12.00 noon	Ellen Ogden	Ferial
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00 pm	Peter Raftery (6th Ann.)	Adoration SJ 11.00am – 11.50am
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Samaha Attallah (Sick) John Bower Alfred Boston (37th Ann.) Francis Mendonca	

**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 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021  
SJ £1111.69 HF £194.10

## A Change of Heart

Much of television transmission over Christmas will be taken up by soaps. As sophisticated audiences we have become familiar with how soaps work. We understand that soaps have certain character types and that those characters rarely change their spots. We have become accustomed to watching characters making the same old mistakes over and over again. They may show remorse for their failings, they may even promise their loved ones that they can be different, but we know deep down that they cannot change. We know that sooner or later they will go slipping on those same old banana skins. Change isn't easy.

In today's gospel we are being taught an important lesson. We are taught that repentance is more than just being sorry. We can be sorry yet re-offend. We can be sorry that we have told a lie yet lie again. We can be sorry that we have succumbed to crime or self-indulgence, yet go down that path again. The true meaning of repentance means to change direction .... to choose a different path altogether.

Choosing a new path sounds easy. It obviously isn't or the world would already be a perfect place. We all know what changes we would like to make in our own lives, and we know equally well the excuses we use that bar our path to God.

In Luke's gospel, John tells us, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth..."

We are being told that Advent is a time of preparation and of change. In the same way that Dickens' immortal Scrooge secured his salvation by changing his ways, so too must we choose a new path through life and smooth our way along it by clearing the obstacles. Rebuilding our lives might not be something we can do overnight, but we can all begin with the will to be different .....the will to change direction ..... a change of heart.

*Entrance Antiphon :* **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.**

*Responsorial Psalm :* **What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

*Gospel Acclamation :* **Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!**

*Communion Antiphon:* **The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.**

Year C Baruch 5: 1-9 Psalm 125 Philippians 1: 3-6.8-11 Luke 3: 1-6

## ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR

is taking place today 5th December from 12noon -2pm.

They will be hosting the usual bottle and chocolate tombolas, cake stall, hot food and much more.

All welcome.

## HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP

On Sunday 12th December the Holy Family Cafod Group will be serving mulled wine, mince pies and other refreshments after 10.00am Mass.

## ST. JOSEPH'S & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

**This afternoon 5th December.** Approximately 2 mile local walk and seasonal treasure hunt. Suitable for families, pushchairs and wheelchairs.

Meet in St. Joseph's car park at 1.30pm for 1.45pm start. Finish by 4.00pm. Refreshments served in the Parish Centre afterwards.

Contact 0161 962 6274 for more details.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

After a long break, due to Covid, the CWL are meeting on Friday 10 December at 1.00pm in St. Joseph's Parish Centre.

## SUNDAY OBLIGATION

Father Stephen would like to pass on a recent statement from the Bishops of England & Wales re the Sunday Obligation

*"At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in a position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass."*

## CONFIRMATION 2022

Forms are available in the sacristy for those wishing to be confirmed next year.

Those who had enrolled in 2019/2020 please email [info@sjhf.co.uk](mailto:info@sjhf.co.uk), indicating whether you are going to take up your place on the new Confirmation course.

Those who should have been confirmed last year, ie those in Year 9, as well as the current Year 8, please collect a form from the sacristy and return.

The Confirmation programme will begin in the New Year and registration must be received before the programme begins. Thank you.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to the Church and Parish Community **Molly Lillian Devlin** and **Wilfred Daniel Melia** who were baptised at St. Joseph's last weekend. We welcome Molly and Wilfred into the Church and commend their parents for passing on to them the Faith of the Apostles.

## COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Joan Hunt**, **Joseph Kilbane** and **Christine Weighill** who have died recently. May they rest in peace.

We extend to their family and friends our deepest sympathy at this sad and extremely difficult time.

## THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY 8th December

Like the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, celebrated during Advent, is related to the mystery of Jesus. To fulfil her unique role in the mission of Jesus, Mary was conceived free from original sin through the foreseen merits of her Son.

## 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 2021

This year, with the uncertainty with Covid, Father Stephen is not issuing an Advent sheet. However, here are a few dates for your Advent diary.

The **CTiS crib** outside the town hall *will be blessed* by Father Stephen on Monday 6th December at 7.00pm. The Salvation Army band will be playing traditional carols. Please come along and support this important witness of faith in our local community.

## Advent Adoration and Confessions

There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on each Saturday of Advent. 11.00am – 11.50am - 11th and 18th December.

In addition, for the next three Thursdays Father Stephen is celebrating a Holy Hour of Adoration & Confessions. These will take place between 6.00pm and 7.00pm. Father Stephen will be sat in front of Our Lady's altar to hear confessions during the Holy Hour.

This will give us an opportunity, in addition to Saturday, for quiet reflective prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Sunday 19th December Blessing of cribs 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.

Mondays Christmas Together Monday 20th December 12.30pm – 2.00pm Why not come along, meet friends and fellow parishioners in the week before Christmas.

## Service of Carols and Nine Readings

This will hopefully take place on Monday 20th 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.

More details of our Advent celebrations will appear week by week.

## TRAVELLING NATIVITY

Once again this year, due to Covid, we cannot invite you to host the Holy Family this Advent. However, the Holy Family will still be 'travelling to Bethlehem' from this Sunday and you can follow their progress each day on the Website / Facebook page. If your Holy Family is 'travelling to Bethlehem', why not send Father Stephen a photograph of their progress.

## SVP GROUPS AT HOLY FAMILY & ST. JOSEPH'S

will again be working with local Catholic primary and secondary schools, to provide Christmas cards and individual gifts for the people we visit. A special collection will take place at all masses next weekend 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> December to help fund this work, and other works that the SVP undertakes to help people in need.

Thank you again for your continued support through this difficult period. Please contact us on 0794 267 0277 if you need assistance, or know of anyone who is in need of help over this Christmas period.