



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY
YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope
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 – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – 5th January 2025

Saturday 4th January	6.00pm (Vigil)	John, Madge, Jim & Kevin McKeown (RIP)	
Sunday 5th January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Fiona Robertson Cyril & Martin Booth Ian Blagbrough (Sick) People of the Parish	Tea & coffee after 11.00am Mass SJ
Monday	12.00 pm	Special Intention	Monday of the Christmas Season
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Christopher Brett (RIP) Get Well (Catherine Murray)	Tuesday of the Christmas Season Adoration 10.00am HF
Wednesday	9.30 am	Catriona, Josh and Anna	Wednesday of the Christmas Season
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Patrick Culliney (B'ay Rem. 5.1) Noel Murtagh (Requiem)	Thursday of the Christmas Season
Friday	9.30 am	Daniel Grover (To Bless)	Friday of the Christmas Season
Saturday 11th January	12.00 noon 6.00pm (Vigil)	Val, Rob & Family Neil Bramfit (8th Ann.)	Saturday of the Christmas Season Confessions 11.00am-12noon
Sunday 12th January BAPTISM OF THE LORD	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Siobhan Mulkeen (Speedy Recovery) The Coughlan Family Elizabeth Thallon (4th Ann. 9.1) People of the Parish	Tea & coffee after 11.00am Mass SJ

OUR LADY'S LAMP
This week the lamp is lit for
Marion Miller

SACRED HEART LAMP
This week the lamp is lit for
McGinity Family. RIP

OFFERINGS WEEKEND
29th December 2024
SJ 1632.28 HF £380.48
Many Thanks

The Epiphany Moment?

It's funny how we are all a bit nicer on Christmas Day. Is it a pretence in order to get on with Great Aunt Ethel, or does Christmas really make us better people? For one day in the year we are a little more giving, a little kinder a little more tolerant. For one day in the year we are a bit closer to what God means us to be. Then we pile Christmas into the recycling bins, go back to work and revert to type. If there was a star for us to follow, we've quickly confined it to the box room with the tinsel and fake tree. Perhaps the three wise men arrive after Christmas to make us think again. Today the three wise men teach us a lesson in keeping our Christmas star alive.

The wise men in the Epiphany gospel were visionaries with a star that they were determined to follow whatever the obstacles. The wise men began their quest with a hunger for the truth and a determination to find answers. When they finally found Jesus lying in a lowly stable, they came away happier and wiser men as a result. Following their star had given the three men a focus in their life and new meaning. We don't know what happened to them next, but it is likely they spent their lives sharing the good news with everyone they met, Jews and Gentiles alike. Following their star helped the Magi to be the people God had meant them to be. Can the same be said for our own lives? We live our lives trying to be all things to all people. We live our lives dizzy with trying to live up to other people's expectations. We very rarely get time to be ourselves. We very rarely get that Epiphany moment of our own or get to know what God really wants of us.

So how do we follow our star? Firstly we have to have a vision. The new year stretches ahead like a clean sheet of paper. What does God want of us? Some people agonise over this question, but for many of us it's simply a case of looking at our talents and using them to make the world a better place. For others it might be about looking around and choosing one other person to build up. If we have impossibly busy jobs our vision might be a small one, if we have lots of free time, we might be able to set a life changing goal. Having a vision is all well and good, but next we have to make plans and put those plans into action. This might involve sitting down and identifying obstacles. Remember that obstacles aren't always put in our way by other people. More often or not obstacles exist in our own minds and in our own character traits. As we travel towards our goal, we have to determine in whom and in what to trust. When things get tough, it is easy to listen to a well-meaning friend encouraging us to take an easy way out, or to adopt a more comfortable goal. "King Herods" don't always come in the obvious guise of a pantomime baddie. Lastly, we have to be able to recognise Jesus in our lives, and once we have found him, allow him to navigate.

For all those who are heading into the new year feeling lost, or tired, or lonely, or disillusioned, remember that good things await those who listen to God, and that God is ready to guide those who recognise his star quality.

Entrance Antiphon : **Behold the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.**

Responsorial Psalm : **All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation : **Alleluia, alleluia. We saw his star as it rose and have come to worship the Lord. Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: **We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.**

Year C

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Psalm 71

Ephesians 3: 2-3. 5-6

Luke 2: 1-12

CRIB OFFERINGS

Please support Caritas by placing your offerings in the baskets by the cribs. Thank you.

HOUSE ROSARY GROUP

The House Rosary Group was unable to meet during the Pandemic. Father Stephen is keen to see this restarting as part of the Jubilee Year.

The first meeting will be this Tuesday 7th January at 7.00pm at the home of Pat Quaile, 18 Park Ave, Sale M33 6HE. All are very welcome.

CAFOD 40th CHRISTMAS FUN RUN/WALK

21 runners & walkers took part on a cold grey foggy morning in Liverpool - FINAL Collection of Sponsorship & Donations after ALL Masses this weekend.

On line donations are also possible

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/kieron-walsh-1734513634261> St Joseph Walkers & Runners page

Help CAFOD help the poorest in communities around the world.

APF – MISSIO ST JOSEPH’S

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 £1090.82 .

If you have any queries or need more information, please contact Mick Ryan on 0161 905 3468 .

Thank you for your continued support

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP

The Holy Family Cafod group would like to thank everyone who came to the coffee morning on Sunday December 15. £120 was raised. Thank you for your continued generosity.

A NEW TERM

After the Christmas holidays, St. Joseph’s & Holy Family schools return tomorrow.

We pray that the new term will be successful for all the children and staff.

ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL

Open Events for prospective nursery and reception parents. A chance to come and see our wonderful school in action, to see our fantastic learning environments and to ask any questions.

This Thursday 9th January at 9.30am and 4.30pm.

Do join us if you can. \

CONGRATULATIONS

To Alexandra Greaves & Daniel Peters who were married last Saturday and to Ellie Rocca & Daniel Rathbone who were married last Monday.

We wish both couples many years of good health and happiness together.

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Noel Murtagh, Margaret Kathleen Devine and Rita Hall 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.

BITESIZE

The obstacles of your path can become the gateways that lead to new beginnings.

Ralph Blum

WELCOME

Father Stephen was asked by the Vocations Director if a seminarian could come to St Joseph’s & Holy Family on a parish placement. He was delighted to agree and we welcome to the parish for January Eamonn Kennedy, a first year seminarian. Eamonn is at Oscott Seminary in Birmingham. He will serve at Mass, accompany Father Stephen on visits, join in the different parish groups, visit the schools and get a general feeling of what parish life as a priest is like. Please give him a warm welcome.

ST JOSEPH’S & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Please join us on Saturday 18th January 2025

Meet 9.00am (St Joseph’s) for

9.15am PROMPT departure to Hollingworth Lake for our ~ 6.5 mile circular walk to Blackstone Edge – Returning before 4.30pm . See poster in narthex or website www.stjosephswalkers.org.uk for more information or phone Kieron 07785 344102

MADDEN FAMILY CHARITY RECITAL

Next Saturday 11th January, from 3.30pm - 5.30pm in St Joseph’s Parish Centre, Katrina, Ben, Alice, Laurie and William Madden will be giving a concert in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association and a children’s charity based in Uganda called Play Action International. It will be an informal and entertaining classical concert with a mix of piano, violin, cello, clarinet and vocal numbers. Tickets are free with a voluntary contribution to the charities (cash or card welcome). Refreshments included!

ROMULUS SINGERS’ CHARITY CONCERT

‘Amid The Falling Snow’

Next Sunday 12 January 3.00pm-4.30pm in Holy Angels Parish Hall, Hale Barns in aid of Caritas Cornerstone day centre which supports the homeless in Manchester. Tickets £10 (£5 student/child) available online at <http://www.romulus-singers.co.uk/falling-snow> or on the door. A varied programme including works by Will Todd, Enya, Chris de Burgh and even Beyonce - followed by light refreshments. All proceeds will support the essential work of Cornerstone

CONFIRMATION 2025

Confirmation for St Joseph’s & Holy Family will be on Friday 9th May 2025, the eve of the 140th Anniversary of the first Mass celebrated in the present St Joseph’s church.

Forms are now 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.

POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY

Pope Francis has warned that, “We’re experiencing an educational catastrophe,” and underscores, “This is no exaggeration.” There are 250 million boys and girls worldwide without an education due to wars, migration, and poverty. “All children and youth have the right to go to school,” the Pope insisted, “regardless of their immigration status.” Education, he went on to say, is a hope for everyone. In addition, he reminded, “it can save migrants and refugees from discrimination, criminal networks, and exploitation.” Education opens the doors to a better future.

This month Pope Francis invites us to join in his prayer intention that “... the right to an education, which is necessary to build a more human world, might always be respected.”