

# ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY - YEAR OF THE WORD

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Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley

Retired Priest, Father David Peters and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

Mass Times and Intentions for - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD - 5th April 2020			
Sunday 5th April PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD	9.30 am 6.00 pm	People of the Parish HOLY HOUR for Holy Week	
Monday of Holy Week	9.30 am	All Who Are Grieving	
Tuesday of Holy Week	9.30 am	Mary Stokes	
Wednesday of Holy Week	9.30 am	Josie Murtagh	
Thursday HOLY THURSDAY	9.30 am 8.00 pm	Morning Prayer Magdalen Donlan	HOLY THURSDAY Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday GOOD FRIDAY	9.30 am 11.00 am 3.00 pm 7.00 pm	Morning Prayer Children's Stations of the Cross Exultation of the Cross Stations of the Cross	GOOD FRIDAY The Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Saturday 11h April HOLY SATURDAY	9.30 am 8.00 pm	Morning Prayer Ella Feeney (31st Ann.)	EASTER VIGIL
Sunday 12th April EASTER SUNDAY	9.30 am	People of the Parish	HAPPY EASTER!

<u>Please note the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.</u>

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION No Confessions at 11.00am Saturdays until further notice. By appointment only

SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM & MARRIAGE By arrangement with Father Woolley LAST WEEK'S OFFERING SJ- HF: -

We receive approximately £520 from standing orders Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

## SING HOSANNA

Jesus' humble parade into Jerusalem sparked the patriotic fervour of the crowds. They spread palms for his donkey and sang 'Hosanna'. The trouble is they were getting excited for all the wrong reasons. Here was a man, they thought, who could challenge the Roman Empire ..... a great new political leader. Their interest in Jesus quickly dissolves by the end of the week. After all, what good is a dead messiah to them? Of course, Jesus might have been able to give them what they wanted, but what point would there have been in overthrowing an oppressive regime? It might have made him very popular in his day, but two thousand years down the line it would have made very little impression on the rest of us. Instead Jesus offers the bigger picture, a picture that would mean something to every man woman and child of every era from then on. Sadly the crowds are not ready to fathom this.

If we were able to be in church on this day we would be singing 'Hosanna' and waving our palms. However, today we do it for the right reasons. We do not follow Jesus because we think he is some kind of magician who can rescue us from an oppressive world. We understand that accepting our crosses in life, and impacting our world with courage, self-giving, humility, and love is what Holy Week is all about.

Entrance Antiphon:

Hosanna to the son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna

in the highest.

Responsorial Psalm:

My God, my god, why have you forsaken me?

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory: Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ,

king of eternal glory.

Communion Antiphon:

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

Year A

Isaiah 50: 4-7

Psalm 21

Philippians 2: 6-11

Matthew 26: 14-27: 66

#### **CORONAVIRUS**

During the coronavirus pandemic and following the instruction of the Prime minister St. Joseph's and Holy Family are closed for personal prayer until further notice.

<u>Please</u> follow with great care public health guidelines to maintain hygiene and social distancing.

During the public health crisis and following official advice, Sunday and weekday masses will <u>not</u> be publicly celebrated until further notice.

However, celebration of Mass at St. Joseph's will take place each day at 9.30am, without a public congregation, and can be seen via Utube, Facebook or the parish website.

Once again we shall continue to monitor the situation both nationally and locally very carefully and pass on any information we receive as soon as possible.

HOLY WEEK MASSES
The Diocese has published sheets for Masses during Holy Week on their website. Free download. www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org

#### PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

If you are following Mass on any of the social media live streaming, Father Woolley suggests that, during the silence after Communion, everyone prays this prayer.

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite

myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

# **OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS**

Many people have been asking Father Woolley about the weekly collection. He suggests you could put envelopes to one side and bring them when the isolation is over.

Alternatively, you may wish to set up a Standing Order, either permanently or in order to continue to make your regular Offertory giving to the Parish during the period when Mass is not being celebrated in public, please contact the parish Gift Aid organisers.

St. Joseph's parishioners contact Anne Stanley, on 0161 973 9159 and Holy Family parishioners contact Veronica Saunders on 0161 973 3773.

# **HOME SUPPORT**

If you or anyone you know is isolating at home and needs support please ring the Presbytery on 0161 973 1615.

# **BLESSING OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS**

Father Woolley would like to thank all our Doctors, Nurses, First Responders and other health care workers who are continuing to care for us during this coronaviras crisis. Thank you, too, to the half a million people who have 'signed up' as NHS volunteers. We pray that the Lord will protect them all in their work of care and support.

Thank You ALL.

## FATHER STEPHEN WRITES ......

Many thanks to all who have sent emails or phone calls asking how I am coping and offering support. It is very much appreciated and I am pleased to report I am well. I am delighted that so many people are logging in at this unprecedented time to watch the daily Mass via different social media platforms. You are all in my thought and prayers.

# KEEP SAFE, KEEP WELL. GOD BLESS ALL!

Father Stephen Woolley

## PRAYER FOR PROTECTION & HEALING

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the People of your Dowry, England,

know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pléase – we who are put to the test and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.

# **EASTER TRIDUUM**

The term triduum means 'three days.' The three days are counted as the Hebrews counted their days, from dusk to dusk. Therefore, the three days of the Easter triduum are from dusk on Holy Thursday to dusk on Good Friday (day

one), dusk on Good Friday to dusk on Holy Saturday (day two), and dusk on Holy Saturday to dusk on Easter Sunday (day three). We do not spend all of the three days in church, but at various times during those days, we are in normal circumstances called to church to gather and remember together. The Triduum tells an ongoing story, and we would normally try to make all the services. *This* year of course, because we are in lockdown, we cannot make these services, but we can remember on each of the three days the different parts of the story.

# **Maundy Thursday**



"I give you a new commandment: love one another just as I have loved you," says the Lord.

Jesus ties a towel around his waist and washes the disciples' feet. This is the Christian message we are to take on board. We must learn to sacrifice our own needs and put each other first regardless of status. Jesus is asking us to love each other as he loves us.

#### **Good Friday**

On this day we remember the events of Jesus' suffering and death. This is a solemn day but it's a momentous day too. In hindsight we know that this is not the end. We look forward to Easter when Jesus raises from the dead and invites us to share the same destiny. Non-Christians around the world might see the Cross as an instrument of torture. We celebrate it as a symbol of victory over death.

#### Holy Saturday



This is the night when Jesus passes from death to life. This is the night when we celebrate light, salvation, and renewal of baptismal promises. On this night we are challenged to bring light to a world still darkened by disbelief.

Holy Saturday, or the 'Easter Vigil', is the close of the season of Lent and penance and the beginning of paschal time, which is one of rejoicing.