



# ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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Parish Priest: Father Stephen Woolley  
and Permanent Deacon, Reverend John Hamilton

## Mass Times and Intentions for - TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00pm (Vigil)	Margaret Bruen (11 <sup>th</sup> Ann. 3.10)	
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> October TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Richard Donnelly (RIP) Catherine Culliney (B'day Rem) John Wordsworth (RIP) People of the Parish	Tea & Coffee after 11.00am Mass
Monday	12.00 noon	Andrew Killoran (Ann.)	Our Lady of the Rosary
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Anthony Bates Matt Drake (RIP)	Ferial
Wednesday	<u>9.15 am</u>	Edward (Ted) Woolley (B'day Rem.)	St John Henry Newman
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Patrick English (50 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) Lilly Joseph (5 <sup>th</sup> Ann.)	Ferial Tea & Toast after 9.30 Mass
Friday	9.30 am	Paul Smith (RIP)	Ferial
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	12.00 noon	Peter K.C. (21 <sup>st</sup> Ann.)	Ferial
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> October TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm (Vigil) 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Ronnie Boyle (RIP) Noel Murtagh (Sick) Pat Woodward (RIP) Kenneth & Mercedes Burns (RIP) People of the Parish	Tea & Coffee after 11.00am Mass

<b>SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION</b> 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment	<b>SACRED HEART LAMP</b> This week the lamp is lit for <b>Raphael Kene</b> RIP	<b>OFFERINGS WEEKEND</b> <b>29<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b> SJ £2320.40 HF £480.75 Many Thanks
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### To Love and To Cherish

It's easy to make promises in the first flush of romance. "I'll love you forever" and "I've only eyes for you," trip off the tongue easily. When we're young the idea of marriage is romantic and highly desirable. The vows we make when we marry don't seem too difficult. In sickness and in health? We don't imagine that our spouse might become an alcoholic or succumb to a disability. For richer or poorer? We don't think that our partner will lose his or her job or become swallowed up in bad debt. For better or worse? We don't think for a moment that our loved ones will fall out of love with us and look elsewhere. So what happens when things go wrong? Does God really expect us to stay in abusive or loveless marriages?

This week's gospel text is one of the most heatedly debated passages in scriptures. "What God has joined together, no human being must separate." These are tough words for those who cannot make their marriage work. Yet the gospel is more about the hardness in man's heart than an instruction on marriage and divorce. At the time Jesus spoke these words divorce was permitted. It was a man's prerogative to 'dismiss' his wife for little reason. The wife was very much a disposable possession. It was this attitude that Jesus abhors in his answer to the Pharisees. In a world where marriage was taken lightly because divorce was managed easily, Jesus condemned the hardness in men's hearts and called them to look at God's plan that from the beginning of creation male and female should become one.

Of course we don't hold the same attitudes today, or do we? Sadly the answer is yes. We are surrounded by quick fix relationships, couples that only stay together while the going is good; couples that promise nothing and make no commitment; couples that are in it only for what they can get.

Marriages fail for all sorts of reasons, not always anyone's fault - this is a reality. It is hard to imagine that God would want us to stay in a marriage where we were the subject of abuse or real misery, but what we know for sure is that we shouldn't enter into the sacrament of marriage with the attitude that it is simply a contract with a let out clause if things go wrong. We enter marriage believing it to be a relationship in which we can love and cherish.

Entrance Antiphon :	<b>Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.</b>			
Responsorial Psalm :	<b>May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.</b>			
Gospel Acclamation :	<b>Alleluia, alleluia. Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!</b>			
Communion Antiphon:	<b>The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.</b>			
Year B	Genesis 2: 18-24	Psalm 127	Hebrews 2: 9-11	Mark 10: 2-16

## CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY COLLECTION

Daniel, a young man in Democratic Republic of the Congo, is carving a better future for his family with carpentry skills he learned in a CAFOD-funded training centre. Give to CAFOD today and you'll fund training, tools, equipment and safe spaces so more people like Daniel can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential. Use the envelope in church to gift aid your donation or give online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope).

*Date for your diary – the annual and very popular CAFOD Quiz night will be Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Parish Centre*

## FIRST FORGIVENESS AND HOLY COMMUNION IN 2025

The date for First Holy Communion 2025 has been arranged for Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May (schools) and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May (those at Non-Catholic schools).

The programme of preparation for the children will begin in the autumn term.

However, if your child is at a Non-Catholic School and is 7 years old or above and in year 3 or above and would like to celebrate their First Forgiveness and Holy Communion, please collect a Form of Enrolment from the Sacristy. **It is very important that the children are enrolled before the course begins.** For more information, please speak to Father Woolley.

## PARISH PILGRIMAGES

Father Stephen has arranged a pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2025. The dates are 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June, staying at the Hotel Padoue which is central to the Domain. Flying from Manchester airport. The cost is £675 sharing a room or £815 for single occupancy.

There is also a pilgrimage to Medjugorje planned for September 2025. The dates will be Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The cost per person £749 sharing or £885 for single occupancy. Return flight from Manchester. Half board at the hotel Leone. If you are interested in either or both pilgrimages please sign the relevant list in the sacristy. More details soon.

## MONDAYS TOGETHER

Since taking up the position of Dean of South Trafford & Wythenshawe, as well as other additional commitments, Father Stephen is finding it difficult to organise the Mondays Together group.

If people wish to continue with the group he is asking for a number of volunteers to take this forward – tea rotas, arranging speakers/monthly activities etc. If anyone is interested/has the time Father Stephen would be delighted to hear from you.

## ASSISTED DYING PUBLIC LECTURE

The Prime Minister has pledged to have a vote on assisted suicide and Lord Falconer has already tabled a Private Members' Bill in the House of Lords. You are invited to a lecture to be held at the Mercure Manchester Piccadilly Hotel, Portland Street, Manchester M1 4PH from 7:30pm - 9pm on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and the speaker, Dr Dominic Whitehouse, who is a palliative care consultant currently working in a hospice in Sussex, will be explaining why a change in the law would be harmful to patients, doctors and to society.

## ST JOSEPH'S REPOSITORY

We have a number of 2025 catholic diaries and 2025 religious calendars. Also, boxed Christmas cards per box for £3.50; snow globes; children's nativity story / colouring books; advent calendars; candles; nativity sets - and much more.

## PRAY FOR PRIESTS

for October are now available at the back of church.

## JIMMY CRICKET LAUGHTER SHOW

Next Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024 in St Joseph's Parish Centre at 7.30pm. Tickets £12 are available in the sacristy. Payment must be made at time of collecting tickets. All proceeds for Francis House.

## CONFIRMATION 2025

Confirmation for St Joseph's & Holy Family will be on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025, the eve of the 140<sup>th</sup> 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.

## CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

33 tickets have now been purchased at a cost of £20 each. *Would those who have booked please pay cash in an envelope with names asap.*

## COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **William Patrick Devine** who has died recently. May he rest in peace.

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

## MANCHESTER HALF MARATHON

Next Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

Once again, the route affects access to Sunday Masses at St Joseph's and Holy Family.

For more information see:

[www.manchesterhalfmarathon.com](http://www.manchesterhalfmarathon.com)

## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

A huge thank you to all who made the Macmillan coffee morning at Holy Family last week such a success. As a result of your generosity £200 was raised and has been forwarded to Macmillan!

## AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE GOSPELS AND SCRIPTURE

Thursday 17 October 8.00-9.00pm. St Joseph's Parish Centre. Parishioners are invited to this new lay led venture! We will spend up to an hour reflecting and praying on the Gospel reading of the week (on Sunday 20 October it is Mark 10: 35-45). It really is very simple and those who pray in this way have found it to be a rich rewarding experience in addition to further building our Parish Community. You may find it helpful to read the passage beforehand (we are using the reading from The Sunday Missal, Year B) although there will be copies available on the evening.

## PIETRA FITNESS

is a unique fitness workout which includes stretching and strengthening the body. Christian prayer and meditations are woven throughout the classes, with a background of beautiful sacred music. The workouts restore harmony and wholeness to both body and soul. Classes are on every Thursday 6.30pm & Friday at 10.30am and are suitable for women of most fitness levels. First taster class is free- £5 per class after that. Please contact Trish Morgan, the certified Pietra Fitness Instructor at [trishmorganj2.5@gmail.com](mailto:trishmorganj2.5@gmail.com) for more information. Poster in Narthex.

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Kerry Shaw and Joseph Donlan who were married at St Joseph's on Friday. We wish them many years of good health and happiness together.