



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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**

St Joseph's
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Mass Times and Intentions for FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 8th February 2026

Saturday 7 th February	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Ronnie Boyle (B'day Rem.)	
Sunday 8 th February FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Murrag, Grogan & Lacy Families Patrick Lynch (24 th Ann.) Maureen McLaughlin & Family Bernard Sharkey (1 st Ann.)	Tea & at SJ after 11.00am Mas Day of Special Prayer for the Victims of Trafficking
Monday	11.00 am	Josephine (Josie) Lowe (Requiem)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Omar Albuidar (Sick) Elizabeth Parr-Head (RIP)	St Scholastica <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u>
Wednesday	9.15 am school 7.00 pm	Brendan (1 st Ann.) For Healing	Our Lady of Lourdes World Day of the Sick
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	John Richards (RIP) Tommy Barry	Ferial
Friday	9.30 am	Patrick, Teresa Dolan (RIP)	Ferial
Saturday 14 th February	12.00 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Sheila Langeveld (8 th Ann.) Terry Taafe (RIP)	Ss Cyril & Methodius <u>Confessions 11.00am – 11.50am</u>
Sunday 15 th February SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Maureen Gordon (4 th Ann.) Mary Cave (RIP) Canon Robert Spence (RIP) Mary & Eddy Kieley (SO)	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mas Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed

OUR LADY'S LAMP This week the lamp is lit in loving memory of Mary Hatton (30 th Ann. 14/2) Rest in Peace	SACRED HEART LAMP This week the lamp is lit in loving memory of Bernard Sharkey (1 st Ann.) Rest in Peace	ST CARLO ACUTIS'S LAMP This week the lamp is lit for Rose for healing	OFFERINGS WEEKEND 1 st February 2026 SJ £1810.16 HF £425.71 Many Thanks
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Shining Example

We often hear people proclaim that their faith is a very private affair, something strictly between themselves and God. Of course there's a place for private worship, but at the end of the day, what good is a religious conviction that rarely impacts others and fails to make the world a better place?

Today Jesus tells us that if we live by our faith we will become 'the salt of the earth' and the 'light of the world'. How wonderful to be worthy of such compliments, but lest we get carried away, Jesus warns of us of the pitfalls. If the salt loses its taste it will become worthless, and if we hide the light beneath a bowl it will obviously fail to serve its purpose.

Why on earth would we hide a light underneath a bowl yet we do it all the time. We deny the salt and hide the light every time we keep our faith to ourselves. It isn't fashionable to be a Christian nowadays and hiding God's light gives us a get out clause. Hiding the light means we can choose the comfortable or the easy option. Hiding the light means ignoring someone who is alone, or suffering. Hiding the light means keeping quiet and erring on the side of popular opinion. Hiding the light means keeping quiet in the face of injustice or intolerance. Today we ask, "Are we guilty of practising our faith quietly and only when it's safe, or are we shining examples."

<i>Entrance Antiphon :</i>	<i>O come, let us worship God and how low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God</i>			
<i>Responsorial Psalm :</i>	<i>A light rises in the darkness for the upright.</i>			
<i>Gospel Acclamation :</i>	<i>Alleluia, alleluia. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia.</i>			
<i>Communion Antiphon:</i>	<i>Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.</i>			
Year A	Isaiah 58: 6-10	Psalm 111	1 Corinthians 2: 1-5	Matthew 5: 13-16

VALENTINE'S DAY

Next Saturday 14th February many people will be thinking of their loved ones and exchanging cards and giving and receiving gifts. Father Stephen would like to invite our widows and widowers to afternoon tea in the Parish Centre from 1.00 pm to remember with love and affection their loved ones. There will be a memory table so please bring a picture of your loved one being remembered.

FRANCIS HOUSE CHICKS

Once again this year, Father Stephen is asking any of our parish 'knitters' to knit little chicks which contains a chocolate surprise. These will be on sale later in Lent, price £2, and all money raised will go to Francis House.

ST JOSEPH & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Next Walk - Saturday 28th February Lyme Park, Disley Lanes with an optional further walk to The Bowstones. Meet at St Joseph's Car Park 9.15 for 9.30 departure. Should be back by 15.30 after the longer walk (10 miles 3 Boot) or earlier if returning immediately after the shorter walk (6 miles, 2 boot). Café available or bring packed lunch and be prepared for mud and weather! More details on poster in narthex or from St Joseph and Holy Family Walkers web site <https://sites.google.com/view/stjosephswalkers>

EVENING RETREAT & HEALING SERVICE

Fr Michael Payyapilly, a Vincentian, from the Divine Retreat Centre, Pantasaph will lead an evening service next Friday 13th February 6.00pm to 8.30pm at St Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Didsbury.

The session will include Praise & Worship, Holy Mass with extended homily and healing adoration.
All are welcome.

SIX BIBLE STUDIES ON THE LENTEN

SUNDAY GOSPELS

Mauro Lannicelli will break-open the forthcoming Lenten Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. Starts Tuesday 17th February at 7.00pm. Six consecutive Tuesdays 17 Feb / 24 Feb / 3 March / 10 March / 24 March. (7.00pm – 8.15pm)

Free of charge/ LIVE on You Tube.

Registration: comeandsee.org/lent26

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Josie Lowe and John Bell 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.

Death is not extinguishing the light.

It is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to the Church and Parish Community Emily Rose Roach who was baptised at St. Joseph's last weekend. We welcome Emily into the Church and commend her parents for passing on to her the Faith of the Apostles.

PRAY FOR PRIESTS

For February are now available at the back of church.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

is on Friday 27th February this year. Envelopes will be given out at masses on the weekend 21st to 22nd February and collected on weekend 28th February / 1st March.

To avoid a clash with the Brentwood Community Cafe, the CAFOD soup Lunch will be the week before, on Friday 20th February, which is half term.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

St Joseph's is very fortunate to have a great team of Readers for Sunday and weekday masses. But we can always do with more volunteers, especially from May 2026. Would you like to volunteer to read once or twice a month at the mass of your choice? You would be fully guided and supported in this very important contribution to the Mass.

To find out more please contact Kate Harper on 07831 209776 or speak to Fr Stephen.

SANDSTONE TRAIL

It has been a tradition every 2 years to organise a sponsored walk that follows The Sandstone Trail (32 miles: but you can do some or all!). A group of us are planning walk the trail this year on Saturday 23rd May.

We have chosen two extremely worthwhile charities to support: 1) **MND Association** is the largest motor neurone disease charity in the country. They support those living with this life limiting disease, campaign for better care and fund vital research "...because with MND, every day matters." 2) The SVP project in Sudan and South Sudan known to most of us as the **SVP Sudan Baby Feeding Program**. Dedicated volunteers are there to protect young children and their mothers from malnutrition in this region of chronic food shortage.

If anyone is interested in joining the walkers or the amazing team of marshals on the day; or if you would like more information about the walk or the charities, please email Fran frangrubert@gmail.com or phone 07958025886

SOUTH MANCHESTER CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS.

are currently planning a pilgrimage to Poland – provisional dates 17th – 21st April - and they are trying to gauge interest.

The pilgrimage is open to young adults aged 18–30.

If anyone is interested in learning more, please email us by next Saturday 14th February at: southmanccatholicyoungadults@gmail.com

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK – 11th February *Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes*

Pope Leo XIV's message for the World Day of the Sick 2026, entitled "*The compassion of the Samaritan: loving by bearing another's pain*",

To truly love means to stop, to draw near, and to care for those who suffer. Compassion, in fact, is not only a feeling but translates into concrete gestures and shared commitment, particularly towards the sick. Loving one's neighbour thus becomes a visible proof of love for God and implies a healthy and true way of loving oneself. In this perspective, caring for the sick and the most fragile is not an optional gesture, but one of the clearest signs of fidelity to the Gospel.

On this World Day of the Sick, Father Stephen will celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick during Mass on Wednesday at 7.00pm