



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

Mass Times and Intentions for – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 8th December 2024

Saturday 7 th November	6.00pm (Vigil)	Dennis Simmons (6 th Ann.)	
Sunday 8 th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Fernando Benedito Eleuterio (RIP) Brian (3 rd Ann.) & Kate (18 th Ann.) Lilley Brigid Killoran (Ann.) People of the Parish	Tea & coffee after 11.00am Mass SJ
Monday	12.00 pm	Peter Jackson (2 nd Ann.)	Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday	10.00 am HF 12 noon	Anthony Habis (Requiem) Michael Ryan (RIP)	Ferial 10.00am Adoration HF
Wednesday	9.15 am (Toy Mass)	Children in need	Ferial
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	John Fonseca (RIP) John Thomas Flynn (Ann.)	Ferial Tea & Toast after HF Mass
Friday	9.30 am	Alfred Boston (40 th Ann. 12.11)	St Lucy
Saturday 14 th December	12.00 noon 6.00pm (Vigil)	Peter Raftery (9 th Ann.) Maureen Mullarkey (20 th Ann.)	St John of the Cross
Sunday 15 th December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	The Kelly Family Patrick Power (6 th Ann. 7.12) Max Lammy (killed in car accident) People of the Parish	Tea & coffee after 11.00am Mass SJ

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment	SACRED HEART LAMP This week the lamp is lit for Mavis Flannery (20 th Ann. 13/12) RIP	OFFERINGS WEEKEND 1 st December 2024 SJ 1836.20 HF 440.75 Many Thanks
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Choose A Better Way

We are good at digging ourselves into holes. We dig ourselves deep into places from which we cannot climb back out. Suddenly there is no way back from an argument we've had with a relative or a friend. Perhaps we've said things that can't be retracted or we've heard something we can't forgive. Suddenly there is no way back to a simpler way of life because we've somehow managed to over complicate or over commit. Suddenly there is no way we can get back to feeling good about ourselves because we have made mistakes that seem impossible to rectify. Today John the Baptist points us in a better direction. He tells us "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made straight."

Preparing a way for God in our lives is no different from any other preparation. Before we go Christmas shopping we make a list of people we are going to buy for. Before we cook the Christmas dinner we make a list of what we are going to need right down from the turkey to the tin foil. So too when we plan to make better paths for God to work in our lives, we need to make a list of holes we need to dig ourselves out of, and how exactly we are going to fill them back in. The holes that were once filled with doubt and worry need to be filled with positive thoughts and fresh determination. The holes that kept us trapped in feelings of guilt and regret need to be filled with belief in God's forgiveness. Where once we struggled with overly burdened lives we now need to stop and refocus on what's important.

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 climb out of the holes we have dug and choose a better path.

Entrance Antiphon :	<i>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.</i>			
Responsorial Psalm :	<i>What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.</i>			
Gospel Acclamation :	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!</i>			
Communion Antiphon:	<i>Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.</i>			
Year C	Baruch 5: 1-9	Psalm 126	Philippians 1: 3-6. 8-11	Luke 3: 1-6

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

This weekend there will be a retiring collection at all Masses at Holy Family and St Joseph's towards the cost of the Christmas flowers.

We have a wonderful team of people who arrange the altar flowers each week and the Christmas flowers will undoubtedly be very special.

Thank you, in anticipation, for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS REPOSITORY

Don't forget to come along and have a look at all the Christmas cards, Advent Calendars, books, nativities, snow globes and 2025 diaries.

ADVENT TALKS

The second of the Advent Talks which coincide with the launch of the New Lectionary, at the Parish Hall, Holy Angels, Hale Barns, Altrincham at 7.00pm is this

Wednesday 11th December Fr Marco Egawhary a priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, he completed further studies at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. His talk will be on why it is important to pray with the scriptures and how to pray with them.

The third and final talk is

Wednesday 18th December Fr David Irwin priest of the Diocese of Shrewsbury and Natalie Orefice, Director of Evangelisation and Catechesis for the Diocese of Shrewsbury will present Dei Verbum on Divine Revelation from the Second Vatican Council. All are welcome to attend.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

After 17 years as headteacher of Holy Family School, Mrs Davison will be sadly leaving at the end of the academic year. She will continue to work with the Diocese as a Catholic Schools Inspector. We thank her for her hard work and dedication to the children of Holy Family School and wish her well in her new role.

CAFOD 40th CHRISTMAS FUN RUN/WALK

(3km & 5km) on Friday 27th December at "The Mystery" Wavertree Liverpool at 11.00am – If interested please contact Kieron 07785 344102 (posters in narthex/Parish Centre) – lifts can be provided. All walkers/runners welcome. Sponsorship will be collected nearer the time and collected after Christmas.

Help CAFOD help the poorest in communities around the world.

FAMILY ADVENT SERVICE

Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College invite you to their Family Advent service tomorrow

Monday 9th December at 6.00pm.

At St Vincent de Paul Parish Church, Altrincham. Refreshments and mince pies will be served after the service. See flyer in the narthex.

"O Come O Come Emmanuel, God is with us"

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

The recent Poppy Appeals from St Joseph's raised £535.75 and from Holy Family £75.14.

Thank you.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

1st – 5th June 2025, 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.

Booking forms are now available in the sacristy.

ADVENT 2024

Green sheets are available at the back of church with full details of all Masses and Parish events for Advent, Christmas and New Year. Please take one home.

PRAY FOR PRIESTS

for December are now available at the back of church

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP

The Holy Family Cafod Group will be serving mulled wine and mince pies after 10.00am Mass next **Sunday 15th December**. Everyone is welcome to join the group at this annual event.

SERVICE OF CAROLS & NINE READINGS

Monday 18th 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.

MICHAEL COUGHLAN R.I.P.

Father Michael writes... I, Mum & my brother Kevin would like to thank everyone who came for Dad's funeral, as well as for the many messages and cards which we have received. We obviously loved Dad & thought the world of him, it is good to know the impact he had on others as well. In particular I would like to thank Fr Stephen for his help, support & encouragement during this time. I would also like to thank everyone who helped with preparing the liturgy, the church or the reception after Dad's funeral. People's donations generously raised £308.42 which someone has pledged to match. This means that both CAFOD & Holy Family SVP conference will receive that amount. God Bless. Fr Michael.

ST JOSEPH'S & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Join us for our next walk along the Bridgewater Canal and to Walton Park next **Sunday 15th December**, with a family-friendly Treasure Hunt "Signs and Wonders".

We meet at St Joseph's at 1.15pm for 1.30pm departure. Walk is less than 3 miles and is a '1 boot' (suitable for pushchairs & wheelchairs). Return to St Josephs for 3.30pm for hot drinks and mince pies!

All welcome!

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.

MONEY COUNTERS REQUIRED

If you have a head for maths we are looking for you! We need 2 more volunteers to help out every six weeks to count the offertory donations. Calculators will be allowed! Form filling in is also part of the job, however, you will be given training by your team, do not be afraid. We're counting on you, please see Fr Stephen to sign up.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers Anthony Habis and Margaret Leigh 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.

CHILDRENS SAINTS CLUB

Today 8th December: 4.30 – 5.00pm. We look forward to celebrating the beautiful feast of the Immaculate Conception and listening to a very special story. email ilonaharrison@gmail.com for more information and the zoom link.