



ST JOSEPH'S and HOLY FAMILY

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

St Joseph's
140

Mass Times and Intentions for **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT** – 8th March 2026

Saturday 7th March	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Eileen Howells (Ann.)	
Sunday 8th March THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Sadie & John Bell (RIP) Mary McCann (RIP) Craig Plumb People of the Parish	Tea & at SJ after 11.00am Mas
Monday	12 noon 7.00 pm	Frank Evans (1st Ann.) Patrick Hanrahan (RIP)	Ferial
Tuesday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Joe Rooney (RIP) Clara D'Sa (RIP)	Ferial <u>Adoration 10.00am HF</u>
Wednesday	<u>9.15 am school</u> 7.00 pm	Pauline Delaney (RIP) Station Mass – St Hugh & St John Timperley	Ferial 6.00 pm – Confessions at St Hugh & St John
Thursday	9.30 am HF 12.00 noon	Phyllis Reynolds Ann Bradley (RIP)	Ferial
Friday	9.30 am 11.00 am 7.00 pm	Mary Hackland (1st Ann.) Patricia Monaghan (Requiem) Stations of the Cross	Ferial
Saturday 14th March	12.00 noon 6.00 pm (Vigil)	Mary Duffy (39th Ann.) Iris Makar (B'day Rem)	Ferial <u>Adoration at SJ and Confessions 11.00am – 11.50am</u>
Sunday 15th March FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT	9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Gerald Pickering (RIP) Father Paul O'Grady (B'day Rem.) Gabrielle Davis (1st Ann.) People of the Parish	Tea & coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass

OUR LADY'S LAMP This week the lamp is lit for World Peace	SACRED HEART LAMP This week the lamp is lit in loving memory of Raphael Kene (B'day Rem. 12 March)	ST CARLO ACUTIS'S LAMP This week the lamp is lit for all who are suffering with stress and anxiety	OFFERINGS WEEKEND 1 st March 2026 SJ £2049.44 HF £426.00 Many Thanks
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BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS.

“Are you hiding anything?” It’s an uncomfortable question that probably invites a heated denial from most of us; yet most of us are probably hiding something. We might be trying to shrug off a nagging guilt or an unforgiving sin. We might be trying to forget an episode in our lives where we behaved unwisely. We might be trying to cover up the agony of a failed relationship or putting a brave face on a lifetime of loneliness and rejection. How many of us are covering up weaknesses and flaws in our character? Most of us are trying to hide something, yet we would all acknowledge that burying something isn’t the best way to find healing or improvement.

The woman at the well in today’s gospel was struggling through life with a great deal of baggage. Firstly she was a woman with a lesser role in society, not only that, but a woman without a husband and to add insult to injury, a woman with a bad reputation. Secondly the woman was a Samaritan, a foreigner, and as such, regarded by most as a person to be avoided altogether. Jesus puzzles the woman. He is a man and he is a Jew, in other words, the very last person she would have expected to strike up a conversation. Life had taught the woman to expect something very different. Life had taught her to expect contempt and rejection. Is this why we keep our own failings under wraps? Do we, like the Samaritan woman expect our friends family and work mates to be unforgiving and uncompromising if they knew the real us? God’s love is like a sprinkler system spreading Christ’s unconditional life giving water without prejudice or judgement. Lent is the time to unravel all our hidden pain and set it before God. Lent is the time to take a leaf out of Jesus’ book, to see the pain in the lives of others and break down the barriers society has built.

<i>Entrance Antiphon :</i>	<i>My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.</i>
<i>Responsorial Psalm :</i>	<i>O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts.’</i>
<i>Gospel Acclamation :</i>	<i>Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God. Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world; give me living water so that I will not be thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.</i>
<i>Communion Antiphon:</i>	<i>For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.</i>

Year A

Exodus 17: 3-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8

John 4: 5-42

LENT 2026

During this Holy Season we shall have additional Masses, devotions and activities to help us focus our hearts and minds on the Passion and Death of Christ.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Lenten Adoration at Holy Family on a Tuesday at 10.00am and at St. Joseph's on Saturdays between 11.00am and 11.50am, during confessions.
Come and spend some quiet time.

ADDITIONAL MASS

Father Stephen is celebrating an additional Mass on the Mondays of Lent at 7.00pm at St. Joseph's.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays, 7.00pm at St Joseph's.

This week the Stations of the Cross are for World Peace

ST JOSEPH'S LENTEN ROSARY GROUP

All welcome to join a rosary group during the Fridays of Lent from at 11.45am in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Praying the rosary for peace and any personal intentions. For further information, please contact Patricia Nugent 07788 764039 or Trish Morgan 07759081273

STATIONS MASSES AROUND THE DEANERY

Each Wednesday in Lent Mass will be celebrated in a different parish around the Deanery. Mass will be at 7.00pm with an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6.00pm with Adoration. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

Dates as follows:

Wednesday 11 th March	St Hugh & St John Timperley
Wednesday 18 th March	Holy Family, Sale Moor
Wednesday 25 th March	Sacred Heart & St Peter Wythenshawe

CHILDREN'S LITURGY DURING LENT

During Lent the Children's Liturgy will continue as normal at 11.00am Mass. There will be special liturgies on Mothering Sunday— next Sunday 15th March and Children's Way of the Cross at 11.00am on Good Friday. All children are welcome to participate.

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. He says 'thank you' for the chicks received to date. These will be on sale at Holy Family on Sunday 22nd March after 10.00am Mass when tea and coffee will be served. They will be on sale at St Joseph's at all Masses on Palm Sunday – 29th March, price £2
All money raised will go to Francis House.

SIX BIBLE STUDIES ON THE LENTEN

SUNDAY GOSPELS

Mauro Lannicelli continues to break-open the Lenten Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions this Tuesday 10th March at 7.00pm. Free of charge/ LIVE on You Tube. Registration: comeandsee.org/len26

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION - MARCH

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence

SACRED HEART, OUR LADY AND ST CARLO ACUTIS LAMPS

There are several weeks free for each of these lamps which burn from Sunday to Sunday. Lamps can be lit for a special intention or in memory of a loved relative or friend. Please fill in the week in the relative file in the sacristy. A donation of £5 is requested.

SVP TEA AND COFFEE AT HOLY FAMILY

The SVP at Holy Family will be offering tea and coffee after 10.00am Mass today. We would like to say thank you for the support of friends and encourage others to think about joining our small conference.

HOLY THURSDAY – WASHING OF THE FEET

There is a list in the sacristy with the various groups in the parishes. Father Stephen asks that a representative from each group, who is happy to have their feet washed at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, adds their name to the relevant group on the list

CHILDREN'S WAY OF THE CROSS

Will take place at 11.00am on Good Friday. If any child in the parish (Reception and above) would like to take part, please email Alison Macdonald – ali.macdonald.937@gmail.com with your child's name, age and a contact phone number. Names will be needed by Monday 30th March. After the performance, there will be lunch for the children in the parish centre, along with various arts and crafts activities.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new Offertory Envelopes are now available in the narthex at St. Joseph's & Holy Family.

GIFT AID: If you are in the scheme and are no longer paying tax or, alternatively, if you wish to join the scheme please contact our Planned Giving organisers Anne Stanley on 973 9159 for St. Joseph's and Veronica Saunders on 973 3773 for Holy Family

ST JOSEPH & HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Next Walk – Today Sunday 8 March 2026
Marple (A Walk of Two Rivers and a Canal)
Meet at St Joseph's Car Park at 1.00pm for 1.15pm depart. Should be back to St Joseph's for 5.00pm
Distance: 5 miles. Fairly easy walk led by:

Anne Marie Morris 07423770565
More details on poster in narthex or from St Joseph and Holy Family Walkers website
<https://sites.google.com/view/stjosephswalkers>

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers
Una McDermott, Patricia Monaghan, Bernadette Muldoon, Bernard Murphy and Mary Grace (Grainne) McCann 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.

SAINTS' CLUB FOR CHILDREN

Today Sunday 8th March, 4.30 pm - 5.00 pm
Celebrating the month of St Joseph - March - with a new book, new stories and new testimonies.
Email Ilona Harrison on
ilonaharrison19@gmail.com for the zoom link.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026

Tuesday 9th June – Tuesday 16th June 2026, staying at the Hotel Padoue which is central to the Dômain. Full board. The cost is £949, sharing a room or £1119 for single occupancy. Full liturgical programme, including Holy Mass, every day.

If you are intending to go on the Pilgrimage please send completed forms (available in the sacristy at St Joseph's) as soon as possible direct to Northern Star with a deposit of £300 per person.

The hotel are asking for numbers.

PRAY FOR PRIESTS

for March are available at the back of church.