



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 - EASTER SUNDAY - 9th April 2023

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| Saturday 8 th April | <u>8.00 pm</u> | People of the Parish | |
| Sunday 9 th April EASTER SUNDAY | 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm | Thomas Hogan (RIP) Joseph & Helen Riley Chris Howell (RIP) May Lardner & son Jon Lardner | ALLELUIA THE LORD IS RISEN Tea & Coffee at SJ after 11.00am Mass |
| Monday EASTER MONDAY | <u>10.00 am</u> | Thanksgiving – Prayers answered (V O'H) | Monday of the Easter Octave Refreshments after Mass |
| Tuesday | 9.30 am HF 12.00 noon | Fr. David Peters (1 st Ann.) Teresa Fahy (RIP) | Tuesday of the Easter Octave |
| Wednesday | 9.30 am <u>12.00 noon</u> | James Monaghan (3 rd Ann.) Mary McAndry (Requiem) | Wednesday of the Easter Octave |
| Thursday | <u>11.00 am</u> 12.00 noon | Christine O'Dwyer (Requiem) Afra Collaso (RIP) | Thursday of the Easter Octave |
| Friday | 9.30 am | Joan Smith (RIP) | Friday of the Easter Octave |
| Saturday 15 th April | 12.00 noon <u>1.30 pm</u> | Henry Keogh (3 rd Ann.) Katherine Ali & Will Grimwade (Wedding) | Saturday of the Easter Octave |
| Sunday 16 th April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER | 6.00 pm (Vigil) 9.00 am 10.00 am HF 11.00 am 5.30 pm | Brendan Ronan Pat Nash (1 st Ann.) Fr. David Peters (RIP) People of the Parish Patricia Johnson (RIP) | DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY |

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| SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION 11.00am – 11.50am Saturdays or by appointment | SACRED HEART LAMP In birthday remembrance of Louisa Mary Woolley. (4.4.1889) RIP | OFFERINGS WEEKEND 2 nd April 2023 SJ £1932.22 HF £399.65 |
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Life Without End

Belief in the resurrection is essential to our faith, yet the account of Jesus' resurrection, or rather the lack of it, leaves us as confused as the original disciples. We've been left with a puzzle with pieces missing, a story with an important part untold. As Christians we are reminded that religion is ultimately a faith not a science. Our human search for certainty urges us to try and work out who moved the stone, but at this point all we can do is put the resurrection into the context of the rest of Jesus' life and teachings. We have to trust that everything Jesus has told us is true, and that the resurrection is not just an invention to give a tragic story a happy ending, but the realisation of the promises Jesus made all along. Jesus promised all along that death couldn't contain us, and the empty tomb points to this not necessarily as proof, but as truth. So how do we find that trust that everything Jesus has told us is true? First of all we have to develop a toolbox of faith, trust, and intuition. Christians are accused of propping up impossible and improvable theories with blind faith. If this were true the accusers would have a point, but true faith runs deeper than this. We all use faith in every walk of life and we all need trust. People of faith are people who can push boundaries and take brave steps into the unknown. People of trust recognise possibilities in others and in themselves. People of intuition recognise integrity and truth. Anais Nin said, "We don't see things as they are, we see things as we are." "What you believe sets a course for your future and directs your daily activities. Consequently, when you believe only what you can see, a whole world of possibility is lost." The empty tomb gives our life purpose. Belief in the resurrection means we can live life boldly and well, looking forward to eternal life. The empty tomb gives us a means to deal with pain and suffering, it means that death is not a meaningless end of life, but the door to the fullness of life with the risen Christ.

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| Entrance Antiphon : | <i>I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.</i> | | | |
| Responsorial Psalm : | <i>This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.</i> | | | |
| Gospel Acclamation : | <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord, Alleluia!</i> | | | |
| Communion Antiphon: | <i>Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.</i> | | | |
| Year A | Acts 10: 34. 37-43 | Psalm 117 | Colossians 3: 1-4 | John 20: 1-9 |

HAPPY EASTER

Father Woolley and Deacon John wish you all a very happy and holy Easter.

We are the Easter people and Alleluia is our song! I would like to thank all our servers and readers on whom a lot of the responsibility for the presentations of the services depends. Thanks, too, to the readers of the passion, the 12 'apostles' who volunteered to have their feet washed, and the ushers who helped to keep the movement of the congregation around the church flowing easily.

We are most grateful to the church cleaners who, on a week-to-week basis, do a magnificent job to keep the church clean and tidy. Thanks, too, to our florists who have made the churches look so beautiful.

I also need to thank all those in the back office who have been responsible for getting all the leaflets ready for Holy Week. Special thanks to all our musicians and singers for uplifting the liturgy over holy week and Easter.

The success of Holy Week depends on so many people cooperating together to help all of us take part in the unique ceremonies that take us through the last days of Christ, his passion, suffering, death and resurrection. Thank you to all.

A Blessed Easter to you all! *Father Stephen Woolley*

THE PASCHAL CANDLE - THE PILLAR OF FIRE

What is this great paschal candle that stands in our midst, which during the Fifty Days of Easter seems always to be burning, and never to go out?

It is the pillar of fire by which God led the children of Israel from slavery to freedom, through the dusty desert to the land flowing with milk and honey.

Behind it, we marched freed from sin from the gloom of exile back into our church's house on Easter's eve.

- *With it, we led those chosen for the sacraments of new life to the font of baptism that is both tomb and womb. It is the holy sign of Christ our Light. (Thanks be to God!)*
- *On it, we traced the sign of Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, the alpha and omega.*
- *Into it, we pressed five jewels that are the wounds of divine hands and feet and side.*
- *For it, we sang our song of consecration and praise: "Accept, O God, this Easter candle. Let it shine with the lights of heaven and bravely burn forever!"*
- *From it, we take our own light, a flame divided but undimmed. All who are baptized walk in its glow.*

For fifty days it shines gloriously in the assembly of the church. Then, held in a place of honour near the font, it is brought out and lit for every evening sacrifice of praise, for every baptism and every funeral, every birth and every birth unto eternal life. And as the days and seasons turn, slowly this pillar of finest wax and strongest wick is consumed, burned down, eaten up by fire, sacrificed – like Christ himself – and never truly extinguished. And, so it measures our days and seasons until it is Easter again, until once more we sing in the light of a new paschal candle:
Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

NOT JUST EASTER SUNDAY

The Easter Season isn't just Easter Sunday. It's fifty days long, and the last of those days is Pentecost (Greek for 'fiftieth') marking the birth of the Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. In older traditions, it's called 'Whitsunday' because the traditional colour for church clothing and decor on Pentecost is white. On that day the Holy Spirit arrives to be with us, and that Spirit sends a fresh wave of joy. During these fifty days of Easter, while we are singing alleluia to our Risen Saviour, we are also listening to the stories of the struggles and hardships of the early followers of Jesus.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Father Stephen would like to wish Kathleen Walker a very happy birthday. Kathleen celebrated her 100th birthday on 7th April! He was very pleased that he was able to make a quick visit on the day itself, Good Friday.

MANCHESTER MARATHON

is next Sunday 16th April and, once again, access to St. Joseph's and Holy Family will be affected by road closures. There are route maps on the noticeboard in the narthex or visit

<https://www.manchestermarathon.co.uk/route/road-closure-info/>

HOUSE BLESSINGS

It is a long held tradition of the Church to bless the homes of parishioners with the Easter water. If you would like your home blessed in the Easter season please contact Father Stephen.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Father Stephen is delighted to say the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land will go ahead between 23 and 30 September 2024. The cost of the pilgrimage for a week will be in the region of £1800 per person. If you are interested and would like more information please sign the Holy Land form in the sacristy at St Joseph's.

An information meeting for all who are interested will be held Friday 21st April at 7.30pm in St. Joseph's Parish Centre, including a dvd presentation of the sites visited on the pilgrimage.

CAFOD & SMILE TRAIN – FATHER STEPHEN'S BIKE RIDE

Father Stephen has not completed his 150 miles, as yet, due to bad weather and an increased & busy workload.

He intends to complete as soon as possible during the Easter Season. Thank you to all who have sponsored him and you can pay now or wait until he has completed it!

HOLY FAMILY FOOD BANK

Holy Family recently held tea and coffee after Mass in aid of the Foodbank for Easter. The total raised was £145 + 3 bags of shopping. Thank you for your generosity.

ST JOSEPH'S AND HOLY FAMILY WALKERS

Next walk on Sunday 23rd April 2023 is a 2-boot walk of about 4.5 miles on mostly good paths in Cutacre Country Park near Little Hulton (not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs, although it can be adjusted to be so). Meet at

St Joseph's Church Car Park, Sale, 1.00pm for 1.15pm departure. Return: expected at St Joseph's about 4.30pm. For more information and contact details please see the website www.stjosephswalkers.org.uk or email sjhfwalkers@gmail.com

COMMENDED TO GOD

We hold in loving memory and prayers **Des Ashe, Christine O'Dwyer, Mary McAndry, James McCall, Anthony Hamilton and Eileen Nolan** who have died recently. May they rest in peace.

We extend to their families and friends our deepest sympathy at this sad and extremely difficult time.

URBI ET ORBI

Easter Sunday BBC 1

On the tenth Easter of his pontificate, Pope Francis gives his Easter message and blessing, Urbi et Orbi – to the city and to the world. Today, Sunday 9th April at 11.00am.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

This special celebration will be held next Sunday 16 April at Holy Angels Church, Hale Barns. Church will be open from 1.30pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be from 2.00pm and Confessions from 2.00pm. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be read at 3pm and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated at 3.30pm.