

## St Joseph's RC Church

Tatton Street, St Petersgate, Stockport, SK1 1EJ

Tel: 0161 480 3164 Parish Email: [stockportshrine@gmail.com](mailto:stockportshrine@gmail.com)

[www.stjosephsrcchurchstockport.org.uk](http://www.stjosephsrcchurchstockport.org.uk) / [www.eucharisticshrine.com](http://www.eucharisticshrine.com)

Parish Priest: Fr Sean Davidson [frseandavidson@gmail.com](mailto:frseandavidson@gmail.com)

**23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lent Year C**

### Mass Times and Intentions:

Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	5pm	Fr Sean Flannery RIP
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lent Year C</i>	9.30am (with Children's Liturgy) 11.30am (with Gregorian Chant)	Madge Garrigan RIP People of the Parish
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Dorothy Whelan RIP
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	12 noon	FCHT
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	For all of our Benefactors
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	David Sonny Whelan RIP
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Mrs Gubay
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	5pm	SHM
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lent Year C</i>	9.30am (with Children's Liturgy) 11.30am (with Gregorian Chant)	Sean Left People of the Parish

Daily Schedule	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mass	12 noon	5pm	9.30am (with children's liturgy) 11.30am (with Gregorian Chant)
Eucharistic Adoration	7am-9pm		
Confessions	11am-11.45am	4pm-4.45pm	On request
Rosary for Vocations	11.20am		11am

### Easter Services 2025

Maundy Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Good Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Vigil 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April
7pm	3pm and Stations of the Cross at 7pm	8.30pm	9.30am and 11.30am

**We pray for our sick:** Jacobi Hill, Maddie Makonyola, Maria Sandiford, Jane Coupes, John McCormick, Michael Philbin, Linda Abel, Ged Gibbons, Robyn Gibbons, Cora Tierney, Mary O'Brien, Laurie Glenn, Carmel Mayo, Anthony Healey, Margaret Runcieman, Ron Runcieman, Doreen Rowan, Mary McTigue, Oliver Gilsean, Michael John Ford, Roy Curran, Marion Williams, Celia Meehan, Nathan Hatfield, Angela Mullin, Keith Morris, Pat Morris, Lesley Morris, Maureen McGuire, Rosemarie Hurley, Bobby Henshall, Tony Kiely. **Anniversaries:** We remember all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Recently Deceased:** We pray for all those who have died recently.

**Mass Intentions:** Envelopes are available at the back of the church if you would like to request a Mass said for your intentions. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note we are approx 8 months behind. If you require a specific date, we will try our best to do that date or as near it as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

**Money Matters:** In February we received: £1798.68 in the loose plate collection, £902.92 in gift aid envelopes, £1314.00 in Standing Orders, £925.18 in online giving, and £1384.85 in donations. We also collected £283.40 for CAFOD last week. Thank you very much.

**Thank You** to everyone who came along to the Celebration Evening for St Patrick and St Joseph. It was a grand event and £1,424.30 was made on the night. Please look out for the next fundraising event.

**Family Faith and Fun Days:** St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine is hosting Family Faith and Fun Days, starting 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The days will start at 1.30pm, followed by adult and children faith study plus fun activities for the children, adults can join in, the day will end at 4pm after Guided Eucharistic Adoration. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Fr Sean via email [stockportshrine@gmail.com](mailto:stockportshrine@gmail.com)

**Lily for the Altar** Envelopes will be at the back of Church for your donation for a Lily for our Easter flower display.

**Movie Night: THIS WEDNESDAY** 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the parish hall. Servant of God, Sr Clare Crockett, was a normal young girl who grew up in an abnormal environment. Born in the 1980s, in Northern Ireland, her childhood was lived like any other child's but with the backdrop of the 'Troubles'. Clare was the original 'Derry Girl', full of joy and mischief. She loved to party. Then, in one miraculous moment, her life was turned upside down and inside out. God spoke, and Clare answered! Come along on Wednesday night to watch Clares story as told by those who knew her best. This is followed by an opportunity to ask questions of Stephen Gallagher a childhood acquaintance of Clare. All welcome.

**St Joseph's Football Tournament:** Calling all football fans we need you! We are holding a Football Tournament on Bank Holiday Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to raise much needed restoration funds. Will you play or support your parish and put forward a team? Each parish will need 7 players (Male Adults only\*) including the parish priest, 1 referee, and 3+ stewards willing to help support on the day. The event will be held at Cheadle Catholic School in Cheadle Hulme. This is an event for all the family with drink refreshments, an inflatable, face painting etc.. What better way to spend a Bank Holiday supporting your parish. We are hoping to have a team from St Joseph's. If you are willing to play/help in any way please let us know [stockportshrine@gmail.com](mailto:stockportshrine@gmail.com) . *NOTE: \*We have requested male only players for the following reasons: 1) Most teams will include the priest so we wish to respect that the priesthood is a male only vocation. 2) Mixed gender teams may cause more reserved play. Single sex players will level the playing field, so that any tackles will be fair. We of course welcome any female referees and stewards that wish to volunteer.*

**Remembrance Book:** If you wish an entry in the remembrance book, please complete a remembrance book form (on the table in the hall). Please record **in print** the name, date of death of the person you wish to remember, your own name and contact number. Please allow time for the entry to be made for your requested anniversary of death. A small donation is usually made, if possible, to St Joseph's parish. Thank you Rosetta Mason.

**Lent Series of Talks** on Faith, Hope and Love with Mrs Natalie Orefice and Fr David Irwin at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Hope Rd, Sale M33 3BF. At 7pm on 25<sup>th</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April. The evening will conclude with Adoration and Compline. For Further details please contact Natalie Orefice [Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) or 07730 526826.

**Friday March 28th at 7pm. Venue \_ Our Lady and the Apostles, Shaw Heath, SK3 8BQ.** The Stations of the Cross will use a new set of reflections by local author, Brenda Ackroyd, "Jesus Speaks on the Way of the Cross". Afterwards, in the Parish Centre, along with tea/coffee and a chat; there will be a book launch and sale of the New Stations, as well as Brenda's others (one of stories and one of poems on religious themes). All are welcome. Proceeds from the evening will be donated to Fr Martin's Outreach Project.

**Footsteps:** The next event in the Footsteps programme of helpful talks will be on Thursday 3 April at 7.30pm in the parish centre of St Peter's Hazel Grove. The Bishop of Stockport, +Sam Corley will talk on "God's big picture", taking us on a whirlwind tour of the entire Bible, helping us to meet some of its key characters and to understand the significance of key events. Footsteps is for everyone of all denominations and walks of life. You will be very welcome in our informal, café-style setting with drinks nibbles; free car park, good disabled access.

**Diocesan Mass for Marriage:** The 2025 Diocesan Mass for Marriage will be held at 12 noon on Saturday 21st June at Holy Angels, Hale Barns, followed by a buffet lunch for invited guests. Parishioners celebrating a significant marriage anniversary can apply for an invitation from the Bishop's Office through Fr Sean.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** bookings for the 2025 Jubilee Pilgrimage to Lourdes are now open. The brochure and booking forms are available to download from the Pilgrimage website [www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk)

**Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality:** There will be an informal meeting on Wed 9 April at 7pm, in St Columba's, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA to reflect on the role and purpose of the Hospitality, with a view to developing a more unified vision. All members are welcome. Please email [secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk](mailto:secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk) if you would like to attend. **Also** You are invited by Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality to join them in prayer, saying the Rosary together via Zoom on Wednesdays during Lent . Details from [secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk](mailto:secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk)

**Vacancy Loreto Sixth Form College:** is seeking to appoint a teacher of Core Religious Education/Chaplaincy Support. Core RE has centrally planned resources and is not an examined subject, there are no formal assessments and no significant marking commitments. As a Core RE teacher, your unique role will be to develop students spiritually, ethically and theologically. For more information, please go to <https://www.loreto.ac.uk/vacancies/>

**Vacancy:** for a Parish Secretary at the parishes of St Vincent's, Knutsford and St Winefride, Lymm (Based at St Vincent's). 12hours per week. Rate: £13 per hour. [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/) CV's with a covering letter sent to Pauline McCulloch [recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Closing date: 31/03/25.

**Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN)** is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales. Please share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at [csan.org.uk/news/family/survey](http://csan.org.uk/news/family/survey), where you'll also find further information about the survey. The survey will close on 25th March.

**Lourdes by Jumbulance:** Wirral and Chester Across Groups are again travelling to Lourdes by Jumbulance in 2025. The dates are Thu 15th to Sat 14th May and Thu 14th to Sat 23rd August. The Jumbulance is literally a Jumbo-Ambulance, with seven beds on board, an accessible toilet and kitchen. The journey overland takes about 21 hours. There are vacancies for a Doctor (in May), a nurse on each Group and helpers. There are vacancies for sick and disabled pilgrims. In the past we have taken people with MND, MS, COPD, various cancers, heart disease, etc and we have the facilities to care on the Jumbulance and in the Hotel. The cost is £1,360 which **includes Travel Insurance**. Nurses and those under 25 in FTE are asked to pay £660. For further information, please contact Tony Murphy on 07881-656-974 or email [tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk)

**South Manchester Catholic Young Adults** group is for young adults in the area aged 18-35. We meet fortnightly on Saturdays at St Vincent's, Altrincham, starting with 17:30 mass. We then have Adoration, a talk and a social at Westleigh. For more information email: [southmanccatholicyoungadults@gmail.com](mailto:southmanccatholicyoungadults@gmail.com) Our upcoming meets are: March 29th, April 5th and 26th and May 10th and 31st. We hope to see you there!

**Divine Mercy and St Michael Retreat:** Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 2pm-3.30pm Birkenhead Carmelite Monastery, Grosvenor Place, Birkenhead, Prenton, CH43 1UA. Led by Fr Matthew Szerszen CSMA. There will be talks about 'The Miracle of Mercy' and 'St Michael the Archangel the great warrior of heaven'. For more information contact [noreenbavister@btinternet.com](mailto:noreenbavister@btinternet.com) also see Poster at back of church.

**Jubilee Prayer:** Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

**First Reading, Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15:** In those days: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, 'I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.' When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' And he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.' Then Moses said to God, 'If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And he said, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "I AM has sent me to you." ' God also said to Moses, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** *The LORD is compassionate and gracious.*

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12:** I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Gospel - Luke 13:1-9:** There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, 'Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.' And he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vine dresser, "Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?" And he answered him, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig round it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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**The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March:** For families in crisis: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

**Prayer to St Joseph:** *St. Joseph, just and true, with a father's care you raised the child Jesus, and with a husband's love, you shared your life with Mary, his mother. I entrust myself to your care and place in your hands this request of mine (mention intention). In quiet Nazareth, long ago, the Holy Spirit spoke to your heart and you followed God's will with wonderful faith. In the quiet of my days, and in the hard choices I must make, help me follow the Spirit's guidance and believe when I cannot see. Amen*

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**Parish Safeguarding Representative is:** Rosemary Linnane. *If you have any concerns about safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, please contact Rosemary in the strictest confidence. Details are on the noticeboards in church and the parish hall.*