

St Joseph's RC Church

Tatton Street, St Petersgate, Stockport, SK1 1EJ

Tel: 0161 480 3164 Parish Email: stockportshrine@gmail.com

www.stjosephsrcchurchstockport.org.uk / www.eucharisticshrine.com

Parish Priest: Fr Sean Davidson frseandavidson@gmail.com

30th March 2025 – 4th Sunday Lent Year C

Mass Times and Intentions:

Saturday 29 th	5pm	SHM
Sunday 30 th 4 th Sunday Lent Year C	9.30am (with Children's Liturgy) 11.30am (with Gregorian Chant)	Sean Left People of the Parish
Monday 31 st	12 noon	Margaret Conway
Tuesday 1 st	12 noon	For all of our Benefactors
Wednesday 2 nd	12 noon	Martin Sweeney RIP
Thursday 3 rd	12 noon	Private Intention
Friday 4 th	12 noon	For all those in our Remembrance Book
Saturday 5 th	5pm	Catherine Demsey RIP
Sunday 6 th 5 th Sunday Lent Year C	9.30am (with Children's Liturgy) 11.30am (with Gregorian Chant)	The Kiely Family 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 th April	Good Friday 18 th April	Easter Vigil 19 th April	Easter Sunday 20 th 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: We received £706.27 in the collection last weekend. Thank you very much.

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

St Joseph's Men's Football Tournament: we are organising a football tournament to raise funds for the ongoing, much needed, restoration works here at St Joseph's. We now need YOU players, referees and stewards. This will be held on Bank Holiday Monday 26th May 2025 at Cheadle Catholic School in Cheadle Hulme. What better way to spend a Bank Holiday – bring a picnic and support your parish. If you are willing to play/help in any way please let us know stockportshrine@gmail.com

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.

Agnus Dei Faith and Fellowship - parish group dedicated to delving deeper into the truths of the Catholic faith. Including: prayer, adoration, study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Old and New Testament of the Bible and practical suggestions for everyday living of the faith, while forming friendships and developing an understanding of Jesus Christ Our Lord. Wednesdays at 7pm in the parish hall. Any queries please contact: laura.wilson448@gmail.com

Lent Series of Talks the final talk on Faith, Hope and Love with Mrs Natalie Orefice and Fr David Irwin will take place at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Hope Rd, Sale M33 3BF at 7pm on 1st April. The evening will conclude with Adoration and Compline. For Further details please contact Natalie Orefice Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or 07730 526826.

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.

Supporting the Vocation to Marriage & Family Life: Calling all those interested in supporting the vocation of marriage and family to join Jane Deegan Director of Marriage and Family Life Vocation for a retreat day to find out more about this important work and the various different ways you can help. When: 7 June 2025 9.30am-4.00pm Where: Parish Hall, Holy Angels Church, Wicker Lane, Hale Barnes WA15 0HG To Register and for More Information please contact: Monika at monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07549226794 or Jane at jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07517 906435

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

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 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

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/>

TERMINALLY ILL ADULTS (END OF LIFE) BILL – YOUR URGENT ACTION IS NEEDED: In November 2024, MPs voted by 330 to 275 to give MP Kim Leadbeater's Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill a second reading. The Bill is now being scrutinised by a Committee of MPs, followed by Report stage, with MPs given another chance to vote at Third Reading towards the end of April (possibly 25th). IT NEEDS JUST 30 MPS TO CHANGE THEIR VOTE TO DEFEAT THE BILL SO WHAT CAN WE DO? Many MPs have already said that they could change their vote if they are not satisfied with the details of this bill. Even if you have already contacted your MP there is an urgent need to lobby your MP to reject the Bill at Third Reading. You can do this by: Lobbying your MP in person (the most impactful campaign action one can take) Writing to your MP (if you can write a personal letter to your MP this will be more powerful than an email). If your MP voted for the Leadbetter Bill in November, it is especially important that you contact them. During the second reading debate, many MPs said they would change their vote if they weren't satisfied with the safeguards, or if particular changes weren't made. The Lives Worth Living campaign provides lots of resources and advice to help you to understand the Bill and tips for raising your concerns effectively with your MP in person or in writing. You can find this material at <https://spuc.org.uk/campaign/assistedsuicideuk/> Please use your right as constituents to make your voices heard!

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/ CV's with a covering letter sent to Pauline McCulloch 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, 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

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 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 2nd 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 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.

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.

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12: In those days: The LORD said to Joshua, ‘Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.’ While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Responsorial Psalm: *Taste and see that the LORD is good.*

2 Corinthians 5:17-21: Brothers and Sisters: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ; God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Gospel Acclamation: I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you’.

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32: At that time: The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, ‘This man receives sinners and eats with them.’ So he told them this parable: ‘There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.” And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. ‘But when he came to himself, he said, “How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” ‘And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.” And they began to celebrate. ‘Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.” But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, “Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!” And he said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”’

The Holy Father’s Prayer Intention for April: For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

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*
