



St. Joseph's, Stockport

# THE ST. JOSEPH'S NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART FATHERS

Fr. Jim Matthews, scj, Fr Blaise Nsangou, scj Deacon Terry Simms.

The R.C. Diocese of Shrewsbury is registered charity No 234025

St Joseph's R.C. Church Tatton Street, St. Petersgate, Stockport, SK1 1EJ /  
0161 480 3164

NO: 19/36

31 May 2020

**Pentecost  
Sunday**

## SACRED HEART FATHERS JUNE - A MONTH OF PRAYER

Throughout the month of **June**, Fr John Gaul, scj, will celebrate Mass each day for your intentions in the chapel at his residence, in the company of Brother Richard Moran, scj .

Please list your intentions and pop them through the letter box either at St Joseph's Presbytery, Tatton Street, or at 266 Wellington Road North, Stockport, SK4 2QR Thank you.

**NATIONAL ROSARY RALLY Pentecost Sunday - May 31st** Pope Francis has encouraged Catholics to pray the Rosary in their family homes during the month of May, especially when the Pandemic brought families together at home. He has encouraged the simple praying of the Rosary and also joining online Rosary initiatives to ask Our Lady to pray with us for deliverance from Covid-19 and he composed two prayers for this intention.

On this Feast of Pentecost, Bishop Mark Davies invites us to join in an initiative that follows on the Pope's request, the Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally, from 9.00am to 9.00pm across Scotland England and Wales. Our Shrewsbury Diocese has been asked to pray a Rosary Hour at 2.00 pm. **Bishop Mark warmly invites us to take part anytime between 2 and 3 o'clock.** Bishop John Keenan of St Mirin's Cathedral, Paisley, will lead a final Rosary at 9pm to which all are invited.

**Masses streamed live:** St Peter's, 12 pm weekdays, 10 am Sunday  
[www.churchservices.tv/stockport](http://www.churchservices.tv/stockport)  
Our Lady's: 9.30 am weekdays; 11 am Sunday.  
[www.churchservices.tv/ourladystockport](http://www.churchservices.tv/ourladystockport)  
St Anthony's, Wythenshawe <http://wythcc.co.uk>.  
Macclesfield: [stalbanlivestream.html](http://stalbanlivestream.html).  
<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/>  
<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>  
<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online>

**At the moment all our churches are closed for the benefit of others and stopping infection.**

### Private MASSES at St Joseph's 31 May - 7 June 2020

Celebrated by Fr Blaise and Fr Jim in church or Presbytery Oratory.

SUN	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	<b>5.00pm Vigil</b>	People of the Parish	<b>11.30</b>	Gilhooly family RIP
MON	<b>Mary, Mother of the Church</b>	<b>11</b>	Mary Matthews Virtual Requiem Mass	<b>7.30 pm</b>	Bernadette Matthews Ints
TUE	Ferial	<b>12 Noon</b>	Rosamund Elaine Dawson - Rec Dec	<b>7.30 pm</b>	Bernadette and Alastair Taylor Ints
WED	<b>St Charles Lwanga &amp; Companions</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	Mary Catherine Devine MM	<b>7.30 pm</b>	Mary Kirkham RIP
THU	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ The Eternal High Priest</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	Francis Kenny - Anniversary	<b>7.30 pm</b>	Fr Seamus Jones - Anniversary
FRI	<b>St Boniface</b>	<b>12 Noon</b>	Book of Remembrance	<b>7.30 pm</b>	Deceased SCJs / Vocations
SAT	Ferial	<b>12 noon</b>	Matthew Matthews – Mary Halpenny 01-06-1938		
SUN	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>	<b>5.00</b>	People of the Parish	<b>11.30</b>	Deacon Brian McCarthy Recently Deceased

**Pray for the Sick of the Parish:** Bernadette Matthews, Martin Harris, Bernadette Taylor, Margaret Slattery, Clare Graham and Margaret Wooley (both nee Kenny), Gerard Kenny, Margaret Edwards, Vera Henderson, Tina Labella, James Hayward, Alan Gell, Eleanor Mulvey, Betty McIntosh.  
**Anniversaries:** Fr Seamus Jones, scj, Francis Kenny.  
**Lately Dead:** Mary Matthews, Rosamund Elaine Dawson, Deacon Brian McCarthy (Northenden), Patrick Moore.

### Part of the Mother of God Local Pastoral Area in Stockport

*Stepping Hill Hospital Chaplaincy* – phone 419.5889 for request for Holy Communion.

*Catholic Chaplaincy In Emergency:* page 483 1010 / ask for Catholic

### **Mary Matthews RIP**

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Mary Matthews, Fr Jim's sister-in-law, who died on Friday evening, following a long illness. We pray for her husband Cyril and their children: Alan, Jean-Marie, Graham, Mark and Emma, the 10 grandchildren, daughters-in-law and son-in-law. We pray for Mary and Cyril's remaining siblings and extended families. It is hoped that the Requiem Mass will be on Monday at 11.00, with probably just 10 family members present. May she Rest In Peace.

### **Deacon Brian McCarthy RIP**

Bishop Mark informed us last weekend of the sad news of the death of Deacon Brian McCarthy. Deacon Brian died in Salford Royal Hospital having received the Sacraments from the chaplain. May he rest in peace. Please keep Brian together with his wife Jan and the family in your prayers. He was ordained 20/06/2009, five years after Deacons Terry, Peter Lafferty and Tony Ford. He served in Northenden and Northern Moor. RIP

### **Rosamund Elaine Dawson RIP**

Shelagh Humphries received the sad news last weekend that Chris Dawson's mother, Rosamund Elaine Dawson, had died. Many of us know Chris as our coach driver for Walsingham. Fr Jim has been praying for the happy repose of her soul during his Novena in preparation for the Feast of Pentecost. We were pleased that Chris was able to join us on Zoom last Sunday for our regular virtual social gathering.

May God, as Father, Son and Holy Spirit welcome her into their presence.

May the Holy Family of Walsingham pray for Chris and the family. Our thoughts are with them in this difficult time for saying final farewells to our loved ones.

### **Patrick Moore RIP**

We continue to pray for the happy repose of the soul of Patrick Moore. Our sincere condolences to the immediate family; to his siblings, including Philip from Heaviley. Their mother Jean died 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2015. RIP

### **Extract from Memoirs of Fr Gerry Jordan, scj**

03/09/1918 - 06/05/2014. Professed 13/07/1941

Ordained in Louvain, Belgium 14/07/1946

Requiem Mass here at St Joseph's 15/05/2014

Burial in the scj plot, Malpas, with his confreres.

In the Sacred Heart Fathers June Novena, we shall remember all seven seminarians referred to on this page Ned Bradshaw, Ike Carter, Jackie Clarkson, Jack Hoban, Gerry Jordan, Frank Murray, Pat O'Sullivan, John Ryan. Also Pat Collins, who was Professed on 31st March 1940, and recalled to England and assigned to our parish at Redbourn straightaway. All became scj priests. RIP

### **Sacred Heart Fathers British/Irish students in Belgium 1937 – 1947**

We are presently recalling the Dunkirk evacuation, also known as the Miracle of Dunkirk, the evacuation of Allied soldiers during world War II from the beaches and harbour of Dunkirk - from 26 May to 4 June 1940.

On 15<sup>th</sup> May 1940 the Sacred Heart Fathers decided to evacuate the SCJ Novitiate in Brugelette, Belgium.

In 1939-40 there were twenty-one novices there.

The Novices came mainly from Belgium and Luxembourg, but also from Holland and Italy, together with seven from England and Ireland for the new English foundation of the Order.

The seven candidates for the future English Province, still in residence, were transported on a civilian lorry to a house of the French SCJ Province, but on Belgian soil.

The house was empty! However, they managed to get some refreshment and, hoisting their packs on their backs, trudged on towards the Frontier, some three miles distant.

They prayed earnestly for help and guidance and their prayers were always swiftly and wonderfully answered. On 21st May, 1940, a small army van with a young officer from Dublin drew up. He offered a lift but had room only for three. They all felt this incident was an answer to prayer.

The remaining 4 considered 24th May 1940 the most memorable day in their lives. They came across the elite of the German Armed Forces. They were given a drink and invited to join the German Armed forces!!

The 4 novices declined. They by-passed the German front-line stationery tanks and crossed "No Man's Land", a distance of about fifteen miles, without mishap. They then crossed into the British front-line at Calais.

They moved along the coast, and some distance out from Calais they could see what was probably the last ship to leave the port. They waved it a sad goodbye. On their return journey on foot to the novitiate they came across a derailed supply-train still loaded with army rations.

They asked the German guards if they could have some. They were told to take as much as they wanted. The rations were French!

They crossed the frontier into Belgium on **Sun 2nd June** and attended Mass in the village church and on **6th June** they arrived back at the novitiate in Brugelette.

They had been twenty-two days on the road; had walked over three hundred miles, carrying packs all the time, from Brugelette in the south of Belgium to Calais in the north of France, and back; contented with all that had happened to them. In all that time they had not slept in a bed nor eaten a meal at a table. They passed the nights in barns and sheds and picked up what food they could at farmhouses and from soldiers - allied and enemy - they were never refused. Their feet especially were in a bad state; but the prayers of their families and the hand of the Lord never failed them - and brought them safely through.

(Edited by Fr Jim)

(We thank God for our freedom)

## NATIONAL ROSARY RALLY

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Pope Francis encouraged Catholics to pray the Rosary in their family homes during the month of May, especially when the Pandemic brought families together at home. He encouraged the simple praying of the Rosary and also joining online Rosary initiatives to ask Our Lady to pray with us for deliverance from Covid-19 and he composed two prayers for this intention. Bishop Mark Davies invites you to join in an initiative that follows on the Pope's request, the Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally, from 9.00am to 9.00pm across Scotland England and Wales.

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Pope Francis has asked us to pray the following two prayers at the end of the Rosary:

### **First Prayer from Pope Francis:**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith. "Protectress of the Roman people, you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

### **Second Prayer from Pope Francis:**

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God". In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic.

Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus. Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.