

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

### SACRED HEART FATHERS

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

## Weekend Masses

**26 July – 2 August 2020**

**Sunday (Vigil) 5.00 pm** Fr Andrew Grant, scj Anniversary - Death 23/07/2003

**Sunday 11.30 am** Fr Stephen Coonan - Anniversary Ordination 29/07/1978

Monday, Thursday and Saturday: **No 12 noon Mass. See Below**

## Weekday Masses

**Tuesday 12 noon** Con Wright 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday intentions (27/07)

**Wednesday 12 noon** John Thomas Shepherd: 10/8/1936 – 11/07/2020 RIP See below

**Friday 12 noon** Christine Mullin RIP

**Sunday (Vigil) 5.00 pm** Monica McShane - Recently Deceased

**Sunday 11.30 am** People of the Parish

## SUNDAY AND HOLY DAY OBLIGATION

The faithful continue to be dispensed in this national emergency from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. We have not yet returned to a state of "normality" and there are parishioners who may remain shielded / isolated for many medical reasons. For this reason the Bishops of England and Wales would want to encourage the livestreaming of Mass to be continued wherever possible and the encouragement of prayer in the home and acts of spiritual communion for those unable to attend Mass.

**Please maintain these simple rules to ensure we are all kept safe in church.**

1. If you wish to light a candle please use the candles placed on the round table for you and light it from the already lit candle.
2. Please do not touch any of the statues.
3. **Numbers have to be limited to 50 for social distancing.**

### **Social Distancing – latest recommendations**

4. Worshippers should limit their interactions with anyone they are not attending church with, i.e. if they are attending Mass with one other household, wherever possible they should maintain social distancing with anyone outside of this group

### **Face Coverings - latest recommendations**

5. Face coverings are currently mandatory on public transport, and also in shops and in supermarkets since 24th July 2020. People are also strongly encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet, such as St Joseph's church

6. On leaving the church please take all of your belongings and any papers you have used with you.
7. Please leave church via the side door, top righthand corner, where hand sanitiser is also available.

Monday and Thursday: **No Masses** **As you appreciate and observe the role of our STEWARDS, who keep us safe and well, please let us know if you or any other healthy person could / would volunteer to help us out on Monday, Thursday or Saturday from 11.15 to 12.45.**

Lead Stewards - John Humphries / Dominic Wells / Fr Jim

## Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

**First Reading:** A reading from the first book of the Kings (1 Kgs 3:5.7-12) You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97      **(R.) Lord, I love your commands.**

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. **(R.)**

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. **(R.)**

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. **(R.)**

Your will is wonderful indeed, therefore I obey it.  
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

**Second Reading.** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son. We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

**Gospel Acclamation** (Mt 11:25)      Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

**Gospel**    Mt 13:44-52    He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

**PLEASE collect your 2020 – 2021 envelopes at the back of church, or bring one to a neighbour of yours who cannot join us just now.**

Online giving to the Parish of St Joseph's, Stockport for those Parishioners who normally give in the collection at Mass and wish to help the Parish at this time, an online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish has been created for us.

<https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/stjosephstockportdioceseofshrewsbury2183>  
Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way. You can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further. If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order. Thank you for your support. Fr Jim

**Planning** – Application Summary: Piccadilly Car Park, Piccadilly, Stockport. Reference DC/072623 <https://planning.stockport.gov.uk/PlanningData-live/>. **This concerns the large car park at the bottom of Fletcher Street.** Revised Proposals: Full planning application for the erection of a mixed-use commercial (A1 use) and residential (C3 use) development comprising 98no. apartments including a mix of 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom units with associated access, parking, landscaping and engineering works. All comments to be submitted via the Council's online facility

DC/075073 - **Fletcher Street No 21**, by the way, was given Full Planning Permission on 17 March, 2020. Conversion of vacant former nightclub / wine bar into 15 bed HMO (sui generis) with associated external alterations, cycle parking and bin storage. The development will not adversely affect use of the adjacent highway, notably by pedestrians, especially our school children.

#### **ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD.**

Bishop Mark is happy to announce that Rev Robert Dykes will be ordained to the Priesthood at Shrewsbury Cathedral on Tuesday 4th August at 6.00pm. Please keep this man very much in your prayers. This Ordination Mass can be accessed via livestream. <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/>

**John Thomas Shepherd RIP** Our sincere condolences to his family. His private Funeral Service (for 30 people) will take place here on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 12.15, prior to interment at Highfield at 1.30. His wife Veronica died 24 May 2000, aged 63. RIP

Dear Fr Jim, it was a pleasant surprise to receive your email. Thank you so much for your good wishes and prayers and for all of those of the parish too. **The 13th July 1964** is a day I remember with great joy and the parish, as you say, did me well. They have always supported me both prayerfully and financially. I am truly grateful. Naturally, but sadly, the people of that time are no longer with us and I too am in my eighties! but it has been a great life and I am grateful to the Lord and his Blessed Mother for caring for me. Do return my good wishes to the parishioners. I remember them with affection. Yours, **Fr Tim Greenway**

#### **OUR DIOCESAN VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Thursday 30 July -Tuesday 4 August**

It was with great sadness that back in March we realised that in these extraordinary times it would be impossible to go ahead with our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes. We are very anxious, however, to reach out to our regular pilgrims and to all people around the Diocese to invite them to join us in a spiritual pilgrimage online during the time that we would have been in Lourdes. With this in mind we have created a Virtual Pilgrimage which includes a daily Mass led by the Bishop or different priest associated with the Pilgrimage As well as many regular devotions and activities that form our Pilgrimage. The programme can be downloaded from the Pilgrimage website [www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk) The Diocesan Website [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Or the virtual Pilgrimage website <https://shrewsburylourdes.com> Programme and details attached to this newsletter for the Pilgrimage.



**Diocese of Shrewsbury**  
**Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes Programme**



Date	Time	Event	Venue/Location
<b>DAY 1</b> Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> July	8.30am	Messages of Welcome	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	9am	Live Opening Mass and Catechesis Celebrant: Bishop Mark Davies	Shrewsbury Cathedral via Church Services TV
	2pm	Passage through the Grotto	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
<b>DAY 2</b> Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> July	10am	Live Grotto Mass Celebrant: Fr Tony McGrath	Christ Church, Heald Green via their website.
	2pm	Water Service led by Fr Pat Munroe	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	4pm	Live Mass at the Grotto in Lourdes Celebrants: Fr David Long and Fr Peter Sharrocks	Lourdes TV
	5pm	Virtual Blessed Sacrament	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	6pm	Youth Service with Bishop Mark Davies and SYMT	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
<b>DAY 3</b> Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	12pm	Live Mass remembering Key Workers Celebrant: Fr Peter Burke	St Alban's RC Church, Macc via Church Services TV
	2pm	Penitential Service led by Fr Owen Gallagher	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	4pm	Blessing of the Sick led by Fr Pat Munroe	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	8pm	Virtual Torchlight Procession	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
<b>DAY 4</b> Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	11am	Live Streamed Mass Celebrant: Fr Chris Matthews	Saint Michael and All Angels Church, Woodchurch via Church Services TV
	2pm	Songs of Praise led by Fr Stephen Wooley	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	8pm	Quiz Night	Zoom – Links and passwords will be sent out beforehand.
<b>DAY 5</b> Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	9am	Live Final Mass, where deceased pilgrims will be remembered Celebrant: Bishop Mark Davies	Shrewsbury Cathedral via Church Services TV
	10.30am	Hospitality Message	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	2pm	Stations of the Cross – Hillside and Lower stations.	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	5pm	Holy Hour led by Deacon Robert Dykes	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	8pm	Shrewsbury Live Lounge	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
<b>DAY 6</b> Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	10am	Message of thanks	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube
	11am	A look back at our previous pilgrimages	Website, Facebook Page & YouTube

Check our website <https://shrewsburylourdes.com/> for full details of the programme including joining instructions for Masses, ceremonies and other events.

All Zoom events will require a password – these will be sent on request.

Our Lady of Lourdes	Pray for us
St Joseph, our Protector	Pray for us
St Bernadette	Pray for us