

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 Website www.stjosephsrcchurchstockport.org.uk / Facebook / Zoom

SACRED HEART FATHERS

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

NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH:

Fr Tim Greenway's St Joseph's Missionary Society have provided our colourful Novena prayers this year. Masses are available to participate in on Zoom, via St. Joseph's Parish, **Maidenhead** website, <https://stjosephsparish.co.uk> Sunday 14th March – 11:00 am. Mon 15th to Thur 18th – 7:30 pm

Novena Prayer Leaflets are available at the back of church and by the Sacred Heart shrine. You will also find it on our website.

St. Joseph sleeping. When Pope Francis' addressed families in Manila in 2015 he spoke about his great devotion to St. Joseph. "I would also like to tell you something very personal. I have great love for St. Joseph because he is a man of silence and strength. On my table I have an image of St. Joseph sleeping. Even when he is asleep, he is taking care of the Church! Yes! We know that he can do that. So when I have a problem, a difficulty, I write a little note and I put it underneath St. Joseph, so that he can dream about it! In other words, I tell him: pray for this problem!" Pope Francis said he can sleep peacefully at the end of the day after he entrusts these special intentions to St. Joseph, and on another occasion told a conference of religious superiors that now St. Joseph "sleeps on a mattress of notes!"

If you have access to the internet, you can watch 'The statue of St. Joseph sleeping that Pope Francis keeps in his room' at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvb2mauxcvc> For ideas to share with children go to: <https://www.looktohimandberadiant.com/2017/03/sleeping-st-joseph.html>

Prayer to Sleeping St. Joseph

O Saint Joseph, you are a man greatly favoured by the Most High. The angel of the Lord appeared to you in dreams, while you slept, to warn you and guide you as you cared for the Holy Family. You were both silent and strong, a loyal and courageous protector.

Dear Saint Joseph, as you rest in the Lord, confident of His absolute power and goodness look upon me.

Please take my need into your heart, dream of it, and present it to your Son. O help me then, good St. Joseph, to hear the voice of God, to arise, and act with love. I praise and thank God with joy. St. Joseph, I love you. Amen.

If you have any worries, concerns, or problems you wish to entrust to the **Sleeping St. Joseph**, write them on a piece of paper and place them in the basket at the feet of St. Joseph as you leave church.

Each week we will pray for these intentions at our Friday Noon Mass.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES Week beginning Palm Sunday, 28th March 2021

Please note that you will need to use our **booking** service for the following:

Palm Sunday at 5 pm Vigil and 11.30 am

Like we did for Christmas:

Holy Thursday at 7.30 pm

you can book via our website

Good Friday at 3.00 pm

you can pick up a form at church

Easter Vigil at 7.00 pm

you will need to let us know if others will accompany you

Easter Sunday at 11.30 am

We could do with another half dozen people to assist our stewards welcome parishioners and direct them to the place assigned to them during these Holy Week Services. **Please** let one of our stewards know if and when you could help with stewarding any of these ceremonies. Thanks on behalf of those who can't Act as stewards on age or health ground.

NO CHURCH HEATING TILL MID WEEK. The boiler flue @ £500.00 needs replacing.

SATURDAY 13 **5.00** pm Alan Gell intentions
Sunday 14 **11.30** am In Honour of Our Lady of Fatima **Mothering Sunday**
TUESDAY 16 **12.00** Parishioners intentions.
WEDNESDAY 17 **12.00** Patrick Gibbons (Anniversary) **Novena Adoration at 6 and Mass at 7.00**
THURSDAY 18 **Novena Adoration at 6 and Mass at 7.00**
FRIDAY 19 **12.00** Parishioners intentions. **Adoration at 6, Mass at 7, followed by adoration till 12.**

4 Lent (B)

God's wrath and mercy are revealed in the exile and release of his people

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy. Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.' And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."' **2 Chronicles 36: 14 -16. 19 - 23**

Psalm 136

R. *O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!*

Ephesians 2:4-10

You have been saved through grace.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus. This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son: everyone who believes in him has eternal life. Glory and praise to you, O Christ! **Jn3:16**

John 3:14-21 *God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved*

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.' **R.** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

If you have booked for **Walsingham** and not yet been contacted please phone Shelagh Humphries on 07853176698