

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

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

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SACRED HEART FATHERS

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

Saturday	04	5.00 pm	Kathleen Peers RIP	<b>2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year C)</b>
Sunday	05	11.30 am	Sandiford family – thanksgiving for prayers answered	
Monday	06	12 noon	Peggy & Keith Donne RIP	
Tuesday	07	12 noon	Rosie intentions	
Wednesday	08	12 noon	Shaun McCann RIP	<b>Year of St Joseph ends.</b>
Thursday	09	12 noon	Patrick McKeon RIP	
Friday	10	12 noon	Anne McCarron RIP	
Saturday		5.00 pm	Patricia (Pat) and Peter Heath RIP	
Sunday	12	11.30 am	Tom Wallis RIP	

**We pray for Our sick:** Marion Williams, Elaine Mellor, Maureen Coyle, Celia Meehan, Gerry and Nius McGettrick, Simon Glenn, Graham Hindson, Terry Kenny, Harry Groarke, Margaret Runcieman, James Hayward, Bernadette Taylor, Alwyn McCann, Teresa Grice, Winifred Leanaghan, Evelyn Neary, Vera Henderson, Margaret Wooley (nee Kenny), Eleanor Mulvey, Robyn Gibbons, Betty McIntosh, Patricia Mounsey, Tina Labella, Maureen McCumesky. **Latently Dead:** Leslie Smith, Betty McGeehan, Marie McGurdy. **Anniversaries:** Fr Jack Hoban and Bro John Cochrane, scj

**McQuillan Boiler Services Ltd** are liaising with the Property manager of the Diocese to see what is the best way forward for replacing our broken church boiler. It is just two years ago the Diocese had experts in to see if we could have a system within the church building itself. Here at St Joseph's a few of us revisited the Budget Estimate from that time. The staggering sum of £131,586.39 was estimated for Heating Replacement, Gas Main, Builders work (generally), Asbestos Abatement Works, Works to existing basement Boiler Room, Preliminaries @ 10%, Contingency @ 10%, various VATs @ 20%, ATKINS Group Fees @ 11%

**COVID 19.** With respect to the current situation with the **omicron variant** it is important to ensure the following points are followed in our **Parish Hall:** That people displaying any symptoms of covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person. That hand sanitiser is available to those attending the Hall. That there is a strong recommendation for people to wear a face covering (both nose and mouth) during the act of worship. That there is good ventilation and air throughput in the building; in this case, because of climatic conditions, it would be important to remind people to wrap up well! That a positive message encouraging people to get vaccinated and have the booster jab when able is delivered whenever possible. There is now very strong evidence to support that the main mode of **transmission is through breath and nasal aerosols**, and that the risk from surface and touch transmission is very small indeed. As such, the strict regimes of church cleaning that were recommended at the beginning of the opening of churches for public worship are no longer necessary. General church cleaning is sufficient. If these guidance points are supported, then the churches will continue to be safe places for people to gather for acts of public worship, including over the Christmas period. + Mark Bishop of Shrewsbury

**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.

**Baruch 5:1-9** ·

*God means to show your splendour to every nation*

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

**Psalm 125**

R. *What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

R.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

R.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

R.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

R.

**Philippians 1:4-6,8-11** ·

*May you become pure and blameless in preparation for the day of Christ*

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia! Lk3:4,6

**Luke 3:1-6**

*The call of John the Baptist*

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Our **Confirmation candidates** and their families will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation within the Sacrament of the Eucharist with Bishop Mark Davies at Our Lady and the Apostles church this coming Thursday 9th December at 7.00pm.

**Year 4 First Forgiveness** will not now be celebrated till next term.

**Penitential Service / Confessions** will be celebrated at Our Lady and the Apostles on Thursday 16 December at 7.00 pm. We are especially reaching out to parishes of St Joseph, St Ambrose, St Vincent and Our Lady. All welcome. The address is: Shaw Hearth, Edgeley, SK3 8BQ.