

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*

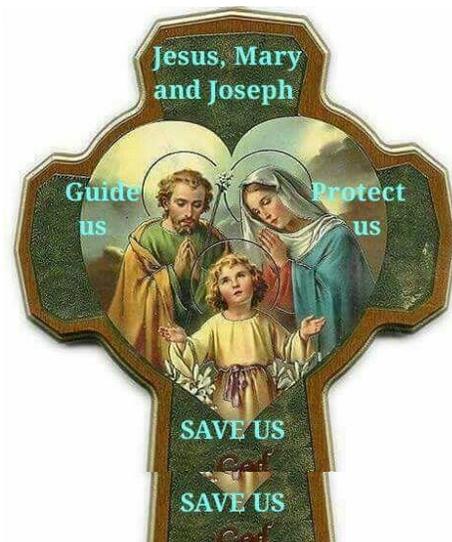
Day	Time	Parishioners	THE HOLY FAMILY (Year C)
Sunday 26th	11.30 am	Parishioners	
Monday	27	12 noon	Frank Wilson RIP    Tuesday 28 12 noon Peggy & Mick Donne RIP
Wednesday	29	12 noon	Doris Martin    RIP
Wednesday	29	1.30 pm	Nuptial Mass – Kirstie Wheeler and Nathan Cotto
Thursday	30	12 noon	Naomi Bayne Recently Deceased
		1.45 pm	Funeral Service at 1.45 for Leslie Smith.
Friday	31	12 noon	Thanksgiving – Terry & Margaret – Diamond Jubilee of Marriage
Saturday	01	12 noon	Deacon Terry & Margaret Simms intentions – Diamond Jubilee.
		5.00 pm	Eugene O'Reilly    Recently Deceased
Sunday	02	11.30 am	Ann Rose 1st Anniversary
			Thanksgiving - Yvonne Mellor 60th Birthday

**The Sacred Heart Fathers and Deacon Terry wish you a safe and healthy New Year, 2022**

**Leslie Smith RIP.** We extend our sincere condolences to the family of Leslie Smith who died on 29th November, 2021 aged 75 years. Both he and his wife Sheila went to school here at St Joseph's. The Funeral Service here in church will take place on Thursday 30th December at 1.45 followed by a committal in the Rowan chapel at Stockport crematorium at 2.30pm. RIP

**Holyday of Obligation - Thursday 6th, January - Vigil at 7.00 pm.**  
**On the day itself: 12 noon and 7.00 pm**

**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, 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. **Anniversaries:** Ann Rose 1st Anniversary **Lately Dead:** Leslie Smith, Naomi Bayne, Eugene O'Reilly, Michael Walsh.



**CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal.** In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. We open ourselves to the needs of others at this time; let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate on the CAFOD website: [cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal](http://cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal) and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Deacon Terry Simms and his wife Margaret who celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of their wedding this coming Friday, as we say goodbye to the Old Year and welcome in a New. May the power of your Holy Spirit set their hearts aflame from on high, so that, living out together the gift of Matrimony, they may continue to enrich the Church here at St Joseph's.

**1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28***This is the child I prayed for: he is made over to the Lord.*

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.' When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.' When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

**Psalm 83***R/ They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.*

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God.

**R/***They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.**They are happy, whose strength is in you, in whose hearts are the roads to Zion.***R/**

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed.

**R/****1 John 3:1-2,21-24***We are called God's children, and that is what we are*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. **Alleluia!** Ac16:14**Luke 2:41-52***Mary stored up all these things in her heart*

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

**CHURCH HEATING** Following our church boiler reaching the end of its life on 21/11 we hired a temporary heater last Wednesday for 12 weeks. As we go to print on Christmas Eve we have used this machine to attempt overcoming the condensation in the body of the church for 6 hours each day.

**Face coverings are a legal requirement in all churches and places of worship**, unless a person is exempt or has a reasonable excuse. Let us look out for each other!