

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	26	5.00 pm	Margaret Sproson - Recently Deceased	
Sunday	27	11.30 am	Stella MacDonald - Recently Deceased	4th Sunday in Lent Year C
Monday	28	12 noon	Sister Gertrude Geoghegan -1st Anniversary	
Tuesday	29	12 noon	Canon Brendan Hoban and Deacon Philip White – First anniversaries	
Wednesday	30	12 noon	John Crannage - Anniversary	
Thursday	31	12 noon	Chris Jenkins – Birthday Remembrance. Barbara Wharmby – Ann.	
Friday	01	12 noon	Book of Remembrance. Deceased Sacred Heart Fathers	
Saturday	02	5.00 pm	Parishioners	
Sunday	03	11.30 am	Samuel Wild - Anniversary	5th Sunday in Lent Year C

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES. Your present envelopes will end Sunday, 3rd April. Your new Offertory Envelopes are now available. Please let us know if you would like to have a set of envelopes to support our parish. Or you might consider contributing by **Standing Order. GIFT AID:** If you have an income (a Wage, Salary, Pension or Investment income) on which you are paying UK Income Tax (or paying Capital Gains Tax) please consider Gift Aiding. Gift Aid enables parishes to reclaim tax on donations that are already being made at the Offertory and in many other ways – i.e. donations for special purposes and retiring collections. Donors simply make a declaration that they wish their donations to qualify for a tax refund under the Gift Aid Scheme. This declaration may be made on a Gift Aid Declaration Form (available at St Joseph's). The donor only has to give their name and address and to confirm that they are paying sufficient income tax and that they wish to be part of the Gift Aid Scheme. Gift Aid involves no commitment to give any particular amount and no long-term commitment. The donor may cancel their membership of the scheme at any time.

We pray for our sick: John Jenkins, Frank Hollingwort, John McCormick, Tina Labella, Margaret Runcieman, Sandra Mooney, Roy Curran, Teresa Grice, Marion Williams, Celia Meehan, Graham Hindson, Alwyn McCann, Winifred Leanaghan, Vera Henderson. **Lately Dead:** Sara Stewart, Tommy Higgins, Stella McDonald, Desmond McGowan, Carmel Ellis. **Anniversaries:** Canon Brendan Hoban, Deacon Philip White, Sr Gertrude Geoghegan, Samuel Wild, Chris Jenkins, Barbara Wharmby

MAGNIFICAT. We are pleased to let you know that the digital Holy Week and April issues are available, free, at the following link: www.magnificat.com/april. Please make this information known to others. For individual subscriptions to MAGNIFICAT please visit <https://catholicherald.co.uk/magnificat/>

Medjugorje Youth Festival - from 2nd to 9th August 2022 led by Fr Tony McGrath. £645, return flights from Manchester Airport, 7 nights accommodation close to St James Church, full programme with Joe Walsh Tours and Breakfast and Dinner each day. This pilgrimage is for 18-35 year olds, and families with under 18's are also welcome. There is an **information evening at Christ Church, 98 Finney Lane, Heald Green, SK8 3DY at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6th April**. For more information or to register interest please email Fr Tony at christchurchhq@yahoo.co.uk

Stations of the Cross. At **11.40 on Friday**, 1st and 8th of April, the Disciples group from our primary school will lead us in the Stations of the Cross.

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE at St Ambrose, Adswood Road, Adswood, Stockport, K3 8QA for the 4 parishes of Our Lady and the Apostles, St Joseph, St Ambrose. St Vincent, on Friday, 8th April at 7 pm

Joshua 5:9-12

The Israelites celebrate their first Passover in the Promised Land

The Lord said to Joshua, ‘Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.’

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Psalm 33 R/ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 · God reconciled himself to us through Christ

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God’s work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men’s faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ’s name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.’ **Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

The prodigal son

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. ‘This man’ they said ‘welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them: ‘A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, “Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.” So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. ‘When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, “How many of my father’s paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.”’ So he left the place and went back to his father. ‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.”’ But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.”’ And they began to celebrate. ‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.”’ He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”’ ‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.”’

Tuesday of Holy Week, 12th April at 12.15. Six children from our school will sing 3 hymns and Fr Blaise will preach at St Mary's, in the Market Place. All welcome. Reverend Marie Flint.

Proposals for a **School Street at St Joseph's primary school**. Copy of the plan is shown on page 3
[www.schoolstreets@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:schoolstreets@stockport.gov.uk) where a survey should be filled in by **28 March**.