

> + S T . J O S E P H ' S N E W S L E T T E R no 34/40 28 August, 2022 22(C)

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	27	5 pm	Teresa O'Rourke Recently Deceased
Sunday	28	11.30 am	Kathleen Longden Recently Deceased
Monday	29	12 noon	Philip Walker 1st Anniversary
Tuesday	30	12 noon	Frank Wilson RIP
Wednesday	31	12 noon	John Garrigan RIP
Thursday	01	12 noon	Vocations to the Priesthood
Friday	02	12 noon	Book of Remembrance
Saturday	03	5 pm	Parishioners
Sunday	04	11.30 am	Parishioners

We pray for our sick: Anthony Healey, Adriana Adabayeri, Margaret Runcieman, Doreen Rowan, Vera Henderson, Mary McTigue, Oliver Gilsean, Michael John Ford, Haydan Fletcher, John McCormick, Tina Labella, Sandra Mooney, Roy Curran, Teresa Grice, Marion Williams, Celia Meehan, Alwyn McCann, Winifred Leanaghan, Robyn Gibbons, Betty McIntosh, Patricia Mounsey.

Anniversaries: Philip Walker **Latently Dead:** Terry Kenny, father of Chris.

Fr Sean Davidson

We extend a **warm welcome** to Fr Sean Davidson as our new parish priest this coming Thursday, 1st September. He will begin his priestly ministry amongst us with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 11.30 and Mass at 12 noon.

Fr. Sean was born in London in 1979 and spent much of his youth in Ireland. He gave his life to Christ in the year 2000 and during the subsequent three or four years began to feel called to the sacred priesthood. Regularly frequenting the holy shrine of Our Lady of Knock, meditating on Sacred Scripture, and attending his local perpetual Eucharistic Adoration chapel were central to the discovery of his vocation. In 2009, he was involved in the foundation of an association in France called the Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist, devoted to preaching on the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. This afforded him the possibility of travelling as a Eucharistic missionary throughout Europe, America, and as far as Asia. After being ordained to the sacred priesthood in France on June 26th 2011, the solemnity of *Corpus Christi*, he celebrated his first Mass on the memorial of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. He began his priestly ministry in the parish of Sanary-sur-mer and then worked in the ancient shrine and basilica of Saint Mary Magdalene in south-east France. The organisation of Eucharistic Congresses, parish missions, as well as spreading Eucharistic love through the different means of communication formed part of his mission during this period. In December 2014, Fr Sean was given responsibility for the establishment and direction of a Eucharistic retreat centre in the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Long Island, New York. His ministry there consisted mainly in providing various forms of retreats, including the Ignatian spiritual exercises, as well as offering spiritual direction. He was privileged to be able to lead ordination retreats for seminarians and deacons studying in the north-east of the United States, as well as for members of different religious congregations. In 2018, Fr Sean returned to London to be with his father who was terminally ill. He went on to spend a year in the parish of Our Lady of Reparation in West Croydon. During this time, he was also able to work with Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, supporting them in their beautiful work of love for Christ's poor. In February 2020, he moved to the Shrewsbury Diocese serving as parochial administrator of the parish of St Chad in Cheadle village and St Ann in Cheadle Hulme.

Ecclesiasticus 3:17 – 20. 28 – 29 My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

Psalm 67

R/ In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.

Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24 What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant and a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.

Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia! Jn14:23

Luke 14:1,7-14 On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.' Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

Farewell to our Beloved Sacred Heart Fathers. In order that we here at St Joseph's can gather together to say a fond farewell to our wonderful Sacred Heart Fathers, we are holding a gathering after the 5pm Mass this Saturday 27th August in the Parish Hall. There will be a very light buffet of sandwiches and cake plus tea and coffee. If you do wish to bring along something a little stronger then glasses will be provided. There will also be an opportunity to say farewell again on Sunday 28th August after the 11.30am Mass and tea and coffee will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there. God Bless you all."

Our **Housekeeper**, Debbie Hirst, will continue housekeeping, together with Maggie Wragg, at the Sacred Heart Fathers residence at Wellington Road North.

Parish History Enquiry. We have been contacted by a PhD student at Northumbria University who is carrying out research about photographs taken during the liberation of Belsen concentration camp in April 1945. The archive at the Manchester Jewish Museum has an envelope sent to the Rev'd Gannon at St Joseph's enclosing a report about Belsen and some photographs. The report was written by an army C of E padre, Rev'd Thomas Stretch. The envelope has had its stamp and postmark removed and there is no covering letter so the sender and date are unknown, but it is assumed it was sent to Rev'd Gannon by another padre who was stationed in Belsen. If the student could ascertain the dates when the Rev'd Gannon was at St Joseph's it would help to date the letter. Here at St Joseph's we had a Fr John Gannon

as an assistant priest from 1974 to 1981. Can anybody throw any light on the possibility of a Fr John Gannon being here or at Reddish during the 2nd World War?

Saint Bernadette Relic Tour 2022: The relic of Saint Bernadette will be in our Diocese on Tuesday 13th September in Shrewsbury Cathedral and Wednesday 14th September in Saint Werburgh's Chester. This is an amazing opportunity and time of grace for us. Those wishing to venerate the relic are strongly encouraged to book a time to visit via the national website <http://www.stbernadette.org.uk> . Resources to help us prepare for the visit are being prepared and will be available soon in your parish and via the Diocesan website.

Recruiting Lourdes Hospitality Volunteers to help with the visit of the Relics of St Bernadette of Lourdes. These relics will be coming to the Cathedral on Tuesday 13th September and move to St Werburgh', Chester on 14th September. Lourdes Hospitality members have been approached to carry the reliquary and statue and then stand on guard throughout the visit. This is a real honour so please consider helping if you are a member of the Lourdes Hospitality. If you cannot help yourself, then please do invite others to do so. For further details please contact the Hospitality President, Siobhan Cartwright: siobhanbc@gmail.com or phone on 07761138947.

FOOTSTEPS COMING SOON...

Do come to the next **Footsteps** event on **Thursday 8 September** at **7.30pm** in **St Peter's parish centre** (Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA). **Anthony Delaney** will consider and suggest how we can make a difference to others in **"From lost and alone to found and at home"**. A former police officer, Anthony has led church leaders around the nation – he's now the Network Leader of Ivy, a network of churches meeting in various places across Manchester including a university, a warehouse, an arts centre and even a church building!

Footsteps is a series of presentations by people who can help us as we journey in our Christian faith. It's a relaxed, informal café-style setting with refreshments and a great community feel. There's a large, free car park and good disabled access.

Harrytown Catholic High School has vacancies for General Administrator(s). Hours are negotiable, up to 37 per week (Term Time only). Please visit the School Website for more information www.harrytownschool.org