

St Joseph's RC Church

Tatton Street, St Petersgate, Stockport, SK1 1EJ

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www.stjosephsrcchurchstockport.org.uk / www.eucharisticshrine.com

Parish Priest: Fr Sean Davidson frseandavidson@gmail.com

3rd December 2023 – 1st Sunday Advent Year B

Mass Times and Intentions:

Saturday 2 nd Vigil	5pm	Emily Wray & Fred Burrow	
Sunday 3 rd 1 st Sunday Advent Year B	11.30am	Tina La Bella RIP	
Monday 4 th <i>St John Damascene</i>	12 noon	Bill & Joan Matthews RIP	
Tuesday 5 th	12 noon	For all of our Benefactors	
Wednesday 6 th <i>St Nicholas</i>	12 noon	Kiera Farrlley	
Thursday 7 th <i>St Ambrose</i>	12 noon	Emily Wray & Fred Burrow	
Friday 8 th <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Viring Mary</i>	12 noon	Doreen Rowan	
Saturday 9 th Vigil	5pm	Gerry Campfield RIP	
Sunday 10 th 2 nd Sunday Advent Year B	11.30am	In Thanksgiving	
Daily Schedule	Monday-Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mass	12 noon	5pm	11.30am
Eucharistic Adoration Benediction	7am-7pm 6.45pm (Wed-Fri only)		
Confessions	11am-11.45am 6pm-6.30pm (Wed-Fri only)	4pm-4.45pm	10.30am-11am
Rosary for Vocations	6.30pm		11am

Please note there will be NO Confessions or Benediction on Monday or Tuesday evening this week.

We pray for our sick: Jacobi Hill, Maddie Makonyola, Maria Sandiford, Jane Coupes, Michael Philbin, Maureen Burke, Linda Abel, Ged Gibbons, Cora Tierney, Mary O'Brien, Laurie Glenn, Carmel Mayo, Anthony Healey, Margaret Runcieman, Doreen Rowan, Mary McTigue, Oliver Gilsean, Michael John Ford, John McCormick, Roy Curran, Marion Williams, Celia Meehan, Robyn Gibbons, Nathan Hatfield, Alan Gell, Angela Mullin, Keith Morris, Pat Morris, Lesley Morris, Maria DeSilva.

Anniversaries: We remember all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased: We pray for all those who have died recently.

Mass Intentions: Envelopes are available at the back of the church if you would like to request a Mass said for your intentions. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note that we are several months behind with Mass Intentions and we are now including Mass Intentions received in April time. If you require a specific date, we will try our best to do that date or as near it as possible. Thank you.

Money Matters: we received £585.12 in the collection last weekend and £206.14 for the Priests Education and Training Fund. Thank you.

Sycamore Course: All parishioners are welcome to join us in the parish hall at 7pm on Monday evenings for this time of faith formation and fellowship, we are into the last few weeks of the sessions. Duration: an hour or so. The next session **is: The Social Teaching of the Church**

Gift Aid: Following on from our recent appeal regarding Gift Aid, just a reminder, if parishioners have completed the Gift Aid Declaration Form can they return that form to church for the attention of Rosemary. Thank you.

Stockport Male Voice Choir Christmas Concert: Come and join the festivity with our wonderful choir. Saturday 16th December at 7pm in the Church Hall. Tickets cost £8 – includes mulled wine and mince pie. On sale after weekend Masses or by phoning 0161.483 6904. All proceeds will go towards the restoration fund.

Walsingham 2024: Update on 2024 Pilgrimage. We have booked for 6 May to 10 May 2023 4 nights. Depending on fundraising the cost will be between £435 and £450 per person. The main change is that Elmham House now require a non refundable deposit of 25 percent so we will also be asking this plus a small deposit for the coach travel. The amount required on booking will be £100 per person which is non refundable. If you wish to book please email shelaghclarinet@virginmedia.co advising how many people. Please pay deposits by cheque made payable to SRCDT St Joseph.

St Joseph's Primary School, Proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number: a consultation is now taking place on the proposed reduction of their school places from 25 to 15 to take effect from September 2025. The consultation runs until Friday 6th January 2024. All stakeholders are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal to: PAN Consultation, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Etchells Street, Stockport, SK1 1EF or email to admin@st-josephs-pri.stockport.sch.uk subject PAN Consultation. There are copies of the letter at the back of church as well as on the noticeboard.

Organ Tuning: The organ is in desperate need of tuning which in turn helps to keep the organ in good shape. The cost of this is £360 – if anyone wishes to contribute towards this cost, please put your donation in an envelope marked 'Organ' and place in the offertory basket.

Stockport Loaves & Fishes: a church group in Stockport working with the SVP asking people to donate any of the following items to given to the homeless and rough sleepers in Stockport this Christmas. This year we encourage donations of hats, scarves, socks, gloves, hand warmers as well as coats. Note: we will only accept new or as good as new clothing. Please place in the Black bag at the back of Church.

Friends of the Holy Land appeal are in urgent need of funds to support Christians in Holy Land, especially at this tragic and traumatic time. You can donate directly via: <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk>. For further information contact Jen Hill - telephone 01926 512980 email: jen.hill@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

Bishops' Autumn 2023 Plenary Resolutions The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales gathered for their Autumn Plenary from 13-16 Nov. There are five resolutions; Synod on Synodality, Environmental Concerns, Shrine of St Winefride, National Eucharistic Congress and Conflict in Gaza. The statements can be viewed on their website <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/>

Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8: You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm: God of hosts bring us back, let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9: May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Mark 13:33-37: Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Prayer to St Joseph: *St. Joseph, just and true, with a father's care you raised the child Jesus, and with a husband's love, you shared your life with Mary, his mother. I entrust myself to your care and place in your hands this request of mine (mention intention). In quiet Nazareth, long ago, the Holy Spirit spoke to your heart and you followed God's will with wonderful faith. In the quiet of my days, and in the hard choices I must make, help me follow the Spirit's guidance and believe when I cannot see. Amen*