

St Joseph's RC Church

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Parish Priest: Fr Sean Davidson frseandavidson@gmail.com

7th January 2024 – The Epiphany

Mass Times and Intentions:

Saturday 6 th Vigil	5pm	Michael Joseph Martin	
Sunday 7 th Epiphany	11.30am	Rick Wilson	
Monday 8 th Baptism of the Lord	12 noon	For all of our Benefactors	
Tuesday 9 th	12 noon	John Morgan	
Wednesday 10 th	12 noon	Greta Barlow RIP	
Thursday 11 th	12 noon	Tony Cain RIP	
Friday 12 th St Aelred of Rievaulx	12 noon	The Marsh Family	
Saturday 13 th Vigil	5pm	Heather & Herbert Gaskell RIP	
Sunday 14 th 2 nd Sunday Ordinary Time B	11.30am	Tina La Bella RIP	
Daily Schedule	Monday-Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mass	12 noon	5pm	11.30am
Eucharistic Adoration Benediction	7am-7pm 6.45pm		
Confessions	11am-11.45am 6pm-6.30pm	4pm-4.45pm	10.30am-11am
Rosary for Vocations	6.30pm		11am

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 Gilsenan, 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 £1472.62 in the collection over the Christmas weekend (23/24/25 December) £549.19 in the collection last weekend (30/31 December). Thank you very much.

Children's Liturgy: will restart again on Sunday 21/01/2024. Thank you to everyone that has donated items for the Children's window display, The Lantern Crib, we invite you all to visit our crib and look as the first Shepherds did.

Sponsor a Slate: the scaffolding is almost completed and work on the new roof will begin in the new year. In order to help raise more funds towards the cost of this and future works, we are offering the chance to 'Sponsor a Slate'. For a suggested minimum donation of £20 you can sponsor a slate. Perhaps you would like to:

- Remember a loved one, Mark a special event eg baptism, confirmation, marriage, Celebrate a birthday or anniversary. If you would like to sponsor a slate, please write your sentiment in block capitals on the paper provided (max 25 words), place it in the envelope together with your donation and return it either in the Offertory collection, in the box provided or through the presbytery door (please complete one sheet per slate). Your sentiment will be written on the slate on your behalf. The names of all slate sponsors will be recorded in a dedicated Book of Thanks and your intentions will also be remembered during our weekly Mass for all our Benefactors. Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.

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

Used Christmas Cards: the SVP will collect used Christmas Cards for remaking by Mini Vinnies into new Christmas Cards to go to families of prisoners next December. Please put your used cards into the black bag at the back of church by Sunday 21st January at the latest. Thank you

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. Deadline for bookings and deposits is 20th January 2024.

Lourdes Hospitality Update Further to the recent AGM, the officers have been meeting monthly to discuss the issues raised and future plans. A face-to-face meeting for all members will be held on Saturday 20th January 2024 (venue and time to be confirmed). In the meantime, if you have any questions for us, please send an email to : secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

Vocations to the Priesthood: Bishop Mark writes that it is encouraging to see men continuing coming forward for the Priesthood in the service of the Diocese. He is grateful for all your prayer and encouragement, and Masses offered for vocations. We are blessed with candidates who will be seeking to make application for the Diocese next year and an active Diocesan Vocations Group. Bishop Mark hopes we will soon see the 'Discernment House' project, that has proved so fruitful for the Diocese, back into action in the year ahead and linked to the prayer of the Eucharistic Shrine at Saint Joseph's. Bishop Mark was recently able to visit our 6 seminarians at Saint Mary's College, Oscott; and 1 seminarian in the English College in Valladolid. Please keep all our seminarians and discerners in your prayers.

The Holy Father's Monthly prayer intention: For the gift of diversity in the Church. We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

Isaiah 60:1-6: Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: All nations shall fall prostrate before you O Lord

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6: You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation: We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage.

Matthew 2:1-12: After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote: *And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.*' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.