

We welcome into our parish community Leo Arron Ashcroft who was Baptised here at St Joseph's Church this weekend. Keep him and his family in your prayers. If you wish to have your child Baptised at St Joseph's church, please ring the Parish office to book a place on the next Baptism Meeting.



Tea and Coffee.

There will be **no** Tea and coffee served after the 9.30 am Holy Mass until further notice in the Parish Hall.



Dear all at St Joseph's

Thank you so much for your very kind donation of cheques for £92.50 and £144.90 This will help and be used for approximately 1300 families in the Wigan and Leigh Borough at our Food Community. With the kindness of donors like you, we stand as a strong defence against homelessness and poverty.

Full copy of the letter can be found on the notice board at the back of church .

Last weeks Collection.

Total Collection for the last weekend.

Gift Aid: £358.55
Loose Plate: £254.79
Total: £613.34



Church Cleaning Rota



This week it is Group 1. Thank you to **ALL** our volunteers who help to clean and prepare our church throughout the year.



Many of our parishioners keep Red Mission boxes in their homes, allowing them to donate any loose change to the APF (Association for the Propagation of the Faith) and Mill Hill Missionaries.

New contributors are of course always most welcome! If you would like a Red Box please take one from back of church and return either when full or at least once a year.

If you require a receipt for your donation or you gift aid then please remember to write your name and address on label.

Thank you for your support!

Cursillo Encounter Day

An encounter with God, self & others

You are warmly invited to a day of prayer, reflection and discipleship

Sunday 25th Feb 2024

11.00am - 3.00pm

St Teresa's Catholic Church Hall, College Rd, Upholland, WN8 0PY.

To book your place [email Liverpool: cursillo@live.co.uk](mailto:cursillo@live.co.uk) or tel: 07947271037

St John Rigby College

St John Rigby College-applications for Part-Time Examinations Invigilators.

SJR is now hiring examination invigilators for the May to June 2024 external examination season.

Prior experience is not essential as full training will be provided to successful candidates.

Further information about this part time post may be obtained by contacting the College's HR Manager, Nellie Fakudze, via HR@sjr.ac.uk or by telephone on 01942 214 797



St Joseph's Catholic Church

Crow Orchard Road, Wrightington WN6 9PA
Parish Priest and Episcopal Vicar for Clergy: Fr. Philip Gregory
Tel: 01257 676 027
E-mail: stjwrightington@rcaol.org.uk



First Sunday of Lent

18th February 2024



First Sunday of Lent Sunday	9.30 am 5.00 pm	Marlene Maguire R.I.P Deceased members of Rogers
Monday	9.30 am	Ann & Eric Shepherd
Tuesday	1pm Requiem Mass	Emma Louise Scott R.I.P
Wednesday	6.30 pm-7pm 7pm	Confession Stations of the Cross
Thursday	9.30 am Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.30 am	Peter Farrell & Family
Friday	No public Mass	
Saturday	No public Mass	
Second Sunday in Lent	9.30 am 5.00 pm	Philip McVey Birthday Anniversary Jayne Duxbury Anniversary

Readings for The First Sunday of Lent

First Reading	A reading from the book of Genesis. Gen 9:8-15
Psalm Response	Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.
Second Reading	A reading from the first letter of St Peter. 1 Pt 3:18-22
The Gospel Acclamation	Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Gospel	A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. Mk 1:12-15
Communion Antiphon	One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

The First Sunday of Lent

Lent coincides with springtime, and in fact, the word itself probably comes from the Old English *lencten*, meaning the lengthening of days that occur in spring. Spring is the time of new life and it uplifts people's spirit. Lent offers us the possibility to renew life of the Spirit.



The Stations of the Cross Wednesday 7pm St Joseph's.

The Stations of the Cross which follow the path of Christ from Pontius Pilate's praetorium to Christ's tomb have been a popular devotion in parishes, especially during Lent and the preparation for Easter. In the 16th century, this pathway was officially entitled the **Via Dolorosa** (Sorrowful Way), or simply the Way of the Cross or Stations of the Cross. This devotion has evolved over time. Tradition holds that our Blessed Mother visited daily the scenes of our Lord's passion. After Constantine legalised Christianity in the year AD 313, this pathway was marked with its important stations. The devotion continued to grow in popularity. In the fifth century, an interest developed in the Church to "reproduce" the holy places in other areas so pilgrims who could not actually travel to the Holy Land could do so in a devotional, spiritual way in their In 1342, the Franciscans were appointed as guardians of the shrines of the Holy Land. William Wey, an English pilgrim, visited the Holy Land in 1458 and again in 1462, and is credited with the term *stations*. He described the manner in which a pilgrim followed the steps of Christ. When the Moslem Turks blocked the access to the Holy Land, reproductions of the stations were erected at popular spiritual centres. By 1587, the Moslems forbade anyone "to make any halt, nor to pay veneration to [the stations] with uncovered head, nor to make any other demonstration," basically suppressing this devotion in the Holy Land. Nevertheless, the devotion continued to grow in popularity in Europe.



Sick in our Parish

Please pray the sick of our community, especially Brenda Harmer, Fr John Johnson, Pauline Fowler and remembering all the patients in Wrightington and Wigan hospital and our local Hospice. Heal thy servants, O Lord, who are sick and put their trust in Thee. Send them help O Lord, and comfort from thy Holy Place.



Pray for all those who have died

In your charity please pray for Emma Scott, Monsignor George Mooney and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time. We particularly remember the forgotten Holy Souls who have no one to pray for them including Priests and Religious. Eternal rest grant on to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in your peace. Amen.



Right To Life UK Pro Life Prayers

"We pray for our society. That we would promote a culture that values life, and that we would seek the protection of all humans from conception to natural death. Lord hear us"

A prayer for priests

"O Jesus, our great High Priest, hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priests. Give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of their priestly life..."

World Day of Prayer—St Joseph's Catholic Church, Wrightington.

1st March at 2pm

This year St Joseph's will be hosting an Ecumenical Service prepared by the Woman of Palestine to celebrate *World Day of Prayer*. You are invited to join us in prayer on **Friday 1st March at 2pm**.

Please come along to pray and support each other on this special day.

Refreshments are available after the service.

Mill Hill Missionaries National Novena to St Joseph

10 - 18 March 2024



NOVENA MASSES

will be celebrated at
St Joseph's Church Maidenhead*
at 10:00 am weekdays and Saturday (10th),
and 11:00 am Sunday (10th & 17th).
EVENING PRAYER & NOVENA
will be held at the Mill Hill Community Chapel
Maidenhead
at 6:00 pm daily
during the Novena.

*Both events will be available to view on Zoom, via the Mill Hill website: www.millhillmissionaries.co.uk/novena.

Invitation to join us in Prayer

If you would like to receive a Novena booklet please send a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Novena Director
St Joseph's Missionary Society
6 Corby Gardens
Maidenhead
Berkshire
SL6 7JZ
Or email:
novena@mhms.org



Please scan the QR code for the Novena page of the Mill Hill Missionary website.

For more information about the Mill Hill Missionaries, please visit our website: www.millhillmissionaries.com.

Registered Charity No. 1249900

THE SECRET OF THE ROSARY

- St. Louis Marie de Montfort -

"Say your Rosary every day and you will earn the right to go to heaven to see Jesus and Mary. If not their wish that you should see them in this life, at any rate after you die you will see them for all eternity. Amen."



Novena to St Joseph

10th March-18th March

See poster in church and join the Mill Hill Missionaries in prayer for a special Novena to St Joseph.

Sacrament of Reconciliation.

There will be an opportunity for individual confession each Wednesday during Lent from 6.30pm -7pm and by appointment.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL

"Taking to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus, we will go into the world to proclaim the Good News to the whole of Creation"