



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

NEWSLETTER

www.holyfamilyparish.org.uk



St Joseph's & St Elizabeth's

edition

Issue #25

2nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Year A 18th /19th Jan 2026

Jesus – the One who takes away our sins

Once upon a time there was a beautiful porcelain teapot. But it was very frail and delicate. Consequently, it was used only on very special occasions, and only for important visitors. But then one day a careless person dropped it. The lid and spout got broken. The beautiful teapot was now considered to be useless and was thrown out.

For a long time it lay in a refuse dump. Coats of dirt settled on it, blotting out whatever traces of beauty it still possessed. From time-to-time people came to the dump, hoping to find something of value. On seeing the teapot, they would say, 'What a pity it got broken! It must have been beautiful when it was in one piece'.

Then one day a famous flower grower visited the dump. She found the teapot and took it home with her. The first thing she did was clean it up. In spite of its brokenness, she found it very beautiful, and she wondered how anyone could have thrown it away. Then she had an inspiration. She would use it as a flowerpot. She filled it with soil, planted a seed in it, and placed it in the front window of her house. Time passed. The seed grew and blossomed into a beautiful flower. Passers-by stopped to admire the flower, and also the handsome pot in which it grew.

Sin is not a physical stain that we can just wash away. Nor can we take it away as if it was a thing. Sin is not a thing. Sin is a condition – a condition of brokenness and woundedness. Each of us is damaged and broken.

Jesus came to redeem us. To be redeemed is to be made whole and well. It is to be restored to our original brightness through the grace of the Holy Spirit. However, this is a lifelong process. We are not things to be repaired. We are people, people to be brought back into relationship with God and one another.

Lord, send your Holy Spirit to us, to heal the wounds of our hearts so that we may produce the fruits of love.

Christian Unity Week

18-25 January 2026

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling. (Ephesians 4:4)

In a world with diverse and often divided traditions and expressions of Christian faith, Eph 4:4 reminds us that all believers are part of the "one body" of Christ.

For this year, the prayers and reflections for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Church, along with their brothers and sisters of the Armenian Catholic and Evangelical Churches. These resources draw upon centuries-old traditions of prayer and petitions used by the Armenian people, along with hymns that originated in the ancient monasteries and churches of Armenia, some of which date as far back as the fourth century. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 extends an invitation to draw upon this shared Christian heritage and to delve more deeply into our fellowship in Christ, which unites Christians worldwide. Resources for the Week of Prayer:

<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity>

1st: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

Ps 40 R/ Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

2nd: 1 Cor 1:1-3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Acclamation: Alleluia! The Word became flesh and dwelt among us; to all who did receive him, he gave the authority to become children of God. Alleluia!

Gospel John 1:29-34 Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Our current records system is being replaced by a new self-service one! Please sign up at www.stjosephsparish.co.uk to keep receiving the e-newsletter and for us to serve you better!



FEED THE HUNGRY

Throughout January, our friends in Food Share, The Sue Brett Foundation and The Salvation Army are in dire need of Donations to feed the increased number of people who rely on their services and support in this cold and inhospitable weather. Please remember our brothers and sisters when you are shopping and pop an extra can or packet of food in your basket to donate and help Feed the Hungry. Your donations of clean, warm clothing are always welcome at this difficult time also. Thank you for your generosity.

Jan 2026

Sat	17 th	10:00*	Thanksgiving: Moraes & D'Souza families
		18:30	Angus McIntyre, RIP
Sun	18 th	08:00	Adelina Da Silva Moreira, A
		09:15	
		11:00	Christine Laurence, RIP
		15:00	Filipino Mass
		17:00	Mass of the Parish of Holy Family
Tue	20 th	10:00	Charles O'Rourke, A
Wed	21 st	10:00	Coleman Family, FM
Thu	22 nd	10:00	Frayne Pinho, SI
Fri	23 rd	10:00	Lena McMorrow, RIP
		11:00	Funeral: Terrance Cronin
Sat	24 th	10:00*	Ian Noble, A
		18:30	Adam Parkin, RIP
Sun	25 th	08:00	Mr & Mrs Margaret Philip, A Agostinho Moreira da Costa, A
		09:15	Mass of the Parish of Holy Family
		11:00	Maria Flores, RIP Albert DeSouza, A
		17:00	Ignatius Teo, A

Adoration before Mass: *9-10am

Confessions on Saturday after 10am Mass / before 6.30pm Mass

A: Death Anniv; FM: Foundation Mass; RIP: Rest in Peace, SI: Special Intention

OUTSIDE OUR PARISH EVENTS / PILGRIMMAGES

- **24 Jan 10-1pm ADoRE spiritual mini-retreat on Zoom. "GOD IS LOVE"**. Register bit.ly/ADOREJAN2026
- **24 Jan 10-8pm Inheriting your Destiny** online event by Cor et Lumen Christi <https://tinyurl.com/nhbsdsxx>
- **7 Feb 6pm Evening of vocal & piano music** Tickets £10 from urcconcerts@gmail.com Mhead URC, West Street, SL6 1R
- **9 Feb 5N Lourdes Coach tour** £590. To book: 07957 594646
- **8 Mar 5N Escorted Tour: Westport, Knock & Co Mayo** £899 01268762278/ 07740175557/ knockpilgrimages@gmail.com
- **1 Jun 5N Pilgrimage Assisi** journneys.com/assisi-june-2026



HFP: Holy Family Parish

SE: St Elizabeth's **SEC:** St Edmund Campion

SJ: St Joseph **STM:** St Thomas More

HAPPENING IN THE PARISH

30 Jan NOSTALGIA NIGHT The West End is coming to SEC! All proceeds to SEC Church refurbishment. Tickets @ £20 from SEC office or see posters for online booking.

21 Feb St Joseph's Quiz Night Save the Date! Come along for an evening of fun, friendship, and pit your skill and knowledge against teams from across the parish! Form a team, or join one for a fun evening. Further details to follow.

Support: Jane and Peter Kelly from STM are raising money for SVP by taking on the challenge of walking the Camino (110km pilgrimage route across Spain over several days) in April.

Please support this wonderful endeavour:



REGULAR EVENTS

- ❖ **3rd Sundays 3pm Filipino Mass** SJ Church
- ❖ **Mondays 10am Mother's Prayers** SJ Church
- ❖ **1st & 3rd Tuesdays 2.30 – 4.30pm Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM)** SJ St Liz Room
- ❖ **Thursdays Zoom Room: 2pm Rosary**
- 6pm Journey together through Holy scriptures** www.tinyurl.com/2hz5axvp
- ❖ **Fridays 8.45-10:45am Baby & Toddler Group** SEC Centre (term time)
- 6pm Legion of Mary** SJ Church. Contact Tereza for more info 07878 117907

CLASSES/ EVENTS IN SJ CENTRE

See notice board/ website (some are privately run)

- **Tuesdays: Practical Art** Join U3A untutored Art Group. Bring your art materials and join in the fun every 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 2-4pm in SJ Hall. Contact Peter 01628 674097
- **Wednesdays: 5-6pm Taichi** in Hall.
- **Thursdays 7pm Yoga** with Una in Hall. All proceeds to SJ!

SACRAMENTALS All **forms** can be found here: <https://stjosephsparish.co.uk/newsletter/>

🔥 **Baptism Course 3 Feb** For expecting parents and parents whose child(ren) is being baptised in M'head

♥ **Marriage:** Thinking of getting married? Enquire via our online form!

♥ **Volunteers needed!** to help present MarriageCare Preparation courses locally (1-2 Saturdays in the year). Full training and support given. Contact Sue Cooper on 07939495774 or at sue.cooper@marriagecare.org

♥ **Retrouvaille** brings hope & healing to relationships. **12 Feb.** www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

Confirmation & First Holy Communion Classes:

○ **FHC Stage 2:** Next class **SJ: 9.30am 25 Jan**. Please refrain from bringing devices to class/church.

🔥 **Confirmation Stage 2** Eligible Candidates begins this stage **Sat 24 Jan 4.30pm at SEC** school. Please bring along your Mass attendance cards. Please note the requirements to enter this Stage. We continue to pray for them.

🙏 **OCIA:** We continue to pray for our candidates whilst they prepare to be fully initiated at the Easter Vigil, April 4th, 2026. Classes are beginning.

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