



## People of the Word: Joseph

Last week we heard of the twelve sons of Jacob, the origins of the twelve tribes of Israel. **Today we look more closely at Joseph, one of Jacob's sons whose famous story marks an important turning point in the history of God's people.**



Joseph was the first son of Jacob's beloved wife, Rachel. He was a favourite of his father, who had a fine coat made for him (the 'technicolour dreamcoat' of the musical!) But his brothers were jealous and sold him to slave traders, who took him to Egypt, where he worked before being wrongly imprisoned. Gifted by God with an ability to interpret dreams, he helped Pharaoh, who then honoured Joseph with high office in his kingdom.



Later, when famine struck their land, Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to seek help, and came before Joseph. When they discover that he's still alive, they bring their father, who believed that Joseph was dead, for an emotional reunion. After Jacob's death, the brothers settled in Egypt – initially as free men. But later, their descendants – the people of the twelve tribes – would become slaves. Joseph's story is told in Genesis chapters 37-50.

### Questions for reflection:

- Joseph's brothers sold him because they were jealous. Are there people I am jealous of? Am I content with what God gives me?
- When Joseph was sold to slave traders, it looked like disaster, but it led him to greatness in Egypt. Can I see times in my life when God has led me through a time of hardship to give me a better future?

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## MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 139

Office: Psalter Week 3; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: Year 2, week 7; then of Lent

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6pm (vigil)	<b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Prayers answered – Saint Francis thanksgiving
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30am		Anne Connolly RIP
	6pm		Joan Burton RIP
Monday	9:15am		Jacky Godwin RIP
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	10:30am	<b>Requiem</b>	Jim McCallion RIP
	7pm		Angela Brown RIP
Wednesday	9:15am	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	Dec. memb. Meek family
	7pm		For penitents
Thursday	9:15am		Marie Howson RIP
Friday	12noon		Divine Mercy Prayer Group
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10am		Sandra Donnelly RIP
	6pm (vigil)	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	Michael and Margaret Holleran RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	9:30am		Ints Christine Mattinson
	6pm		People of the Parish

**LATELY DEAD:** Please pray for **William James (Jim) McCallion**, whose Requiem will take place here on Tuesday at 10:30am, and all who have died recently.

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon.

**LITURGY OF THE HOURS:** Morning Prayer 7:45am Monday-Friday during Lent (begins this Wednesday); sung Vespers and Benediction 3:30pm during Lent.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 11am-12noon and on request.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Sundays 3pm during Lent.

**ROSARY:** Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass.

**ST ANTHONY:** February wall box donations will go to local people in need of help.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** George Green, Bill Walmsley, Anne Lovell, Norma Douds, Edwin Smith, Isabella Main, John Kirk, Jean Bateson.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FEBRUARY:** We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** The holy season of Lent, a time of spiritual renewal, begins on Wednesday. Mass will be celebrated, with the distribution of ashes, at 9:15am (at which our primary school will be present) and 7pm.

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?** We are encouraged to do additional acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving during these 40 days. Let's make the most of this holy time by planning how we will make more space for the Lord.

**DAY OF RENEWAL:** Next Saturday (29<sup>th</sup>), led by the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal who visited us last March. Begins with Mass at 10am. A good way to start Lent! A full programme is given on the notice board in the narthex.

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2021:** We are looking at the possibility of a parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the October half term next year (2021). There will be an initial meeting for those who may be interested next Sunday (1<sup>st</sup>) at 7pm in the side chapel. If you're interested but can't make the meeting, speak to Fr A.

**LECTIO DIVINA:** On Tuesdays during Lent, after the evening Mass, an opportunity to pray together this form of meditation on the Word of God. A chance to listen to the Word of God using a pattern of prayer taught by St Clare. All welcome.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE YOUTH:** Young people (school year 10 and over) are invited to take part in the diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage, 23<sup>rd</sup> July-1<sup>st</sup> August. If you are interested in going on the pilgrimage, please speak to Fr Andrew.

**CTS BOOK CLUB:** Next meeting **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March** (please note, the date was incorrect in last week's newsletter) after the evening Mass. The booklet is *Living Fruitfully: Self-control* by Fr John Hogan. Copies available from Fr Andrew.

**CTS BOOK SALE:** We have some CTS booklets which will be on sale for a bargain price after Masses next weekend (29<sup>th</sup>/1<sup>st</sup>). A chance to get some Lenten reading!

**200 CLUB WINNERS:** £157 – no. 38 Christine Burgess; £94 – no. 70 Monica Wood; £63 no. 50 Prisca Lepcha. The club has so far raised £17,240 for parish funds.

**YEAR OF THE WORD:** Metanoia's 'The God who speaks' series continues this Thursday, 7:30pm at St Wilfrid's. Poster with full details in the narthex.

**OLSE LADIES' GROUP:** Meeting this Thursday at OLSE Parish Centre, 8pm. A talk by Fr Horn on his ministry in Peru. Admission £2. Visitors welcome.

**FAIRTRADE CHOCOLATE EVENING:** with film, talk, quiz, tastings and drinks. Tues 25th Feb, 7:30pm at the Xaverian Centre. For more info phone 07813 870641.

**LEPRA APPEAL:** This Sunday there will be an appeal at all Masses on behalf of the charity Lepra, which works to help those who suffer with leprosy.

**LAST WEEK:** At Mass:448; Collection: £992.40 Thank you for your generosity.

## Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	7pm	<b>Visiting Group Meeting</b>	Presbytery
Monday-Friday	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6:15pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	6:45pm	<b>Baptism Preparation (2)</b>	Chapel
	7:30pm	Journey in Faith	Presbytery
	7:45pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	7:30pm	<b>Marriage Preparation (6)</b>	Parish Hall
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Chapel/Narthex
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	School
	10:30am	<b>Day of Renewal</b>	Parish Hall
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30am	Children's liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	<b>First Communion Preparation (2)</b>	Parish Hall
	11am	<b>First Communion: parents' session</b>	Chapel
	3pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	Church
	3:30pm	<b>Sung Vespers and Benediction</b>	Church
	4:30pm	<b>Confirmation Preparation (2)</b>	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	<b>Holy Land Pilgrimage Meeting</b>	Chapel

## Diary Dates

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March: First music practice for Holy Week, 6:30pm

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten lunch; First Friday Holy Hour, 7pm; CAFOD Lent Fast Day

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Solemnity of St Joseph. Mass at 9:15am

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March: Solemnity of the Annunciation. Mass at 9:15am

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March: Messy Church, 1:30pm

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March: Rededication of England to Our Lady

## Further ahead and further afield...

**Mercy Brothers Concert:** a rock band made up of six priests give a concert on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 7:30pm at Bamber Bridge Catholic Club. In aid of a local programme to support Syrian refugees. £10 including Hot Pot supper (£3.50 u/16s)