

'TWO-WEEKS' NEWSLETTER

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 28th December 2020 – Sunday 3rd January 2021

Monday	10:00am	All Babies R.I.P
Tuesday	10:00am	Persecuted Christians
Wednesday	7:00pm	Peace in the World
Thursday	12:00noon	Agnes' Dad R.I.P <i>Mary Mother of God</i>
Friday	12:00noon	For a Happy New Year
Saturday	6:00pm	The Poor
		<i>Second Sunday of Christmas</i>
Sunday	8:30am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	Deceased Parents
	12:00noon	Anna Dooling R.I.P

Monday 4th January – Sunday 10th January 2021

Monday	10:00am	World Peace
Tuesday	10:00am	The Cry of Migrants <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>
Wednesday	10:00am	Christians in China
	7:00pm	Peace in the World
Thursday	10:00am	Freedom from Addiction
Friday	10:00am	Respect for the Planet
Saturday	6:00pm	The Maritime World <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>
Sunday	8:30am	Deceased Friends
	10:00am	Jim Feeney R.I.P
	12:00noon	People of the Parish

As we say goodbye to 2020, we look forward to 2021. 2020 probably tested our hope and our joy, but thank God we are alive. If any of your family or loved ones have died, we trust that they are happy with God in heaven.

Sincere thanks to all the people who helped in St James' parish over the past year, people with their time, talent and treasure have made this parish what it is, sincere thanks to you all.

We look forward with hope to 2021 and with God there is joy in your hearts. Stay safe, lots of love, prayers and blessings.

Fr. Jack

Pope Francis proclaims "Year of St Joseph"

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows. The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph," beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

A father who teaches the value, dignity and joy of work.

"A carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family," St Joseph also teaches us "the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one's own labour." This aspect of Joseph's character provides Pope Francis the opportunity to launch an appeal in favour of work, which has become "a burning social issue" even in countries with a certain level of well-being. "There is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron," the Pope writes.

Work, he says, "is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion." Those who work, he explains, "are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us." Pope Francis encourages everyone "to rediscover the value, the importance and the necessity of work for bringing about a new 'normal' from which no one is excluded." Especially in light of rising unemployment due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Pope calls everyone to "review our priorities" and to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!"