



Parish Bulletin

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Sunday Cycle A
Divine Office: Week 2

Website

nativityparish.org.uk

Our Churches

Church of St Mary the Immaculate Conception
Clive Road, Failsworth, Manchester,
M35 0NN.

Church of the Holy Family
407, Roman Road, Hollinwood, Oldham,
OL8 3PY.

Email: saint.marys@hotmail.com
Tel 0161 681 1835

Parish Priest

Canon Michael Job

Assistant Priest

Fr Celestine Nyikwagh

SVP

Parishofthenativitysvp@outlook.com

Youth Group

youth.parishofthenativity@gmail.com

Bee Together Community Garden

beetogetherhollinwood@gmail.com

 @ParishoftheNativity

 @oldham_nativity

This Week's Divine Services and Other Events

Monday December 8  Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98(97):1. 2-3b. 3c-4. R1a;
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38.
Mary (solemnity) **9:15AM Mass, St Mary's**
9:15AM Mass, Holy Family

Tuesday December 9  Isaiah 40:1-11;
Weekday of Advent Ps 96(95):1-2. 3, 10ac. 11-12a. 12b-13. Rcf. Isaiah 40:9-10;
Matthew 18:12-14.
9:15AM Mass, St Mary's
2:00PM-4:00PM Cuppa Club—all welcome.

Wednesday Dec. 10  Isaiah 40:25-31; Ps 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 8, 10. R1a;
Weekday of Advent Matthew 11:28-30.
9:15AM Mass, Holy Family

Thursday December 11  Isaiah 41:13-20; Ps 145(144):1, 9. 10-11. 12-13b. R8;
Weekday of Advent Matthew 11:11-15.
(No services)

Friday December 12  Isaiah 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2. 3. 4, 6. R Psalm 40(39):5a;
Weekday of Advent Matthew 11:16-19.
8:55AM Rosary, St Mary's
9:30AM Mass, St Mary's

Saturday December 13  2 Corinthians 10:17-11:2;
St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr Ps 31(30):3c-4. 6, 8ab. 16bc, 17. R6a; Matthew 25:1-13.
(memorial) **11:00-11:45AM: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and**
Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession), St Mary's.
12:00 noon Mass, St Mary's

Sunday December 14  Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10;
3rd Sunday of Advent Ps 146(145):6c-7. 8-9a. 9b-10. R Matthew 5:3; James 5:7-10;
Matthew 11:2-11.
Divine Office Week 3 **9:00AM St Mary's Church open for private prayer.**
9:30AM Sung Mass, St Mary's
10:45AM Holy Family Church open for private prayer.
11:15AM Sung Mass, Holy Family
Light refreshments will be served after both Sunday morning
Masses.
6:00PM Mass, St Mary's

Confession

Saturdays (see above) or otherwise on request.

Baptisms and Marriages

If you would like to arrange a baptism or a wedding, please
speak to a priest or to Sr. Benedicta after Mass.

Please note, we require six months' notice for a wedding.

We Pray For...

Birthdays

Moya Smith, Rose O'Brien (80 years), Patrick Szoltysek (70 years).

Sick

We pray for all who are currently awaiting results, undergoing treatment or battling illnesses. In particular: Paul Vincent Rostern, Gregory Francis Rostern, Padraig Rafferty, Joe & Anne Appleton, Teddy Holt, Monica Reed, Maria-Thérèse Passenger, Karen Seinen, Geraldine Power, Kath Wilkinson, Michael Melody, Betty Brown, Joe Gallagher, Finola Bedford, Catherine Redikin, James McManus, Catherine Ardill, Cristopher McAuley, Austin Moran, Burny Maughny, Pat Snelling, John Moran, Michael Bray, Wendy Felstead, Caroline, Ann Burn, Donni Marie, Sarah O'Brien and Collette Hartwell.

Recently Deceased

We pray for the souls of Dorothy Afam-Anadu and Joan Midge.

May they rest in perfect peace.

Anniversary

We pray for the souls of: Michael Sheridan, Sophia Shaw, Stephen Jones, Caroline Ofodile, Joan Pritchard and Maria Poole.

May they continue to rest in the Lord.

Sanctuary Candle at Holy Family

This week's sanctuary candle at Holy Family Church was donated in memory of Kevin Murphy.

Changes to this week's Mass arrangements

This Monday, December 8, is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—the patronal feast for St Mary's Church. Mass will therefore be celebrated at both churches on that day, at 9:15am.

But please note that there will be **no eucharistic service this coming Thursday, December 11.**

Changed Deadline for Bulletin Inserts

Please be aware that, due to a change in production arrangements for the Parish Bulletin, all requests for inserts, including published Mass requests,

now need to be submitted by **midday on the Thursday prior to publication.**

Catenians Raffle

Tickets for the Catenians raffle will be on sale at Holy Family Church following the 11:15am Sunday Masses on December 7 and December 14. The draw will take place on Sunday, December 21. Prizes include a champagne afternoon tea for two at Housing Units Failsworth, a bottle of Talisker Skye Single Malt Scotch Whisky, bottles of wine and boxes of chocolates. The price is just £1 per ticket.

The proceeds will be used to provide Christmas parcels for members of the Parish of the Nativity community.

Christmas Flowers – Donations Invited

We would like to make a special effort to adorn our sanctuaries with flowers

this coming Christmas, and donations toward flowers would be much appreciated. You can donate as follows:

- On Sunday mornings at the piety stall at either church.
- After 11:15 Mass on Sunday mornings at the refreshment counter in the Parish Room at Holy Family Church.
- Via the priest after any other Mass.

Thank you in advance.

Yoga Breaks

Yogis please note that there will be no Yoga classes during:

This week—beginning December 7;

Week beginning December 21;

Week beginning December 28.

There **will** be classes during the week beginning December 14.

Bonus Ball St Mary's Bonus Ball: Previous draw: November 29. Winning no. 46 – Monica Browe. Prize: £150. To church fund: £140 (1 number unpaid). Next draw: Saturday, December 27. Prize: £300 (Christmas doublestake draw). To church fund: £290 est. Price £10 per number. Pay by Friday, December 26. **Charity Bonus Ball:** Previous draw: November 29. Charity: Royal British Legion. Winning no. 46 – Alexa Delsoldato. Prize: £150. To charity: £120 (5 numbers unsold). Next draw: Saturday, December 27. Charity: St Mary's Building & Repairs Fund. Prize: £300. To charity: £290 est. Price: £10 per number. Pay by Friday, December 26. **Late payments will not be accepted.**

Readings & Psalm for Sunday Mass

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

'With righteousness he shall judge the poor.'

On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the

young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

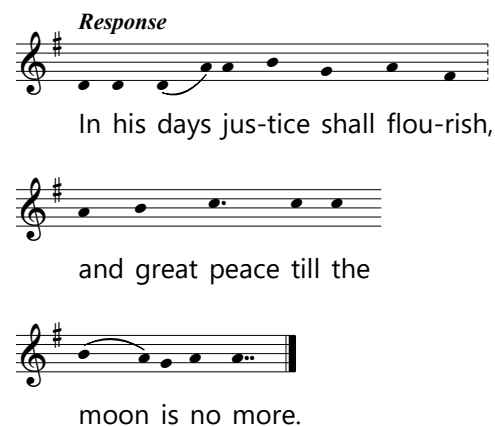
In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R7

Response:

Response



In his days jus-tice shall flou-rish,

and great peace till the

moon is no more.

- 1 O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement.
- 2 In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth.

- 3 For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy.
- 4 May his name endure for ever,
his name continue like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blest in him,
all nations shall call him blessed.

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-9

Christ saves humanity.

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,

and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."'

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves,

"We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Psalm Text: The Abbey Psalms and Canticles by the Monks of Conception Abbey ©2010, 2018 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. Used by permission. All Rights Reserved. Administered in England and Wales by Colloquium on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

Psalm musical setting: Based on a setting by Jeffrey M Ostrowski.

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