

Holy Apostles, Rossendale

4th Sunday of Advent

22nd December, 2024

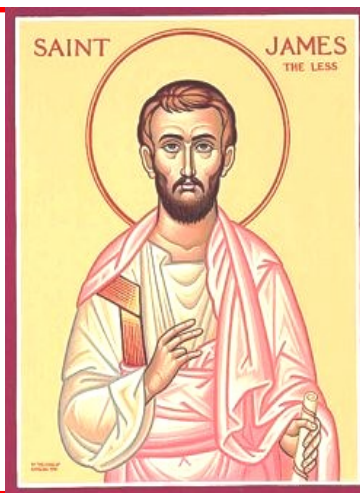
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Masses in St Peter's

Tuesday 24th December — Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Morning Mass	9.30am
First Mass of Christmas (Carols from 6.30pm)	7.00pm

Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day

Christmas Day Mass	9:00am
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Thursday 26th December	Holy Mass	9.30am
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Saturday 28th December	Holy Mass	9:30am
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Sunday 29th December	Holy Mass	9.00am
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Confessions in St Peter's

Saturday 28th December 10.00am - 11.00am

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 28th December 10.00am - 11.00am

Readers at Mass

24th December 7.00pm	Ann Goy
25th December Christmas Day	Fiona Heppleston
29th December 9.00am	Tony Ronnan

Masses in St James the Less

Monday 23rd December	Holy Mass	9.30am
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Tuesday 24th December — Christmas Eve

First Mass of Christmas (Carols from 6.00pm)	6.30pm
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Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day

Midnight Mass	12.00am
Christmas Day Mass	11:00am

Friday 27th December	Holy Mass	12 noon
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Saturday 28th December	Vigil Mass	6:30pm
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Sunday 29th December	Holy Mass	11.00am
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Confessions in St James the Less

Saturday 21st December	5.30pm - 6.30pm
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Readers at Mass

24th December 6.30pm	Dawn Winfield
Midnight Mass	Bohdan Horbaczewskyj
25th December Christmas Day	Paul Swarbrick
28th December 6.30pm	Dawn Winfield
29th December 11.00am	Mary Fish

Masses Received

Sick: Roger & Ruth Dawes; Ian Butterworth; Andrew Wakerley; Jean Ashworth; David Maguire; Jean Lewin; Hattie Bowes; Canon David Ryder; Claire Seymour; Lily Smith; Norma Blackburn.

Anniversaries: Margaret Lane; Marion Dawson; Michael Hannon; Michael Toman; Mary Toman; Helen Nixon; Emily Knights; William Staniforth; Brien McDermott; Harold and Mary Sinclair; Father Vincent Lang.

Christmas Mass Intentions: Frank & Vera O'Neill; Harry & Hilda Fletcher; Deceased members of the Nixon & McNulty families; Mark Andrew Cronshaw; Clarke, Moran & Molloy families; James & Elizabeth Moran; William & Teresa Mary Boyle; Deceased members of the Boyle & Beesley families; Moira & Michael Darcy; Lol Dempsey; Deceased members of the Darcy, Dempsey & McConville families; Katie Davies; Deceased members of the Wilkinson & Lawrenson families; Barbara Grace; Deceased members of the McDonald & Roman families; The Tinker family; Bernard Langstaffe; Eric Townsend; Dennis Wills; Rhona & John Crooks; Margaret Smith; Jo Promfret; The Melia Family; Clifford & Mollie Barcroft; Sylvia Barcroft; Catherine Barcroft; Bob & Barbara Holt; Stephen Clark; Susan Fisher; Kathleen & Francis Caine; Bernie & Kevin Lancaster; Joan & Thomas Whitehead; Mary Capell; Theresa & Jack Phillips; Brian & Margaret Ticehurst; Ellen Lord; John Gaughan; Deceased members of the Molloy & McCarthy families; Jean Leonard; Carol Griffiths; John & Norah Mulderrig.

A Very Happy and Blessed Christmas to you all

I wanted to wish you all, in advance, this weekend a very happy and holy Christmas when it arrives in just a couple of days. We celebrate the amazing truth that God, by Whom and in Whom and through Whom, all things were made, took on our human nature and became a defenceless child out of love for you and I, in order to save us. This is not a myth or a story we tell our children - rather God truly entered human history in a particular time and place as a particular man - Jesus of Nazareth, born of the Blessed Virgin with love beyond all telling. After this event, human history and our own lives too can never be the same again. We often hear now the phrase: 'Let's keep Christ in Christmas', but we as Catholics also want to add: 'Let's keep the Mass in Christmas (Christ's Mass)' because it was not enough for Our Lord to become poor and defenceless in the stable at Bethlehem, not enough for Him to live as a humble worker with St Joseph for thirty hidden years, not enough for Him to toil and travel for three years proclaiming the Gospel and healing the sick, not even enough for Him to suffer and die on the Cross. This Christmas and every day throughout history, Our Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true man, now lowers Himself further out of love for you and I by coming to us in the Holy Eucharist which continues His Incarnation throughout history in every time and place. In the Holy Eucharist, He is even more fragile, defenceless and silent than He was in the manger at Bethlehem, even more fragile, defenceless and silent than He was on the Altar of the Cross. We would have to have hearts of stone not to respond to a love as deep, humble and selfless as the love of God the Son 2000 years ago in the stable at Bethlehem, but today also on the Altars and in the Tabernacles of our churches. My sincere thanks for all who have helped in any way to prepare for the celebration of Christmas in our Parish. You will have a special remembrance in my Christmas Masses. *O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

Salford Diocesan Yearbook

This year, the Diocese have combined the Almanac with all the details of Parishes and Priests, and the Diocesan Ordo which includes the Liturgical calendar for the year, in one book which is on sale for £5 per copy. If you would like a copy please let me know.

Sunday Missals

I have a number of Sunday Missals from CTS with all of the Readings and Prayers for the Mass throughout the year which parishioners can buy. The price is £20.

Christmas Coffee Mornings

This weekend, there are two Coffee Mornings after our 9am Mass in St Peter's and our 11am Mass in St James the Less. Both of these Coffee Mornings are free and are offered in thanks to parishioners for all of the work over the past year for the good of the Parish. In St Peter's, the Coffee Morning has been organised by the Social Committee, and in St James the Less by the newly formed Parish Centre Committee. I am very grateful to both of these groups for their initiative in taking the time and energy, so near to Christmas, to organise these events. So please do call in, even if only for a few minutes, to enjoy some festive cheer!

Baptism Preparation Sessions

The next Baptism Preparation session will be on Tuesday, 28th January 2025, at 6.30pm in St James the Less Church. Signup sheets can be found at the back of both churches.

Please note: we are already fully booked for Baptisms on Sundays in the month of January.

Children's Liturgy

Our Children's Liturgy groups in both churches are taking a break over the Christmas holidays and will be back in the New Year. **This is an appeal for new volunteers to help with the Children's Liturgy in both churches.** We are in need of more volunteers at the 9am Mass in St Peter's and at the 11am Mass in St James the Less. If you would be willing to help, you would not be expected to lead the group, only to assist. Safeguarding requirements insist that there are at least two volunteers who have had a DBS check (done through the Parish) for each session. If you would be willing to help in either church, please let Father Stamp know. Many thanks.

Holy Apostles Children's Choir Christmas Dates!

We're excited to announce that the Holy Apostles Children's Choir will be singing at the 6.30 PM Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve at St James the Less! Join us as we celebrate this special night with beautiful carols and festive joy. Open to all ages. If you would like to come along to sing, please fill in the form below!

Rehearsals:

Weds 18th Dec, 5.30-6.30

Fri 20th Dec 5.30-6.30

Sun 22nd Dec, 5.30-6.30

24th Dec 5.30-6

all in St James the Less Church

form:



If you have any questions, please
contact May: 07539344275
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