



Holy Apostles, Rossendale

2nd Sunday of Advent

8th December, 2024

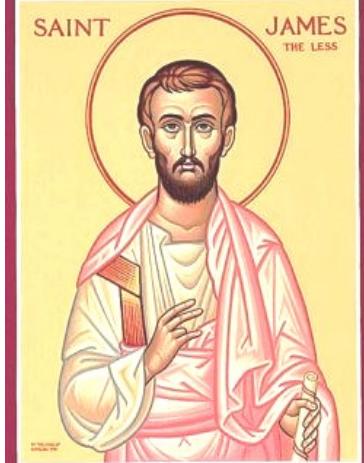
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Masses in St Peter's

Tuesday 10th December	Holy Mass	9.30am
Thursday 12th December	Holy Mass	9.30am
Saturday 14th December	NO Holy Mass	
Sunday 15th December	Holy Mass	9.00am

Confessions in St Peter's

No Confessions in St Peter's this week

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

No Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this week.

Reader at Mass 15th December

9.00am Shirley Whittaker

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: William & Teresa Mary Boyle, Rita

Pilling, Alan Fishwick **Lately Dead:** Margaret Conroy,

Paul Redgrave, Betty Wright, **Other:** Mary & Peter

Connolly (December Masses), The McIlroy family

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.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

This Monday, 9th December, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady. Although this is not a Holy Day of Obligation in this country, it is a very important Feast for us. There will be the usual 9.30am Mass in St James the Less on that day, so if you are able, please do come along and honour Our Lady on her special Feast.

Masses in St James the Less

Monday 9th December	Holy Mass	9.30am
Wednesday 11th December	Holy Mass	9.30am
Friday 13th December	Requiem Mass	10.00am
Saturday 14th December	Vigil Mass	6.30pm
Sunday 15th December	Holy Mass	11:00am

Confessions in St James the Less

Saturday 14th December 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Readers at Mass 14th & 15th December

6.30pm	Heather Purcell
11:00am	Pat McAleese

Masses on Saturday

This Saturday, 14th December, I will be travelling to Birmingham for the Ordination to the Diaconate of Adam Bamber, a young man I received into the Church whilst I was Parish Priest in Accrington. Adam will be ordained to the Priesthood in the summer. Please say a prayer for him. Unfortunately, this means there will be no Mass on Saturday morning in St Peter's. The Vigil Mass in St James the less will be celebrated by the Vicar General, Father Peter Hopkinson. Please give him a warm welcome.

Diocesan Synod

Unfortunately, no one was able to attend the meeting on Thursday evening for the Diocesan Synod - although it was awful weather! So, this weekend I have produced some sheets with questions for reflection for each of the themes of the Synod. I have also placed a box at the back of both churches. Please submit any written responses to the questions by placing them into the box so that I can send a response from our Parish to the Synod organisers at the Diocese. You do not have to respond to all of the questions, you might just want to respond to one or two. Many thanks.

Christmas Mass Times

Next weekend, I will produce a poster with all of the Mass times over the Christmas period, but I wanted to give early notice of the Christmas Masses this year:

Tuesday 24th December

6.30pm First Mass of Christmas in St James the Less with Carols from 6pm

7.00pm First Mass of Christmas in St Peter's with Carols from 6.30pm

Wednesday 25th December

12.00am Midnight Mass in St James the Less

9.00am Mass of Christmas Day in St Peter's

11.00am Mass of Christmas Day in St James the Less

Father Tony has kindly agreed to come back and celebrate the 6.30pm Mass in St James the Less. I know you will all be happy to see him so please make him very welcome.

Fred Hamers Funeral Directors

One of our local Funeral Directors, Fred Hamers in Rawtenstall, have decided to support again this year the 'Kids in Rossendale Toy Appeal' which donates Christmas presents to children in need in the local community. They have sent the following message: 'We appreciate times are tough this year more than ever but we would be eternally grateful if our families, colleagues and community could come together to support us to support our local children. We will be collecting gifts in our reception area and these will be collected up until Tuesday 17th December. No need to wrap the presents, we will take care of that. We will match each donation received for this amazing local charity. Let's make Christmas special for these children. Thank you, as always, for your support.'

Request for Help

This Wednesday, our Primary School St James the Less are holding one of their Nativity plays in the church at 6.00pm. I would like to offer the parents and children some refreshments after the performance in the Parish Centre. If you would be able to help preparing some hot chocolate and teas and coffees, I would be very grateful. Seats are being allocated by school to parents and family of the children.

Annual Walking Nativity

Newchurch Village Community Association are holding their Annual Walking Nativity on Monday, 9th December at 6pm, starting from St Peter's Church. We will walk from church up onto the Green in Newchurch acting out the journey Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem. We will sing carols along the way accompanied by Water Band and end up in the little Park in Newchurch.

At the end of the Nativity we will go into St Peter's Hall for Mulled Wine and mince pies.

If the weather is against us we will hold the Nativity inside church. If you are able to donate any mulled wine/mince pies we would be extremely grateful. Children can get into the part and dress up as Angels, Shepherds and animals!

St Joseph's Christmas Fayre

Our Parish Primary School, St Joseph's Stacksteads, will be holding their Christmas Fayre this Friday, 13th December, at 2.00pm in school. Everyone is welcome. Please drop in and support our school.

Betty Wright RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Betty Wright who has died. Betty's Requiem Mass will be on Friday, 13th December, at 10am in St James the Less. May she rest in peace.

PPTA Coffee Morning at St James the Less

This Sunday, 8th December, after the 11am Mass, the PPTA will be holding their monthly coffee morning in the Parish Centre. Please come along after Mass and support our Primary School.

St Peter's Coffee Morning

Thanks to all who attended and contributed to St Peter's December coffee morning last Sunday. Raffle winners were: £50 T Holden, £25 K Barnes, Chocolate Hamper M Reader, Bottle Wine L Howarth. Tickets for the January raffle will be on sale at the back of church after mass at St Peter's from next week.

Parish Centre Committee Christmas Coffee Morning

The newly formed Parish Centre Committee in St James the Less would like to invite all parishioners to a Christmas Coffee Morning in the Parish Centre at St James the Less on Sunday, 22nd December, after the 11am Mass. This is to say thank you to parishioners for all of the work and all of the fundraising over the past year. There will be minced pies, mulled wine and Irish Coffee, all free (there will be a donations box for anyone wanting to donate) as well as some Christmas music and a little tombola. Please come along on that date. I want to say thank you to the Parish Centre Committee for this initiative.