

# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

**24 December 2017**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**New  
Parish Logo  
Coming Soon**

**(Design Being  
Finalised)**



Here we enter a new stage of Advent: having spent so much time on the Second Coming, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord's First Coming. Today we focus on the character of Mary, and hear of the angel Gabriel being sent to her, to invite

her to take her part in the mystery of the Incarnation, the revelation of the mystery kept secret for endless ages. This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the establishing of that house. An interesting idea is that the first reading talks of David wishing to build a house for the Lord; through the prophet he is told not of the house that he would build, but the House which is his line: eventually, in Mary (betrothed to Joseph) the House of David does itself become the house of the Lord, the womb wherein he has a dwelling place.

**Marriage Matters: Listening is a way of loving** - David, Paul and Mary listened to God, changed their plans and way of life. Before marrying we listened intently and consequently felt loved and cherished. Today, with the pressures of everyday living, our listening can be impaired. We need constantly to overcome the temptation to just 'hear' what's said, and work on listening with our hearts, eyes and full attention.

**Think Vocation:** We pray that the faithful response, "Behold, I come to do your will, O Lord," will be voiced by each person discerning a call to serve Christ as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life.

**A Happy and Holy Christmas  
to all parishioners,  
their families and friends.  
Thank you to all who have helped  
prepare our churches for the  
Christmas Season  
from  
Fathers Cooke & Parkinson**

**Liturgy & Activities This Week**  
*Sunday Cycle B; Weekdays of Advent/Christmastide;  
Christmas Week 1*  
**Sunday Missal: Page 119; Readings page 122**  
*Preface page 35*

**Sunday 24 December**

9am Mass (SJ) – With Children's Liturgy  
11am Mass (SB) – With Children's Liturgy  
*A Day of Special Prayer for Expectant Mothers*

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Sunday 24 December**

5pm Mass – St Brendan's  
6.30pm Mass – St John's



**Monday 25 December**

9am Mass – St John's  
11am Mass – St Brendan's

**Tuesday 26 December – St Stephen**

No Mass Today

**Wednesday 27 December - St John the Evangelist**

9.30am Mass (SJ)

**Thursday 28 December – The Holy Innocents**

9.15am Mass (SB)

**Friday 29 December – St Thomas Becket**

12noon Requiem Mass for John Pryor (SB)

**Saturday 30 December**

12.30pm Nuptial Mass for Gerard Kearns & Sarah Patel (SB)

5pm Mass (SB)

<b>Prayers Please</b>
<b>Sick:</b> Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Joan Pearce, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Linda Southern, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Mary Cassidy, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, Maureen Woodward, Rose Adams, Valerie Piddock, Irene Parkinson, Father Francis McCauley, Zachary Ainscough (aged 7), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Peggy Ainscow, Canon Dorran, Christine Everitt, Mark O'Brien, Sheila Derbyshire, Margaret Gibson, Kathleen & Arnold Banks, Andrew Rostron, Michaela (Sick child), Linda Marsh, Ross Smith (young person), Vernon Holt and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness
<b>Lately Dead:</b> John Pryor, Mary O'Neill (former parishioner of St John's), Sue Makin, Fr Michael Fraher, Barbara Jolly, Rose Mellor
<b>Anniversaries:</b> Dorothy Kirton, Roy Shepherd, Roy Connolly, Sheila Smith, Sheila Hayes, James Gartland, Anna Mikolajewski, George & Sarah Cranshaw, Tom & Annie Gaskell, Oswald Kenyon, Joan Stronge
<b>Mass Intentions:</b> Joan Stronge, Paul James Stronge, Dorothy Kirton, Barbara Jolly, Members of the Whyte and Eastwood families (living & deceased), Deceased members & friends of the Carter & Mathen families, Vincent Heron, Elizabeth Kerlin, The Barrett family, The Carey family, A Special Intention, Agnes & George Beeching, Lucy Hesford, Roy Shepherd, Roy Connolly, Jim Hargreaves, June & Frank, Kevan Dunleavy (Birthday Remembrance), Barbara Grimes, Sheila Smith, John McCormick, Vera & Fred Boatfield, Charles & Rita Bell, Sheila Hayes, James Gartland, The Cambridge, Carter & Atkinson families, Anna Mikolajewski, Gladys Hall, Ambrose & Mary Ann Royle & deceased members of the Royle family, A special intention to the Holy Family for the Smith & Harris families, George & Sarah Cranshaw, Tom & Annie Gaskell, Oswald Kenyon
<b>Cycle of Prayer Part 1 (of 6):</b> We pray especially for: openness to the Word of God; migrants and refugees; expectant mothers
<b>Facts and Figures</b>
<b>Mass Attendance last weekend:</b> 5pm -125; 9am -192; 11am - 157; <b>Total - 474</b>
<b>Offertory Collection: £846.54</b>
<b>Total for Poinsettias: £170 - Thank you.</b>

**Gaelic Coffee Morning:** Thank you to all those who came along to the coffee morning at both churches on Sunday. The total amount raised was £505! There are still some unclaimed tickets: St Brendan's (pink tickets) 706-710; 496-500; 186-190; 291-295; 587-575 and St John's (white tickets) 96-100; 101-105; 106-110; 186-190; 201-205; 466-470; 476-478. If any of these numbers are yours, please see Peter Carolan at St Brendan's and Frances Smith at St John's. Thank you to Greenhalgh's who provided the mince pies free of charge.

**NQT Primary Pool for 2018:** We are now recruiting for our NQT Primary Pool for 2018. The Primary Pool will identify and recommend high quality candidates who have gained QTS in summer 2018, for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for 1st September 2018. All details and application forms are available at [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk). Completed forms are to be returned to Department for Education at the above by 12noon on Friday 26 January 2018.

**Baptism Preparation:** Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 20 January 2018 (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's Church. This is for parents who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please email [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk). or telephone the parish office on 301927 if you would like to attend.

### Christmas Outreach

**A huge thank you to everyone for supporting our collections of food, toys and toiletries during these past weeks. Your kindness has helped so many people in either our own parish, in Bolton or in the wider community throughout the diocese.**

**St Columba's School:** As promised, the children were bussed to Mass at St Brendan's on Friday. It was a lovely celebration. Thanks to the SVP for contributing £200 towards the overall cost of this transportation (£400).

**Offertory Envelopes  
(St Columba's)**

Following the closure of St Columba's Church, we are in the process of issuing replacement envelopes (provided by St John's) for all former St Columba's parishioners who donate via Gift Aid envelopes who wish to continue to support our new Parish, Corpus Christi, in this way.

Parishioners who had non-Gift Aid envelopes (numbered 31-60) should continue to use these for the remainder of the tax year (up to 5 April 2018) when new envelopes with our new parish name will be available for both Gift Aid and non-Gift Aid donations.

All envelopes with the current name of St Columba's will be opened at St John's to facilitate the ease of recording both Gift Aid and non-Gift Aid donations.

**Christian Meditation:** Starts again in January 2018 (Harbour Room, St Brendan's). Here are the dates:

- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> - 2pm-2.45pm
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> - 7.15pm-8pm
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> - 2pm-2.45pm
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> - 7.15pm-8pm
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> - 2pm-2.45pm
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> - 2pm-2.45pm

**Advance Notice:** The Requiem Mass for Rose Mellor will take place at St John's at 9.30am on Wednesday 10 January.

**St John's 200 Club**

The December winners are:

- £50 M Armstrong (199)
- £25 D Whyte (198)



Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 30/31 December		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	C Molyneux	TBA
9am (SJ)	P French	M Russell, M Speed, A Rawlinson, M Cropper, T Armstrong, J Carroll,
11am (SB)	L Lamoury	J Murphy, P Carolan, M Meagher

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 6/7 January		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	A Grundy	TBA
9am (SJ)	P Partington	F Smith, E Rothwell, A Gracie, P McArdle, M Cropper, T Armstrong
11am (SB)	J Proctor	M Meagher, J Murphy, P Carolan

This Newsletter is sponsored by

**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**

Peel House  
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.  
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- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| CHRISTMAS TREE | ADVENT       |
| DECORATIONS    | CAROLS       |
| HOLLY          | ANGEL        |
| REINDEER       | CRIB         |
| TINSEL         | HOLY         |
| MANGER         | NOEL         |
| BABY           | MARY         |
| JOSEPH         | BALTHAZAR    |
| JESUS          | MELCHIOR     |
| SHEPHERD       | CASPAR       |
| KINGS          | GOLD         |
| STAR           | FRANKINCENSE |
| STABLE         | MYRRH        |
| SANTA CLAUS    |              |



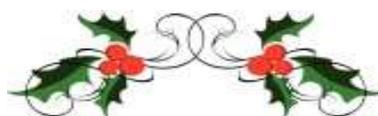
# Sunday 31 December

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Liturgy & Activities This Week	
Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2; Christmas Week 2 <i>Sunday Missal: Page 143; Preface page 36</i>	
	<p>As an example for us to follow, the Holy Family can seem a little too perfect: when we consider the more dramatic events of the Christmas and Easter story, it can seem so far removed from us. And yet, as today's Gospel reminds us (especially in the shorter version), there were also the so-called 'hidden years' - the many years of family life in Nazareth, spent in ordinary things. During that time, we hear how Jesus grew and matured, and in the glimpse of that family life we see our example. The family is a basic unit of our Christian society, despite coming under threat nowadays. Our celebration of this feast, and the Word of God we proclaim, announces that there is a lasting value in the ideals of family life, and the relationship between husband, wife, parents and children. Whatever the changing details of each age, honour, understanding and love always remain the recipe for the perfect, and holy, human family. It is love that we put on over all the other clothes of changing cultures and places, to guarantee the life of the family in imitation of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</p>
<p><b>Sunday 31 December</b>            9am Mass (SJ) – With Children's Liturgy            11am Mass (SB) – With Children's Liturgy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hope in the Future Prayer</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">God our loving Father,            we thank you for blessing our parish            with all that we need            to respond to our vocation to be a missionary community in our locality.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We thank you for all our parish members who, in response to your call, give of themselves so freely to enrich our parish life in the ways of love and service.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We ask you now to pour out afresh the gifts of your Spirit upon each one of us that we may be inspired to serve you in new and creative ways as missionary disciples, bringing your Light to the world.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We ask your blessing upon us as we journey together in hope, through Christ our Lord. Amen</p>
<p><b>Monday 1 January 2018</b> – <i>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>            12noon (SB)</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday 2 January</b> – <i>St Basil the Great &amp; Gregory Nazianzen</i>            7pm Mass (SJ)</p>	
<p><b>Wednesday 3 January</b>            9.30am Mass (SJ)</p>	
<p><b>Thursday 4 January</b>            9.15am Mass (SB)</p>	
<p><b>Friday 5 January</b>            9.30am Mass (SJ)</p>	
<p><b>Saturday 6 January</b>            11am-12noon Adoration &amp; Reconciliation (SJ)            5pm Mass (SB)</p>	
<p><b>Sunday 7 January</b> - <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>            9am Mass (SJ) – With Children's Liturgy            11am Mass (SB) – With Children's Liturgy</p>	

**Marriage Matters:** Give way and love gently. When Mary and Joseph had done everything that the Law required, they went back home. Little is said about them as a couple. Did Mary 'give way to her husband, as you should in the Lord'? Did Joseph 'love his wife and treat her with gentleness'? Did they choose daily to love each other over and above everything else? Do we?

**Think Vocation:** Let us pray that Catholic mothers and fathers will help their children grow, become strong in their faith and filled with the wisdom of God by fostering openness to vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life among their families



**Parish Priest:** Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG.    **Assistant Priest:** Rev Francis Parkinson  
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