

# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

23 December 2018

The Fourth Sunday of Advent



It's only in this last week before Christmas that we begin to hear about the "Christmas story" itself. For the past weeks we have been preparing ourselves to greet the Lord, when he comes. Now we prepare to remember how he first came, by listening to the prophecies of his coming, and by hearing of the events before his birth. We meet the woman, Mary, who herself had been prepared for the coming of the Messiah. She has received the angel's greeting, and his strange news, and has accepted her role in God's plan. Now she hurries to her kinswoman, Elizabeth, who herself bears John the Baptist in her womb. John, just as we heard last week, alerts us to the presence of the Lord, as he leaps for joy in his mother's womb. His joy is that God has kept his promise, and is with his people.

## The Nativity of the Lord

We celebrate this great Feast on Tuesday, though it begins with our Masses on Monday evening. We have (hopefully) prepared throughout Advent and now our Feast is here.

We welcome the new-born Jesus, the child of Bethlehem, the Son of God and the Son of David. He is the Light of the World and our Saviour. He is the Word made flesh, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

The Church gives us the various feasts of the Christmas Season (Christmas Day itself, The Holy Family, The Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord) to help us explore in different ways the significance of this historical event and the wonder of the gift that is given. Let us make full use of the season, to pray about and reflect upon the mystery of the Incarnation.

*Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 1*  
*Sunday Missal: Page 119; Readings page 124*  
*Preface: page 34/35*

### Sunday 23 December

9am Mass (SJ) - *with Children's Liturgy*  
 11am Mass and presentation to Fr Frank Parkinson (SB) - *with Children's Liturgy*  
 6pm Carol Service with Longsight Methodist (SB)  
*Fr Parkinson will be concelebrating the 11am Mass today, please come along to have a coffee with him after the Mass at St Brendan's.*

## The Nativity of the Lord



**Monday 24 December - Christmas Eve Masses**  
 5pm Mass (SB); 7pm Carols, followed by Mass at 7.30pm (SJ)

**Tuesday 25 December - Christmas Day Masses**  
 9am (SJ); 11am (SB)

**Wednesday 26 December - St Stephen**  
 12noon Mass (SB)

**Thursday 27 December - St John The Evangelist**  
 12noon Mass (SJ)

**Friday 28 December - Holy Innocents**  
 11am Mass (SJ)

**Saturday 29 December - St Thomas Becket**  
 5pm Mass (SB) - *with Children's Liturgy*

**Sunday 30 December**  
 9am Mass (SJ) - *with Children's Liturgy*  
 11am Mass (SB) - *with Children's Liturgy*  
 2pm Baptism (SB)

*Parish Priest: Rev David Chinnery*

*Parish Office: St John's Presbytery, The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP*

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*Diocesan website: [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)*

### Prayers Please

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends.

Bernard Holder, Fr John Ashton (SB), Peter McGowan, Jack Donnelly

**Lately Dead:** Mary Critchley, Melvin Plumley, Herbert Hustwit, Patricia Charnock, Christina Flynn, Miriam Idles, Roy Swift, Ron Guidi

**Anniversaries:** Anna Mikolajewski, Audrey Healey, Roy Connolly, Oswald Kenyon, Sheila Smith, Jim Gartland, James Weston, Rose Mellor, Roy Shepherd, Dorothy Mary Kirton, Neville Smith, Eileen Croft, Harriet McAvoy, Gladys Finlay

**Mass Intentions:** Anna Mikolajewski, Audrey Healey, Roy Connolly, Herbert Hustwit, Oswald Kenyon, Sheila Smith, A sick person, Jim Gartland, Mary Critchley, Barbara Proctor (Birthday Remembrance), James Weston, Rose Mellor, Roy Shepherd, Dorothy Mary Kirton, Melvin Plumley, Neville Smith, Eileen Croft, Harriet McAvoy, Holy Souls

**Christmas Remembrances:** Duffy & O'Toole families, Deceased members of the Cambridge, Carter & Atkinson families, Living & deceased members of the Carter & Mathen families, Barbara Grimes, Deceased members of the Lamoury & Thomas families, Charles & Rita Bell, Thomas Rabbitt, James Hargreaves, The Gibbons family, Deceased members of the Conroy family, The Buckley family, The Thornton family, the White family, Thomas & Patrick Gibbons, Gerard Murphy, John McCormick, Vera & Fred Boatfield, Agnes & George Beeching, Lucy Hesford

**Cycle of Prayer Part 1 (of 6):** We pray especially for: openness to the Word of God; migrants and refugees; expectant mothers.

### Hope in the Future

Let us pray for the parish of Our Lady of Grace, Prestwich, with Mgr Allen and Fr Dearman, and for the parish of St Joseph and St Peter, with Fr Boast. We pray for the chaplaincy to Prestwich Hospital, for the Sisters of Sion, and their parish primary schools.

### Facts and Figures

#### Mass Attendance

15/16 December

5pm-111; 9am-212; 11am -175

Total - 498

#### Offertory Collection

15/16 December: £1,014.58

Standing Orders

(14-20 December) -£332

**Cheques:** We now have our new Corpus Christi parish account name. Please make all cheques payable to *Corpus Christi*. Thank you.

**Congratulations:** To Leo Harry James Anderson who was baptised at St John's last Sunday. We pray that he and his family may continue to grow in faith.

**Baptism Preparation:** Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 12 January 2019 (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's. This is for parents from our parish who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please contact the parish office on 301927 or email [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk).

**CAFOD Talk:** On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February (7pm) Bishop John will be speaking about his most recent trip to Sierra Leone and Liberia, visiting CAFOD partners and finding out about their work. Come along to find out about how CAFOD is "listening to the cry of the Earth and of the poor". Meet CAFOD volunteers and staff from the diocese.

Venue; The Becket Suite at St Thomas of Canterbury Church in Heaton, Bolton. BL1 4PN  
Doors open from 6.30pm. All welcome.

**CAFOD:** The CAFOD Ceilidh will be held at St Osmond's (Long Lane) on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 (7.30pm to 11pm). Tickets, as last year, are £10.00 - there is a licenced bar and a good car park. We are aiming to raise enough money for a specific project this year - A Community Water Supply which is £750.00. Tickets on sale soon.

### Vacancy - Human Resources Manager

**Appointment Type:** Full time, permanent.

**Location:** Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

**Salary, pension and benefits:** Competitive based on skills and experience

**What we're looking for:** The Diocese of Salford is seeking to recruit an exceptional individual to the newly created post of Human Resources Manager. This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced HR practitioner who thrives on driving change and promoting excellence. Reporting to the Director of Administration and Personnel, the post holder will act as the HR lead working closely with senior managers to support the development and implementation of effective HR solutions focused on the current and emerging needs of the Diocese.

**Closing date for applications:** Thursday 24th January 2019

More details can be found at: <http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

For further information on the job description or to request an application pack please contact: The Director of Administration and Personnel Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP.0161-817-

2203 or [personnel@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:personnel@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**Gift Aid Donation Statements:** Letters are available to all those who have paid Gift Aid during the last tax year (up to 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018). Please collect from the back of each church. Thank you.

**St John's 200 Club**  
The December winners are:

£50 D Whyte (121)  
£30 E Owen (162)



### Christmas Baubles

Thank you for the tremendous response in decorating Christmas baubles. They look fantastic on both our trees! We hope the children enjoyed designing them as much as we enjoy looking at them!

### Christmas Outreach

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

### Thank You

The SVP would like to say thank you to everyone who came to support the Christmas Flower demonstration last Saturday. A special thanks goes to Margaret Fazackerley who created some wonderful arrangements and to all who helped on the day. The total amount raised for Urban Outreach and the destitution Project was £600! Thank you, once again.

### NQT Primary Pool for 2019

We are now recruiting for our NQT Primary Pool for 2019.

The Primary Pool will identify and recommend high quality candidates who will gain QTS in the summer, for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for 1st September 2019. All details and application forms available on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**Completed application forms are to be returned by 12pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019 to Lauren Cumbo, Department for Education. Email**

[lauren.cumbo@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:lauren.cumbo@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 29/30 December

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	M Maybury	TBA
9am (SJ)	P Barnes	J Carroll, M Russell, S May, A Rawlinson, A Gracie, M Speed
11am (SB)	F Evans	J O'Connor, T Proctor, T Smith

A	B	Y	M	E	L	C	H	I	O	R	R	E
B	D	E	L	B	A	T	S	L	A	A	E	S
S	I	V	D	L	E	O	N	Z	T	R	H	N
A	S	R	E	J	O	S	A	S	T	E	R	E
N	G	G	C	N	O	H	O	S	P	E	T	C
T	N	Y	O	M	T	S	A	H	G	I	J	N
A	I	B	R	L	Y	M	E	N	T	E	R	I
C	K	A	A	S	T	R	A	P	S	A	C	K
L	A	B	T	S	D	M	R	U	H	T	O	N
A	B	R	I	G	H	O	S	H	O	L	Y	A
U	M	R	O	O	R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R
S	H	E	N	L	E	S	N	I	T	A	R	F
C	R	I	S	D	S	Y	R	A	M	I	N	G

CHRISTMAS TREE  
DECORATIONS  
HOLLY  
REINDEER  
TINSEL  
MANGER  
BABY  
JOSEPH  
JESUS  
SHEPHERD  
KINGS  
STAR  
STABLE  
SANTA CLAUS

ADVENT  
CAROLS  
ANGEL  
CRIB  
HOLY  
NOEL  
MARY  
BALHAZAR  
MELCHIOR  
CASPAR  
GOLD  
FRANKINCENSE  
MYRRH





# The Holy Family - 30 December 2018



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.

## Marriage Matters

**Rejoice in God’s gift:** Today we are invited to ‘Rejoice’ and recognise ‘God is in our midst’. This theme of celebration is manifest in our love and acceptance of each other. Though our life will fade with the passing years, the love we have for each other will continue to grow. We are always God’s delight, His gift to His people.

## Think Vocation

Because of the permanence of the Sacrament of Marriage, we have the best setting for bringing children into the world. The marriage vows are lived out each day that the Lord sends to us. We pray for the people who are to be married in our parish this year. May the Holy Family bless all the families in our parish with a love for God, for his Church and for the sacred priesthood.

<b>Think Vocation</b> <i>Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 2</i> <i>Sunday Missal: Page 143; Readings page 148</i> <i>Preface: page 36/37</i>	
<b>Sunday 30 December</b>	9am Mass (SJ) - <i>with Children’s Liturgy</i> 11am Mass (SB) - <i>with Children’s Liturgy</i> 2pm Baptism (SB)
<b>Monday 31 December</b>	9.30 Mass (SB)
<b>Tuesday 1 January 2019 -<i>Mary the Holy Mother of God</i></b>	12noon Mass (SJ)
<b>Wednesday 2 January</b>	9.30am Mass (SJ)
<b>Thursday 3 January</b>	9.15am Mass (SB)
<b>Friday 4 January</b>	9.30am Mass (SJ)
<b>Saturday 5 January</b>	11am-12noon Adoration & Reconciliation (SJ) 5pm Mass (SB) - <i>with Children’s Liturgy</i>
<b>Sunday 6 January - <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i></b>	9am Mass (SJ) - <i>with Children’s Liturgy</i> 11am Mass (SB) - <i>with Children’s Liturgy</i>



**Thank you to all parishioners who have helped prepare our churches for the Christmas Season.**

**I wish all parishioners, and their families, a very happy and Holy Christmas. *Fr David***



<b>Readers &amp; Eucharistic Ministers for 5/6 January</b>		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	J O’Connor	TBA
9am (SJ)	J Carroll	M Cropper, F Smith T Armstrong, M Speed, A Gracie, M Russell
11am (SB)	L Lamoury	P Carolan, J Murphy, K Wilkinson

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