



Newsletter

8st December 2024

2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD



Today we begin hearing the story of Christ coming into the world. We see John the Baptist preparing the way. He preaches a message of repentance. This is not simply a case of being sorry for things we might have done. The word means change or transformation. We must change our outlook and our lives so that

we are ready to receive Christ. This is not just an individual thing. There is a call to change our world. Isaiah tells us that “all flesh shall see the salvation of God”. Christ’s coming transforms everything.

What are we called to do? Pope St John Paul II commented on this passage spelling out how we need to change our hearts and our world. “We must ‘straighten’ injustices, ‘fill’ the void with goodness, mercy, respect and understanding, ‘bring low’ pride, barriers and violence, and ‘make smooth’ all that prevents people from living a free and dignified life. Only in this way can we prepare to celebrate Christmas in an authentic way”.

This time of Advent is a time for us to reflect on ourselves and on our world. There will be many calls in this season for us to respond to those in particular need around the world. However, it is not just a case of putting our hands in our pockets. As St John Paul II tells us, we need to look at our behaviour and our attitudes if we are truly to build the kind of world fit for the coming of Christ. Do we notice injustice and work with others to end it? Do we work for peace?

Are we ready to “repent”? To allow ourselves to be changed as we respond to the cry of John the Baptist in the wilderness of a world so much in need of God to come and be Emmanuel, “God with us”.



Prayer for the 2nd Sunday of Advent

You are all invited to
A Christmas
Carol Service
with the choirs of
St Wilfrid's including our
African choir,
Cardinal Newman staff &
Our Lady's High School.
SUNDAY 15th December
@6.30pm



We repent and we are sorry for the damage we have caused to our earth and one another.

Guide us as we seek to straighten the paths of injustice and prepare a way for you.

Lead us in your ways as together we make a change and reach out in love to others.

Come Lord bearer of love

Appeal for helpers - We urgently need more help on Sunday morning in the Parish Centre. If you can spare an hour **once a month** to serve refreshments after Mass please see Shelagh.

Bambinelli Sunday 3rd Sunday of Advent "Gaudete Sunday"

Over the past decades on Gaudete Sunday children and adults bring their own Baby Jesus figures to St Peter's Square where they are blessed by the Pope. Here at St Wilfrid's we will be celebrating Bambinelli Sunday. We encourage you to bring your Baby Jesus figure to the **10.15 Mass on Gaudete Sunday, 15th December**. No matter if your Nativity figure is tiny or large, new this year or many years old, he can be blessed. You will be given a piece of wrapping paper to wrap him in before opening him on Christmas morning and placing him your crib. A beautiful gift of the presence of Christ in your home.



If any family would like their child (Y3 or older) to make their **First Holy Communion & Reconciliation at St Wilfrid's Church in 2025**

please contact Fr Chris Pedley cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk or Monica Holdsworth holdsworthmonica@gmail.com by email.

Lessons will usually be on Saturdays in the Parish Centre. Dates to be advised.



DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS AND VALUABLES UNATTENDED IN CHURCH



GIFT & CARD SHOP

OPENING HOURS ON
THE BACK PAGE

CHRISTMAS CARDS

RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

CRIBS

NEW SUNDAY MASS BOOKS £16

Quiz Night in aid of Jude Orphanage

The Quiz night last Friday was very successful . **£751** was raised including a donation from a very generous donor. Maria would like to especially thank Christine, Chris and Andrew for cooking some mouth watering food and the shop for buying the ingredients. Thanks also to everyone for supporting this fun occasion. The money you donated will help to provide beds.

Preparing for Christingle

Christingle is on Sunday 15 December.

Little Church will be practicing their special tune with Maria on the first two Sundays of Advent. During Little Church on 15 Dec the children will make Christingles and then process with the candle lit as part of the Offertory Procession, after which the children will sing and sign for the congregation the tune they have prepared.

Each child needs to bring an orange to Little Church on Sunday 15 December.

Monica

THE JOY OF ADVENT

On Sunday 15th December, after the 10:15 Mass, in the Church Courtyard and the Parish Centre everyone is invited to come, celebrate and make time to get together as a Parish to prepare for the birth of Jesus .

We will use our new BBQ in honour of Geoff Thompson to serve you "Bratwurst", Glühwein (mulled wine) and a traditional Christmas market treat.

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP? We would like to run a stall of homemade biscuits, cakes, preserves and crafts but we need you to make these!

PLEASE SPEAK WITH OR CONTACT CHRISTINE COX

EMAIL christinecox2912@gmail.com or

leave a message with the Parish Administrator 01772 554396



Groups and events for students and young adults
provided by The Metanoia Project. Please see Joe White
UCLan Chaplain joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk 07481188102



PARISH PRIEST: FR. CHRIS PEDLEY SJ 01772 555244 cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk
 Parish Administrator: 01772 554396 stwilfridspa@gmail.com (& for newsletter items)
 Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara Maclaren 07986 940883 barbara@hornworks.co.uk
 Superior of the Jesuit Community: Fr. Hugh Duffy SJ 01772 554387
 Deacon (Retired): Rev. Bill Adams 07866 104144
 Newsletter Volunteer: Margaret Nelson margaretnelson418@gmail.com



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday 8 Dec 2nd of Advent *Baruch 5:1-9 (Ps 125) Phil 1:4-6,8-11 Luke 3:1-6*

Mass 7am **Mass 10.15am** with Choir & Little Church during Mass
 Parish Centre 11.15-12.30 Tea/coffee Gift & Card Shop open

Mass 4.30pm with Music Group followed by Students & Young Adults Group

Monday 9 Dec

*THE IMMACULATE
 CONCEPTION*

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11.30-1pm Gift & Card
 Shop Open Tea/coffee

Genesis 3:9-15,20 (Ps 98) Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12 Luke 126-38

Tuesday 10 Dec

*FERIA
 OUR LADY OF LORETO*

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11-12 Led Adoration
 of Blessed Sacrament

10.30-2pm Gift & Card
 Shop Open

Isaiah 40:1-11 (Ps 95) Matthew 18:12-14

6.15 Food Drop In
 (Narthex)

Wednesday 11 Dec

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

5-5.45 Adoration of
 Blessed Sacrament

**6.30 Metanoia
 Clothes Drop In**
 (Narthex)

Isaiah 40:25-30 (Ps 102) Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday 12 Dec

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11-12 Adoration of
 Blessed Sacrament

11am Ascent
 (Coffee 10.30am)

Zechariah 2:14-17 (Ps 144) Luke 1:26-38

Friday 13 Dec

ST LUCY

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

Following 12.15 Mass
 Lectio Divina with ...

11.30-1pm Gift & Card
 Shop Open Tea/coffee
**....Soup Lunch after
 Lectio Divina**

Isaiah 48:17-19 (Ps 1) Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday 14 Dec

ST JOHN OF THE CROSS

Confessions 11-12.10

Confessions 5-5.30

Mass 12.15

VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4,9-11, (Ps 79) Matthew 17:9a,10-13

WE PRAY FOR Those who have died recently: Canon Robert Horn

Anniversaries at this time: Ian Melling, Frances Platt, Fr Jimmy Langan SJ

Those who are sick: Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn
 Deacon Jim Maguire, Deacon Bill Adams