

**The Parish of St Joseph &  
The Parish of St Charles Borromeo, Sheffield**  
**Tel: 0114 269 3175 & Email: [ssjosephandcharles@gmail.com](mailto:ssjosephandcharles@gmail.com)**  
**Website: [stjosephshandsworth.org.uk](http://stjosephshandsworth.org.uk) & [stcharlesattercliffe.org.uk](http://stcharlesattercliffe.org.uk)**



**Third Sunday of Advent**

**15 December 2024**

Rev Fr Mark McManus *Parish Priest* Rev Mr Simon Hegarty *Deacon* [stjosephsdeacon@outlook.com](mailto:stjosephsdeacon@outlook.com)

Please remember in your prayers all the sick and housebound, especially: Karen Andrew, Martin Tasker, Terry George, Mary Broomhead, Sonia Prince, Jade Goodinson, Alan Charlesworth, Harley Bond, Eileen McManus, Pauline Sheppard, Jackie Whelan, Ann Parkinson, Lol Hodges, Joyce McGowan, Heidi Howson, Audrey Rodgers, Sylvia Hayden, Janette Taylor, Reece Wilson, Liz Moran, Elizabeth Dodson, Eunice Mannion, Sue & Frank Rodgers, Andy Mitchell, Marie Montgomery, Rita & Vin Todd, Georgina Shirt, Maria Tarnowski, Martin Humphreys, Susan De Couto, Jacqueline Wagland, Sr. Teresa Paschal, Tom Bryant. *If you would like anyone included on this list, and the individual concerned or a family member has consented to it, simply write the person's name down and hand it in. Thank you.*

**OUR CHRISTMAS MASSES**  
**Tuesday, 24 December, Christmas Eve**

3.30 - 3.55pm *Carols before Mass*

**4.00pm** Vigil Mass

6.30 - 6.55pm *Carols before Mass*

**7.00pm** Mass during the Night

**Wednesday, 25 December, Christmas Day**

**10.00am** Mass of Christmas Day

There is a **retiring collection** this weekend, **14 & 15 December**, towards the cost of **the Christmas tree and flowers** that will adorn our beautiful church for the celebration of the Christmas season.

**Bambinelli Blessing:** this weekend, **14 & 15 December**, the 'Baby Jesus' and any other items you have brought from your family crib will be blessed at the end of Mass.

There will be **extra Confessions available** from **3.15pm to 4.00pm** on **Monday & Tuesday, 16 & 17 December**, and on **Saturday, 21 December, 9.30 - 10.30am**. Hopefully, this will be of help to parents and children at school.

There are **extended Advent Confessions at the cathedral** with two priests hearing Confessions from Thursday to Saturday, **19 to 21 December**, and then on Monday & Tuesday, **23 & 24 December**, starting at the usual time of 11.30am.

**St Joseph's School Readings & Carols Service** will take place this Tuesday, **17 December**, at **2.00pm** in church. All are welcome.

Christmas falling on a Wednesday this year means that **help with** some of **the Christmas decorations** after the 10.00am Mass next Sunday, **22 December**, would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Our **UCM Advent appeal for Baby Basics Sheffield** ([babybasics.org.uk](http://babybasics.org.uk)) is well underway and items that are needed to fill our Moses Basket in the weeks before Christmas are:

- (*New items* in unopened packets only from this category please)  
Maternity pads, Sanitary towels, Hand soap, Baby soap, Baby shampoo, Mum shampoo, Newborn nappies, Baby wipes

- (*Good condition* second-hand items are acceptable from this category)  
Moses baskets, Newborn clothing, Bedding, Towels

## A Reverse Advent Calendar for St Wilfrid's 2024

Give rather than receive each day in Advent. All you need to do is: 1. Get a bag 2. Add an item into the bag from the list below each day 3. Deliver the bag to St Wilfrid's - after 2 January - or leave them at the back of the church (Any volunteers please to help deliver them?). Items are used throughout the year. You can drop off items at the Centre, (Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm) and you can telephone 255 5720 for more information. The centre has a 7 to 3 ratio of male to female clients, and the items that are needed include: Toiletries: soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, deodorant, incl. toothbrushes, combs, hairbrushes, Clothing, incl. men's underwear (boxer shorts M/L/XL), women's pants - all sizes, hats, gloves, scarves, Food: boxes/tins of individually wrapped chocolates. Other items useful throughout the year include: tinned meat & fish: tuna, casserole, stewing steak, tinned vegetables: potatoes, peas & carrots, tomatoes, tinned rice pudding & custard, jars of pickles, Drinks: cordials, hot chocolate, Store cupboard items: brown sauce, salad cream (not glass), pot noodles & cuppa-soups.

Alternatively, people might like to donate locally to the Handsworth Food Bank. Parcels can be brought to church each week and the UCM will deliver to the Food Bank or you can use the collection points in the local supermarkets.

On Saturday, **28 December**, a **solemn Mass for the opening of the Jubilee Year 2025** will be **celebrated by Bishop Heskett** in the cathedral at 12.30pm. All welcome.

**Gaudete Sunday**, the third Sunday of Advent, takes its name (*Gaudete*, i.e. Rejoice) from the first word of the *Introuit* (Entrance antiphon) at Mass. The season of Advent began as a fast of forty days in preparation for Christmas, commencing on the day after the feast of St. Martin (12 November), and it was often called "St. Martin's Lent" - a name by which it was known as early as the fifth century. By the ninth century, the duration of Advent was reduced to four weeks and by the twelfth century the fast had been replaced by simple abstinence. So, for much of this period, Advent preserved the characteristics of a penitential season which made it a kind of counterpart to Lent, and the middle (or third) Sunday corresponded with *Laetare* or the mid-Lent fourth Sunday. As on *Laetare* Sunday rose-coloured vestments were used instead of purple (or black, as formerly) to signify the Lord's coming was near. The Church no longer invites us to adore merely the Lord who is to come, but calls upon us to worship and hail with joy the Lord who is now close at hand.

**THE SACRED LITURGY**

<p><b>Sunday 15 December</b> <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> <b>Gaudete Sunday</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>8.45am</b> Kieran &amp; Mary Phelan <b>10.00am</b> For the people</p>
<p><b>Monday 16 December</b> <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>9.00am</b> Intentions of Marie O’Hara <b>3.15 – 4.00pm Confessions</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday 17 December</b> <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>10.00am</b> Peter Vaughan <b>3.15 – 4.00pm Confessions</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday 18 December</b> <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center">November Memorial List</p>
<p><b>Thursday 19 December</b> <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>9.00am</b> Stan &amp; Sheila Anderson</p>
<p><b>Friday 20 December</b> <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>9.00 – 9.55am</b> Exposition <b>10.00am</b> Josephine Logan</p>
<p><b>Saturday 21 December</b> <i>Advent weekday</i>  <i>Vigil Mass of the Sunday</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>9.30 - 10.30am</b> Exposition &amp; Confessions  <b>4.00 – 4.30pm</b> Confessions <b>5.00pm</b> Eddie O’Maloney</p>
<p><b>Sunday 22 December</b> <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>8.45am</b> For the people <b>10.00am</b> Andy &amp; Kathleen Halligan</p>

**Last week’s collection was £673.82** (£348.90 in offertory envelopes, £324.92 in loose). Many thanks for your continuing support.

**Please pray for Patricia Coddington *RIP*, for all who have died recently & for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.**

The **Piety Stall** is usually open before and after Mass on Saturdays and after the Sunday 8.45am Mass until the 10.00am Mass. The Piety Stall also **has Christmas cards and other festive items for sale.**

There is a **new Cleaning Rota** available at the back of the church. Thank you to all our cleaners! More volunteers are always welcome, especially if there is a group of you who want to form a new team.