

**The Parish of St Joseph &
The Parish of St Charles Borromeo, Sheffield**
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The Third Sunday of Advent

17 December 2023

Rev Fr Mark McManus *Parish Priest* Rev Mr Simon Hegarty *Deacon* stjosephsdcn@outlook.com

Please remember in your prayers all the sick and housebound, especially: Harley Bond, Eileen McManus, Pauline Sheppard, Jackie & Brian Whelan, Ann Parkinson, Joanne Marklew, Lol Hodges, Margaret Dakin, Madge Wolstenholme, Tom & Joyce McGowan, Heidi Howson, Audrey Rodgers, Sylvia Hayden, Janette Taylor, Sonia Prince, Reece Wilson, Jason Barron, Liz Moran, Elizabeth Dodson, Pat Collett, Eunice Mannion, Sue & Frank Rodgers, Jonathan Dempsey, Andy Mitchell, Marie Montgomery, Rita & Vin Todd, Georgina Shirt, Maria Tarnowski, Elizabeth Barron, 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.*

Please note that **THERE IS NO 8.45AM MASS NEXT SUNDAY, 24 DECEMBER**, the Fourth Sunday of Advent. There will be a Mass at 10.00am as usual.

There will be a **retiring collection** this weekend of **16 & 17 December**, towards the cost of **the Christmas tree and flowers** that will adorn our beautiful church for the celebration of the Christmas season.

The **Piety Stall** has **Christmas cards and other festive items** for sale.

Bambinelli Blessing: this weekend we celebrate *Gaudete* ('Rejoice') Sunday and, if you have brought it, your 'Baby Jesus' from your crib will be blessed at the end of Mass.

Help with some of the Christmas decorations after the 10.00am Mass this Sunday, would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

There is **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions** from **10.00am to 11.00am**, with Benediction at 10.50am next Saturday, 23 December.

- **Confessions** are available **from 3.15pm until they are finished on Monday & Tuesday, 18 & 19 December**. Hopefully, this will be of help to parents and children at school.

- Extended **Confessions at the cathedral:** There will be **two Priests** hearing Confessions at St Marie's **from Monday to Saturday, 18 to 23 December**, starting at the usual time of **11.30am**.

St Joseph's School Readings & Carols Service will be this Tuesday, **19 December**, at 2.00pm in church. All are welcome.

All Saints School warmly invite you, your family and friends to attend their **Advent Liturgy** on Wednesday, 20 December, at 6.30pm. Any donations on the evening are divided between the 'Bethlehem Care and Hospice Trust' and 'St Wilfrid's Day Centre'.

Children are welcome to come dressed as one of the **nativity characters** such as shepherds or sheep, angels or kings at any of our Christmas Masses.

Our Crib Offerings will be donated to help the Homeless.

Our **UCM Advent appeal for Baby Basics Sheffield** (baby-basics.org.uk) requests donations to fill our Moses Basket in the weeks before Christmas. Items needed 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 2023

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 4 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 & cupa-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.

An Advent Prayer

God of glory and compassion, at your touch the wilderness blossoms, broken lives are made whole, and fearful hearts grow strong in faith. Open our eyes to your presence and awaken our hearts to sing your praise. To all who long for your Son's return grant perseverance and patience, that we may announce in word and deed the good news of the kingdom. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

THE SACRED LITURGY

<p>Sunday 17 December <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i></p>	<p align="center">8.45am For the People 10.00am Intentions of Jude Jacinto Valentin Emmitt</p>
<p>Monday 18 December <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center">10.00am Mgr Peter Kirkham</p>
<p>Tuesday 19 December <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center">10.00am Pat & Mary Landers</p>
<p>Wednesday 20 December <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center">November Memorial Dead List</p>
<p>Thursday 21 December <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center">10.00am Freda Clarke</p>
<p>Friday 22 December <i>Advent weekday</i></p>	<p align="center">9.00 - 9.55am Exposition 10.00am Family & Friends of Margaret Kelly</p>
<p>Saturday 23 December <i>Advent weekday</i> <i>Vigil Mass of Sunday</i></p>	<p align="center">10 to 10.50am Exposition & Confessions 10.50am Benediction 4.00 – 4.30pm Confessions 5.00pm Thanksgiving of Marilena & Leonard Balint</p>
<p>Sunday 24 December <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i></p> <p><i>Christmas Eve</i> <i>Vigil Mass of Christmas</i></p> <p><i>Night Mass of Christmas</i></p>	<p align="center">10.00am For the People</p> <p align="center">4.00pm Thomas Conway Snr</p> <p align="center">7.00pm Christine Hynes</p>
<p>Monday 25 December <i>Christmas Day</i> <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i></p>	<p align="center">8.45am Fred Butler</p> <p align="center">10.00am Bill Pollock</p>

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

**Last week's collection was £691.87 (£345.10 in offertory envelopes,
£346.77 in loose). Many thanks for your continuing support.**