



The Roman Catholic Parish of

SAINT MARY AND SAINT PHILIP NERI

Belgrave Street, Radcliffe, MANCHESTER, M26 4DG

Tel: 0161 724 1765 Email: office@rcradcliffe.com

STAY WITH US LORD ON OUR JOURNEY

SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

TIMETABLE THIS WEEK

MONDAY 10th December

Advent Weekday

10.00 Word & Communion followed by SVP meeting

TUESDAY 11th December

Saint Damasus I, Pope

10.00 MASS followed by Coffee Morning

WEDNESDAY 12th December

Our Lady of Guadalupe

09.30 Funeral MASS of Rose Berry

19.30 UCM Meeting

THURSDAY 13th December

Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

11.00 Pensioners Club

18.30 MASS

FRIDAY 14th December

Saint John of the Cross

10.00 MASS

SATURDAY 15th December

Advent Weekday

12.30 Baptisms

18.00 Confessions

18.30 First MASS of Sunday

SUNDAY 16th December

Third Sunday of Advent

9.00 MASS

11.30 MASS



THE WORD THIS WEEK

Again we hear about the coming Day of Christ, and meet the character of John the Baptist. Just as once before he prepared the way for the coming of Christ, so today he does the same for us. Our hearts should be open to his voice, as he calls us to repentance, and asks us to make the way straight for the coming of our Lord. The imagery of this Sunday is particularly rich: the dominant image is of a vast population moving together - the return from exile in the first reading, the going and coming of the sowers in the psalm, the community of the Church preparing together in Paul's letter. We prepare for the coming of the Lord as His people - a community who cooperate to make the processional way of the Holy One - flatten-

ing the hills of opposition and ridicule, filling in the valleys of doubt and despair, so that all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

ADVENT APPEAL 2018



toilet twinning

Perhaps the most unsuitable Christmas present you could think of would be ... a TOILET! Imagine finding one of them under the tree on Christmas morning! But if you lived in the developing world, chances are you might feel differently - over two billion people in our world have no access to a toilet or latrine, with all the dangers of disease and infection that implies. Our Appeal this Advent is "SPEND A PENNY FOR CHRISTMAS!" - we are raising money to support "Toilet Twinning", a UK based charity which builds loos and latrines for people in the developing world. For every £60 we raise, they are able to build a new toilet for a needy community: let's see how many toilets we can buy before Christmas! (If we raise £180 we will get certificates in our three loos showing photographs of the toilets our money has built, together with GPS coordinates

showing exactly where it is in the world! If you want to “twin” your loo at home and get your own certificate, make a £60 donation in an envelope with your name and address and we will process it separately, while counting the donation into our total.) Our first week saw us raise **£184.82** so we have reached our first target of twinning our 3 loos in the Church! Simply place your donations in the appropriate . . . erm . . . receptacle in the Atrium! And thanks in advance for your generosity.

ADVENT = “NOT YET”

It is always difficult to celebrate Advent properly: it gets lost in Christmas celebrations, planning and parties! For this reason, I would like us – even in the midst of all the Christmassiness – to hold onto two words: “NOT YET”. Advent is about waiting: thinking about Mary and Joseph waiting for Jesus to be born, about the people of Israel waiting for the Messiah to come, about us waiting for Jesus to come again and make our world a new and perfect place for everyone. “Waiting” is a challenge: the two little words “NOT YET” can help us to pause every now and again, and think about what we are REALLY looking forward to!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

This week we begin our programme for our Year 3 children preparing for their first Holy Communion next year. Parents and children will attend the first meeting in the programme and can choose either Thursday 13th at 7PM or Sunday 16th at 2PM.

THE ADVENT WREATH

While the idea came from Lutheran

Germany in the 16th Century, it was only in 1839 that the Advent wreath was created as a way of encouraging patience in the Advent Season, designed for children asking every day if it was Christmas yet! The original wreath had four big white candles (for the Sundays) and twenty little red candles (for weekdays) and one would be lit every day to count down to Christmas Day. In the Catholic tradition we only have the four Sunday candles, three purple and one rose for the liturgical colours of the four Sundays of Advent.

U.C.M. EVENT

The UCM “Good Condition Clothing and Accessories Bring and Buy” raised £83 towards the building fund. Many thanks to UCM for organising and all who supported the event.

UCM CHRISTMAS MEAL

The annual meal will be at Italia Mia near the Library on Wednesday 9th January at 7PM. Cost is £23 and if any ladies of the parish would like to attend please contact Iris Turner on 0161 796 0181.

CHRISTMAS MINISTERS LISTS

Sign up lists for Christmas Masses are now on the table in the Atrium. Please sign up as soon as possible but remember to give everyone the opportunity to exercise their ministry.

FROM ‘BENIDORM TO BURY’

The stars of the ITV show “Soul Magnificent’ will headline a New Year’s Eve cabaret buffet dance at the Elizabethan Site, Bury with all proceeds to

“Grace’s Place.’ For tickets and information please call Terry Johnson on 07484 662807.

BURY RED DOOR

Calling all Co-op members!! Please choose the Caritas Homeless Project: Bury Red Door for your 1% when spending on selected own-brand products and services, via the Co-op Local Community Fund. For more info on the scheme, please visit <https://causes.coop.co.uk/>

400 CLUB

The winning number in last week’s draw was **230**, congratulations to the winner **Pralita McCourt**. Please collect your prize from the agents. The next draw takes place in January 2019 and new members booklets for 2019-2020 are now available from the agents. We have around 30 members who haven’t paid for over 6 months, which is fine, but if you no longer wish to be a member please let us know! New booklets for these have not been produced, and these numbers will now be made available for others to join.

DIOCESAN VACANCY

The Diocese of Salford is seeking to recruit candidates of outstanding abilities for two specific posts to support liturgical music in the Diocese. The first is Director of Music (20 hours per week) for the Cathedral and the second as Diocesan Music Advisor (15 hours per week) across the Diocese. The two posts are initially proposed as separate roles, but the Trustees retain the option to combine the posts into a single appointment, if a

suitable candidate is found. Closing date for applications: Thursday, 12th December 2018. More details can be found at: <http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE

Pope Francis writes: "Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy. On the contrary, you will become what the Father had in mind when he created you, and you will be faithful to your deepest self. To depend on God sets us free from every form of enslavement and leads us to recognize our great dignity. Do not be afraid to set your sights higher, to allow yourself to be loved and liberated by God. Do not be afraid to let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit. Holiness does not make you less human, since it is an encounter between your weakness and the power of God's grace. For in the words of León Bloy, when all is said and done, "the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint".

Points to ponder or discuss: Am I afraid to set my sights higher? How can I ask the Lord to calm my fears?

IN YOUR PRAYERS

HOPE IN THE FUTURE

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Monday 24th December
23.00 First MASS of
Christmas

Tuesday 25th December
09.00 MASS
11.45 MASS

We pray for the parishes of St. Kentigern, Fallowfield, and St. Edward, Rusholme, with Canon Cleary, and for the parish of St. Hilda, Tottington, with Fr. Cannon. We pray for the Society of African Missions, for Opus Dei, for the Divine Mercy Primary School and for Xaverian College.

FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

For the next few weeks of Advent we do without flowers in Church, as a sign that we are still waiting for something: things are incomplete as we wait. At Christmas, however, our church explodes into beauty! Donations can be made for Christmas flowers in memory of loved ones: just hand in your donation in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers", with the name of the person remembered.

OUR NATIONAL INTENTIONS: We pray especially for: Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers.

LATELY DEAD: Rose Ann Berry.

OUR SICK: Angela Gaughran, Darrell Wild, Brenda Lynch, Philomena Brennan, Vincent Fox, Pat Fox, Monica Hart, Margaret Spencer, Anna Morrow, Rose Murray, Bernard Tonge, Philip Williams, Tony Riley, Michael Tonge, Mark White, Eileen Watmough, Dominic Reddington, Pauline Penswick, Sheila Delahunty, Joan Wardle, Joseph Roantree, Joseph Scully, Tia Tagget, Noel Moore.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Alexander Duenas Sr, Susan Elizabeth Simpson, Peggy Reddington, Patricia Challengier, John McGuigan, Honorah Enis,

James Fulton, Mary Ellen Healey, Alice Lane, Mary Carroll, Marion Egan, Sarah Ann Jeffrey, Thomas Coleman, Thomas Johnston, Rita Coote, Hilda Fairhurst, John Budd, Patrick O'Brien, Francis Healey, Leah Fuins, Adele Benas, Elizabeth Boland, Clare Sandiford, Michael John Clegg, John Newcombe, Rita Duddridge, Rita Aileen Newell, Winifred Birmingham, Carol Leach, Mary McGuinn, Rex Field, Dorothy Higginson, Danny Hamill, Austin Walsh, Danny Augustine Lynch, Catherine Doyle, Cecilia Cole, Mary Ellen Bullas.

NEXT WEEK'S GOSPEL

Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

E	D	U	J	O	N	H	E	A	E	TIBERIUS
I	O	A	S	N	P	R	E	E	S	PILATE
P	R	S	U	H	J	D	N	L	S	JUDEA
L	E	Y	I	O	U	E	Y	A	A	HEROD
I	H	L	R	J	L	S	N	E	E	PHILIP
H	I	A	E	I	A	N	S	T	A	ITURAEA
P	I	L	B	N	A	N	A	L	R	LYSANIAS
I	S	A	I	A	H	L	N	I	U	ABILENE
E	T	A	T	R	I	U	N	P	T	ANNAS
M	S	A	H	P	A	I	A	C	I	CAIAPHAS
										JOHN
										ISAIAH



WELCOME TO SAINT MARY’S: INFORMATION TO HELP YOU

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

At every Sunday Mass we offer the Children’s Liturgy of the Word. This is for children of Primary School age (i.e. who have started in Reception): they start Mass with their families and friends, and then will be invited by the priest to go out with leaders into the Atrium, where they will listen to and reflect on the Bible readings before joining us again for the second half of Mass.

CHILDRENS’ CHAPEL

Through the round window in Church you can see the Children’s Chapel, a space specially designed for pre-school children, to allow them (and their families) to relax a little during Mass. The room is soundproof, so the odd bit of noise in there won’t disturb anyone! When you take the children in, please help them to have an experience of being at church, using the books and toys provided, and following the Mass. Please ensure that children are not left unaccompanied in the Chapel, and please leave it tidy for the next Mass. To get into the Children’s Chapel, go through the door in the corner of the Atrium.

THE SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS are by appointment: please collect one of the Information forms from the porch for details of what is required and the next steps in the process.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK please call the Presbytery to ask for this Sacrament. It should not be left until the last minute, but the sick should celebrate this sacrament to receive God’s help, healing and comfort.

MARRIAGE is by appointment. Please take an information leaflet and return the tear off portion to arrange a pre-Nuptial interview. Please do not make bookings before this interview and note that six months’ notice is required (exceptions cannot be made to this.)

PRACTICAL NOTES

HARD OF HEARING? There is an Induction Loop System installed in this Church: if you wear a hearing aid, please turn it to the ‘T’ setting.

WHEELCHAIR spaces are available on the left side of church, near the back, near the statue of Our Lady and at the top end by the emergency exit.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS

Everyone is very welcome to stay behind after Mass and share a cuppa! Tea and Coffee are served in the Atrium straight after all Masses.

TOILETS

Ladies and Gents are located in the Atrium: we also have disabled facilities with a baby change unit. Please leave toilets clean and tidy after use. Thank you.

The **PARISH OFFICE** is open Tuesday & Thursday (8.00-12 Noon) Friday (08.00—11.00) but please check in advance if you intend to call in. Father James is not available on Mondays: in an emergency please contact a neighbouring Parish.

SVP CONFRATERNITY

The Parish Saint Vincent de Paul Confraternity exists to offer practical help to those in need, especially the sick and housebound. If you know of someone who needs such help, please contact the Parish Office.