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Salford Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Registered Charity No 2500374

24<sup>th</sup> December 2017

THE NEWSLETTER

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Masses for this week – All masses at St Peter's Church, Stonyhurst unless shown

Date	Time	Intention	Feast
Sa 23 <sup>rd</sup>	5.30pm	For the Parish	Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent
Su 24 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Priest's Intention	The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Su 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am St J's	Priest's Intention	The 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – Xmas Eve
Su 24 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Carol Ann Thomasson A	VIGIL Mass of Christmas
Su 24 <sup>th</sup>	Midnight	Priest's Intention	Midnight Mass of Christmas
M 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am St J's	Priest's Intention	CHRISTMAS DAY
T 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am St J's	Tom & Agnes Eccles P	St Stephen, First Martyr
W 27 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Janet Maria Cowdall A	St John, Apostle and Gospel Writer
Th 28 <sup>th</sup>	7.55am	Andrew Gilbert R	The Holy Innocents Mm
F 29 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	The Wilcock family R	St Thomas Becket BM
Sa 30 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Kathleen, Leo & Ena Hayhurst R	Vigil of the Feast of the Holy Family
Su 31 <sup>st</sup>	8.30am	For the Parish	The Holy Family
Su 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am St J's	Holden & Bailey families R	The Holy Family
M 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.55am	Cecily Holden R	Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
T 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.00am	John Holden R	Ss Basil & Gregory Bb Dd
W 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00am	Cecily Holden R	Christmas Weekday
Th 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.55am	John Holden R	Christmas Weekday
F 5 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Deceased members of the Burns, Holden & Myerscough families	Christmas Weekday
Sa 6 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Tom & Mollie Bailey R	Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord
Su 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am St J's	For the Parish	The Epiphany of the Lord
Su 8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am College	Priest's Intention	The Epiphany of the Lord

L = Lately Dead, A = Anniversary of Death, R = Remembrance  
 P = Personal Intention, S = Sick, B = Birthday

M = Martyr, V = Virgin, B = Bishop, Pp = Pope  
 D = Doctor, P = Priest, R = Religious

**Please pray for the following, the anniversary of whose deaths occur at this time:**

James Wilcock, William Duxbury, Michael Crotty, Francis Bretherton, Richard Platt, Carrol Ann Thomasson, Florence Smallman, Joseph Holden, May Holden, Richard Henry Bolton, Bernard Edward Snape, Ann Isherwood, Clare Rawcliffe, Fr Paul Magill SJ, Francis Nutter, Margaret Brown, Richard Henry Rogerson, Kathleen Hill, Mary Francis Slater, Elizabeth Hardman, Neil Murtagh, James Hughes, Mary Melling, Doreen Kenyon, Winifred Buller, Brigid Hardwick, Richard Algar, James Tomlinson, Isaac Wilkinson, Vincent Comber.

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

**Praying with the Pope in January, 2018 That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.**

Look at [www.ThePopeVideo.org](http://www.ThePopeVideo.org) for more information.



*Readings*

	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	Holy Family
First	2Sam 7:1-5,8-12, 14, 16	Ecclus 3:2-6,12-14
Second	Romans 16:25-27	Col 3:12-21
Gospel	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 2:22-40

**The Collection**

Weekend 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> December

Vigil	8.30am	10.00am	TOTAL
£100.60	£89.93	£64.62	£255.15

Many thanks for your generosity.

Just a reminder that the collection at all masses on Christmas Day, including the Vigil Mass, goes to the upkeep of sick and retired Jesuits and for those Jesuits in formation.

**From Fr Peter Griffiths SJ**

Dear Parishioners and all who attend our Church and neighbouring churches.

I cannot adequately express my thanks and say how very touched I was at my 'farewell' party last Saturday night. The very generous gifts you gave me, and for which I thank you most sincerely, will always remind me of your kind acceptance of me here in the parish and the many ways you helped me do what we are all asked to do, namely give God the glory and thanks for his goodness to us all. I shall never forget you and I hope that somehow we can remain in touch. I promise you that I shall be an avid reader of the Newsletter on the world-wide-web!

Very many thanks for your kindness to me shown in so many ways.

**I wish you all a very Happy Christmas which, thankfully, I shall spend with you and I wish you every blessing in the New Year when Fr Tim Curtis will take up the mantle I lay down. He comes here on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

*The Prayer of St Francis before the Cross at San Damiano.*

***"Most High glorious God, bring light to the darkness of my heart. Give me a right faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, so I can always observe your holy and true command. Amen."***

**Hope in the Future**

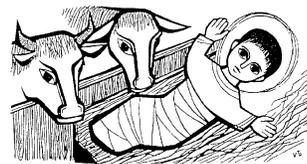
Last week I looked at the work going on in the parish by way of outreach to the world outside, albeit just our immediate neighbourhood. This week I want to focus on the enormous work going on already which keeps the prayer life of the parish going.

- The obvious ones – Eucharistic Ministers, readers, servers, collectors, musicians, Holy Communion to the housebound and sick ....
- Often unseen, Church and Chapel cleaners, flower arrangers, tidiers-up after each mass ...
- Children's Liturgy preparers and those who prepare children for the sacraments ...
- .... and everyone else!!

It is clear to see that a lot of work goes on behind the scenes, too, in organising all the above and we only notice how much work is being done when the providers of the services above report sick or who move away. In the New Year, Bishop John Arnold will look not so much at the present but more to the future.

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The latest edition of **'The Caritas Beacon'** is available at the back of the church. Please take a copy.



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