

ST PETER'S CHURCH, (with St Joseph's) – Stonyhurst College – Stonyhurst – Clitheroe – Lancs – BB7 9PZ

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Registered Charity No 2500374

4<sup>th</sup> December 2016 THE NEWSLETTER for The Second Sunday in Advent (A)

Parish Masses for First Week of Advent

Date	Time	Intention	Feast
Sa 3 <sup>rd</sup>	5.30pm St P's	Priest's Intention	Vigil of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent
Su 4 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am St P's	For the Parish	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent
Su 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am St J's	Priest's Intention	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent
M 5 <sup>th</sup>	7.55am	Jessica Whelan L	Advent Weekday
T 6 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Doreen Hornby L	St Nicholas B
W 7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Priest's Intention	St Ambrose BD
Th 8 <sup>th</sup>	7.55am	Priest's Intention	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
F 9 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Margaret Elizabeth Leach A	Advent Weekday

L = Lately Dead, A = Anniversary of Death, R = Remembrance M = Martyr, V = Virgin, B = Bishop, Pp = Pope  
 P = Personal Intention, S = Sick, B = Birthday D = Doctor, P = Priest, R = Religious

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

Roger Marsden, Mary Whittaker, Thomas Rawcliffe, Winifred Greasley, Pat Walshe, John Ramsdale, Margaret Henry.  
*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Readings at Mass:	Second Sunday of Advent	Third Sunday of Advent
First Reading	Isaiah 11:1-10	Isaiah 35:1-6.10
Second Reading	Romans 15:4-9	James 5:7-10
Gospel	Matthew 3:1-12	Matthew 11:2-11

**Collections:** Very many thanks for your weekly donations for 26/27 November

Vigil	£85.80	8.30am	£ 85.33	10.00 am	£ 77.84	TOTAL	£248.97
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**Praying for Vocations to the Priesthood**

You will be aware of the need to pray for vocations to the priesthood. The Bishop of a Diocese is 'the Pastor of the people of God'; he is, if you like, the official priest, appointed by the Pope to do the work of the church in a given area. He cannot do this alone as there are, thankfully, too many people to minister to; he needs help, and those who help him in this way are called priests. Today, the Catholic Church in this country finds itself with a decreasing number of priests to help the Bishops. As Pope Francis has said, 'Vocations are born in prayer and only in prayer can they persevere and bear fruit.'

At the back of the Church you will find some fold-up orange pamphlets entitled '**What is God asking of me?**' On seven 'pages' you will find a topic relating to vocations:

1 The Bishop 2 Family Life 3 Those Discerning their vocation 4 Seminarians and Deacons 5 Priests 6 Religious and Consecrated Life 7 Missionary Disciples

Each topic has been assigned a day of the week. Each topic is introduced with a brief saying of Pope Francis or a popular saint and then follows a short prayer.

**A suggestion:** Take a copy of the orange leaflet and say the short prayer for each of the days of the week. In this way, even if you are not called to the priesthood and religious life, your prayers may help and inspire others to do so.

Keep praying these prayers. Who knows? Perhaps the Lord will hear your prayers and help inspire many young men and women to become priests or religious in his service.

**An Advent Course** run by St John's Church in St John's Old School Hall. Dates: Mondays 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> November, 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December. Time 7.00pm with a meal followed by a look at scripture in an informal setting led by Philip Elson, a Baptist Minister from Blackburn. More information from **David and Gill Jacques (01254 878222)**

**The Three-in-one Coffee Stop on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December** will be raising funds for the British Red Cross. Tea, coffee, cakes plus cakes for sale, a raffle, the usual books and nearly new clothes rail. Please come and support if you can. Any offer of cakes and nearly new clothes will be gratefully received. Contact D & G Jacques as above.

The next **Joint Mid Week Service and lunch** is at 11.00am on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 in St John's Old School Hall. More news later, meanwhile names, please to Fr Griffiths if you would like to go.

**Carol Singing around Hurst Green village and environs!**  
Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016 A joint project with St John's and All Hallows churches.  
Meet in St Peter's Club at 7.00pm.

**From Mary Bailey:**

There will be a meeting to discuss decoration of St Joseph's Chapel with Christmas Flowers on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm in the Chapel.

**A message from the 'Friends of St Joseph's School'.**

A very big 'thank you' to everyone who attended our Christmas Fayre last Saturday afternoon – the event was a resounding success with lots of lovely feed-back from school families and members of the wider Hurst Green village community, who all said how much they enjoyed the event.

Including the raffle, we raised a tremendous £1620, which is a fantastic amount for such a small school! This has been a true team effort and we would like to say a special 'thank you' to everyone involved. A big 'thank you' also to those individuals and businesses who donated prizes for our raffle – too many to name here, but their details can be found on the Friends noticeboard in the school foyer. Without this generosity and support, much of our fund-raising would not be possible. Details of raffle winners, together with the winners of our other competitions from the day can be found on the Friends noticeboard at school.

**Knowing the Faith.**

'Classes' on various aspects of Catholic teaching.  
Venue: the Parish priest's office. Enter by the stepped entrance at the side of the church.

Time: 7.30pm.

**Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December: Natural Law & the Ten Commandments.**

**Advent Penance Service with opportunities for confession.**

This will take place on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm with mince-pies and mulled wine afterwards.

**Advance Notice.**

**Christmas Masses in St Peter's and St Joseph's 2016**

**St Peter's**

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> 10-11am Confessions**

***Christmas Vigil Mass with blessing of crib 5.30pm (preceded with Carols at 5.00pm)***

***Midnight Mass at 12.00pm preceded with carols at 11.30pm.***

**St Joseph's**

**Sunday, Christmas Day 10.00 mass in St Joseph's Chapel**

The details above, plus details of Christmas services of our sister churches of St John's in Hurst Green and All Hallows in Mitton in the form of a post-card are available at the back of the church. Please take one.

**Praying with the Pope in December, 2016**

The Pope's Prayer intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer for December are:

**Universal:** That the scandal of Child-Soldiers may be eliminated the world over.

**Evangelisation:** That the people of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness and truth of the Gospel, which gives joy and hope to life.

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

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