

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

1ST DEC 2024

As usual, the great Season of Advent begins, not by talking about Christmas, but about the Second Coming. We have had this theme already for the past two weeks, but there is a slight change of emphasis in the Scripture readings offered for this Sunday: here the tone is positive: it is the “promise” of what is to come that we contemplate. Even in the Gospel, though it talks of the dreadful signs that mark the end times, we hear of a promise - “liberation”. For this we should stand erect and hold our heads high. The central theme is that we welcome the coming of a person - Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah, and this is what links this Sunday to the coming feast of his birth: we are now preparing to celebrate how he once came: may these preparations also help us to prepare for him when he comes again.

PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

1. Lord Jesus Christ, help us never to abandon your ways. As you have loved and shown us your mercy, may we sincerely express our love for God by loving our neighbour and being merciful to them. Jesus, King of Divine Mercy, we trust in you.

2. READINGS

First: Jeremiah 33:14-16 - "I will make a virtuous branch grow for David" - the city will be called "The Lord-our-integrity".

Psalms: 24 - To you O Lord I lift up my soul ... Make me know your ways ... The Lord is good and upright ... His ways are faithfulness and love.

Second: 1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2 - May the Lord be generous in increasing your love ... we urge you to make more and more progress in the kind of life you are meant to live.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 - then they will see the Son of Man coming ... stay awake praying at all times for strength and confidence to stand before the Son of Man.

3. COFFEE MORNING AT ST HERBERT'S: There will be a coffee morning in St Herbert's Parish Centre on Sunday, 8 December after 11.00 am Mass. All welcome.

4. MEETING OF PARISH SVP: There will be a meeting of the Parish SVP on Sunday, 8 December in St Herbert's Parish Centre after 11.00 am Mass.

5. ST HERBERT CHRISTMAS FAYRE: We would like to say a massive thank you to you all especially the parishioners who helped set up and man the stalls on the Sunday. The Christmas fayre raised a grand total of **£2331.93**. So again thank you to everyone for supporting the fayre especially Father Christmas who was kept busy all afternoon chatting to the children!

Raffle Results

1st Prize -£100.00 – Lilly Lally (claimed)

2nd Prize Door Wreath – 006 Megan

3rd Prize O AFC Signed ball – 065 Sheila W

4th Prize 4 tickets for O AFC - 176 Marie Fenton (Claimed)

5th Prize Razz & Co187 Voucher Megan

6th Prize Bottle of Port 136 C/O Natasha (claimed)

7th Prize Basket of Chocolates 020 Mrs Rennie

8th Prize Bottle of Cava 093 Julie Hay (Claimed)

9th Prize 549 Rowan Cooper (Claimed) Wine

10th Prize Pottery 088 Kate Nattrass C/O Trish (claimed)

11th Prize Bottle of Asti - 311 Max Gibbons (Claimed)

12th Prize Bottle of Prosecco -231 Emma Brown

6. SVP: In the run up to Christmas, the SVP are appealing for donations of festive foods e.g. biscuits, chocolates, crisps, fizzy pop etc. We aim to distribute a few extra goodies to the families that attend the food pantry in December. May I take this opportunity on behalf of the SVP to thank parishioners for their continued support. The families we are supporting are very grateful to you all.

7. BRASS BAND CONCERT: In Corpus Christi School Hall on Sunday 15th December 2024 from 2pm.- 4pm. Please come along and enjoy an afternoon with MOSSLEY BRASS BAND. Tickets £5 Adults and Children of School age £ 2.50. Tickets are on Sale at both churches.

8. UPCOMING EVENTS AT PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY:

3 December Parish Christmas Meal @ San Rocco

15th December - Brass Band 2pm-4pm (Corpus Christi).

New Year's Eve Dance with Franny Ward - St Herbert's Parish Centre.

9. CORPUS CHRISTI CHRISTMAS FAIR: The Fair will be held today in Corpus Christi School Hall. The doors will open at 10.30 am, after the 9.30am Mass. Please come along and make this event a huge success.

10. NEW YEAR'S EVE: This year we will be holding a New Years Party in the Parish Centre. Over 16's only.

Tickets are priced at £20.00 this includes a hot supper. We are also pleased to announce the return of Franny Ward (DJ) . Come and see the New Year with your friends and family. Please add your name to the list at the back of Church if you are interested. Please support this event. Thank you.

11. CORPUS CHRISTI PLANNED GIVING: The sets of envelopes will be available from Saturday 7th December from a box on the Welcomers table.

They are due to start on Sat/Sunday 5/6th January 2025.

Please help yourself. They are numbered but not recorded. They are provided free to encourage parishioners to give their offerings regularly. They are NOT for Gift Aid use.

Only use them if you are not paying income tax on earnings or pensions.

12. CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: Thank you teachers, helpers, children & Fr Lawrence for a lovely service last week.

Fr Lawrence gave them all a Blessing and a few words of thanks to the children.

Margaret & the choir did an excellent job with the singing along with the congregation.

Many thanks everyone.

There is no Children's Liturgy this Sunday due to the Christmas Fair.

Normal service resumes 8th December. Ken

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 503; Offertory: 443, 175; Communion: 641; Recessional: 147.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 503; Offertory: 177;

Communion: 560, 557; Recessional: 431.

13. DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM 2025: Our diocesan pilgrimage office is now taking bookings for its next annual pilgrimage to Walsingham. Next year's pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 3 May 2025, with an option to extend your visit by staying overnight on Friday 2 May. For more information, prices, and details on how to book, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/walsingham-pilgrimage-2025> or call 0161 817 2209.

14. CARITAS DRIVER: Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity that supports people across Greater Manchester and Lancashire, is in urgent need of the support of a volunteer van driver. Van drivers are vital to Caritas services and are essential to their day-to-day running. If you can drive, have a few hours to spare each week, and want to help Caritas to support people across the diocese, then please contact their volunteer coordinator Matt on m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk or visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer

15. SCHOOL NEWS:

Corpus Christi: This week, our UKS2 children behaved in the rain and cold and visited Castleshaw. The children had a great time and were able to consolidate their learning on rivers. They used lots of fieldwork skills to help find the source of a stream and classify animals found in the river.

We also held our annual Holy Souls Remembrance Assembly this week. Our reverent and emotional assembly allowed us to take the time to remember those special to us that have died. We remember them all in our heart and prayers, not only in November, but always.

They are forever missed.

We would also like to take the time to invite our parishioners to watch our KS1 nativity dress rehearsal on **Monday 16th December at 9:15am**. If you are a member of the parish and would like to attend, please see Tony Parish to add your name to the list.

St Herbert's: It has been a fairly quiet week at school. Rehearsals have started for EYFS and Key stage 1 Nativities- excitement is building! Upper key stage 2 has only a couple of more rehearsals before they perform for their parents and school. We now know what the show is called " No -one Wraps like an elf ." We are looking forward to seeing the wonderful talent we have. To everybody who has donated food for the vulnerable families we want to say a big thank you for your generosity and kindness. We have 1 last request this year and that is if you are able please give Christmas goodies and tinned meat so we can give the families an extra special christmas. Thank you !

16. SUNDAY SMILE: *Last Sunday a local church held its Festival Lunch to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. The food was delicious as usual, whilst the parish comedian had everyone laughing with his one-liners. Here are a few:*

The Chief Executive Officer of IKEA has just been elected Prime Minister of Sweden. He should have his cabinet together by the end of the weekend.

I once tried to smuggle a rugby ball through customs. Well, I thought it was worth a try!

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY:	Both churches closed
TUESDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
WEDNESDAY:	St Herbert's: Divine Mercy Chaplet at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
THURSDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am
FRIDAY:	St Herbert's: Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
SATURDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 5.00 pm; Mass at 5.30 pm
SUNDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am St Herbert's: Private Prayer 10.30 am; Mass at 11.00 am

CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE OR AFTER MASS ON REQUEST

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo

SPECIAL INTENTION: Eva Greenwood.

ANNIVERSARY: Margaret Lees.

LATELY DEAD: Paul Chacku.

SPECIAL INTENTION: Tomy Anthony, Ligy Tomy.

R.I.P: Holy Souls.

PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish:
Noreen Butterworth, Margaret Lawless, Sheila Cavey, Stuart Williams, Peter Stone, Wade Stevens, Luke Burke, John McCarthy, Mary Gowran, Mrs Monica Anne Turner, Angela Delph, Dorothy Buckley, Nora Hickey, Nancy Pinto, Mrs H Fallas, Anthony McDermott, Jean Winterbottom, Maxine Bennett, Dominic Boardman, Angela Fairgrieve, Peter Wooldridge, Pauline Powell, Phillip Lees, Andrew Lees, Mary O'Connor, Louise Knotman.

ARE YOU...

- New to the Parish?
- Know someone who is sick or in hospital?
- Can you help the parish or us you?
- Like a visit from the priest?

Please speak to Fr Lawrence after mass or at any convenient time.



0161 624 2258



divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com



@divinemercuryoldham



Corpus Christi RC Church, 8 Derby Street, OL9 7HX



St Herbert's RC Church, 148 Broadway OL9 0JY

www.divinemercuryoldham.org