

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

8th DEC 2024

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

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: Baruch 5:1-9 - Jerusalem ... wrap the integrity of God around you ... the name God gives you will be peace through integrity ... God will guide Israel in joy.

Psalms: 125 - What great deeds the Lord worked for us / When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage / Deliver us Lord / They go out full of tears, they return carrying their sheaves

Second: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 - I pray for you, that your love for each other may increase ... and prepare you for the day of Christ

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6 - The word of God came to John, son of Zechariah: A voice cries in the wilderness, prepare a way for the Lord

3. COFFEE MORNING:

ST HERBERT'S: There will be a coffee morning in St Herbert's Parish Centre today after 11.00 am Mass. All are welcome.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Come and join us for our Monthly Coffee Morning. This Sunday 8th December 2024 after the 9.30am Mass. Tea, Coffee and Home Made Cakes. Everyone Welcome!!

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

5. 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.

6. 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.

NOTE: Mossley Brass Band - This list at the back of St. Herbert's church has gone missing. If you would like tickets for this event please can you add your name to the new list. Thank you.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS AT PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY: 15th December - Brass Band 2pm-4pm (Corpus Christi).

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

8. 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.

NOTE: Unfortunately the New Year's Eve list that was put up at the back of St. Herbert's church has gone missing - please can you add your name to the new list if you would like tickets for NYE. Thank you.

9. PARISH SVP FOOD PANTRY: The next SVP Food Pantry will take place at Corpus Christi's Presbytery on Friday, 13 December from 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm. Please spread the word to anyone who may benefit from it. Thank you.

10. CHRISTMAS MASSES:

***Tuesday 24th December**, Vigil Mass at 6.00pm, Corpus Christi Church.

* **Wednesday 25th December:**

Corpus Christi Church, 9.30AM.

St Herbert's Church 11.00AM.

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.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 314; Offertory: 273, 122; Communion: 628; Recessional: 431.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 671; Offertory: 214;

Communion: 419, 635; Recessional: 242.

12. IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY: AN ADVENT PRAYER WALK: Join the Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre team this December for a reflective prayer walk around the Centre's beautiful woodland. This self-guided trail invites us to focus on Mary's journey to Bethlehem and the example she sets us as we continue our own spiritual journey in this season of Advent. A number of sessions will be taking place on Wednesday 18 December. Find out more at <https://laudatosicentre.org.uk/events/advent-retreat/>

13. PILGRIMS OF HOPE JUBILEE IN OUR DIOCESE: Pope Francis has declared that the year 2025 will be a Holy Year of Jubilee for the Catholic Church, an event that takes place once every 25 years and offers the faithful an opportunity to renew their relationship with God, each other, and all of creation. Over the coming months, there will be plenty of opportunities for you to observe this special year of grace in our own diocese. To find out more about the Jubilee and how to get involved, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/>

14. JUBILEE OF YOUTH - PILGRIMAGE TO ROME: Young adults across the diocese are invited to join our diocesan Youth Ministry Team for a special pilgrimage to Rome next year. Pilgrims will be travelling to Rome for the Jubilee of Youth, announced by Pope Francis at the 2023 World Youth Day. Our pilgrimage will take place between 28 July and 4 August. Email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more.

15. SCHOOL NEWS:

St Herbert's: In school this week we have held 3 Advent Assemblies in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord. As well as this a child from each class takes home a travelling crib -which they set up for the night ,read the story with their family. The families say they enjoy spending this time with their children. EYFS and Key stage 1 have been busy practising their nativity stories which parents will see next week. Their singing resounds around school. Upper key stage 2 had their Christmas show which was fantastic and it's clear we have a few budding actors and singers. Lower key stage 2 have been practising in church for their carol concert which the Parish family are invited to on Monday 16th December at 6.30 pm. On Friday school was closed due to flooding which affected several parts of the school. Staff were helping with the clean up. Stay with us Lord on our journey.

16. SUNDAY SMILE: *Here is a further selection of the one-liners told recently, by the parish comedian, at a local church's Festival Lunch:*

I used to think I was indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.
My wife said she's leaving because I'm obsessed with supermarkets. So I turned to her and said, "Would you like any help with your packing?"
There are three kinds of people in the world, those who can count and those who can't.
Scientists say the universe is made up of protons, neutrons, and electrons. They forgot to mention morons.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY: Both churches closed
TUESDAY: **Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
St Herbert's: Requiem Mass for Mychajlo Mazuryk; at 12.00 noon.
WEDNESDAY: **St Herbert's:** Divine Mercy Chaplet at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
Corpus Christi: Requiem Mass for Ellen Roddy; at 12.00 noon.
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
Birthday Memories: David Roberts.
Lately Dead: Amy Howard.

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