

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

15 December 2024

This Sunday is called “Gaudete” Sunday — “Rejoice Sunday”. This comes from the readings we hear today, and it underlines an important point. In the Gospel, we hear John the Baptist telling different groups what to do - they must repent and change their lives. We might think of this as a rather joyless thing - something which is hard and unrewarding. The message of this Sunday is that repentance and changing our lives to welcome Jesus is something richly joyful. When we are planning to welcome anyone we love to our homes, we set about cleaning and preparing for their visit with enthusiasm - nothing is too much trouble for someone we care for greatly. Even scrubbing the bath or polishing the furniture can be a happy and joyful thing! The message of this Sunday is that preparing to welcome the Lord - even though it may involve hard work - is something utterly joyful, because of our love for Him, and His love for us.

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: Zephaniah 3:14-18 - Shout for joy ... the Lord is in your midst ... he will exalt with joy over you.

Psalms: Isaiah 12 - Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy one of Israel / God is my salvation / Give thanks to the Lord / Sing a psalm to the Lord

Second: Philippians 4:4-7 - I want you to be happy ... God is very near, pray for what you need.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18 - People asked John "what must we do" - he told them to act justly - and "I baptize with water but someone is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit".

3. CHRISTMAS MASSES:

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

Christmas Day, Wednesday 25th December:
Corpus Christi Church, 9.30AM.
St Herbert's Church 11.00AM.

4. 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.

5. 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. Tickets for the Brass Band Concert will be available on the day of the concert at the door.

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

7. 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.

8. MISSIO CORPUS CHRISTI: I am currently recovering from surgery, so I am unable to deal with your donations at the moment. I hope to be able to deal with them soon. Maria McDonough.

9. CHRISTINGLE & CRIB BUILDING SERVICE: will take place at St Herbert's Church on Christmas Eve at 11.00 am ((10.30 am if wish to help). All welcome.

10. CORPUS CHRISTI, CHRISTMAS FAIR: We would like to thank, The Parishioners, Teachers, Staff and the children, who gave up their time preparing for the Fair and helping out on the Big Day. The Fair raised a total of £2,765.77, which will be shared with the school. Also, a thank you to everyone for supporting the Fair and making it a huge success. Also thank you to Father Christmas who made a special visit to see all the children. A list of all the Raffle Prize Winners, will be at the back of Church. All winners have been notified.

11. ADVICE AS ENERGY BILLS CONTINUE TO RISE: If you, anyone you know, or someone in your wider parish community needs support around rising energy bills, Caritas Salford has put together some helpful advice on their website. You can find out more by visiting <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/fuel-poverty-challenges/> and can also find details on the website page on how to arrange a session with their energy advice service team.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 541; Offertory: 641, 175; Communion: 165; Recessional: 346.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 669; Offertory: 161; Communion: 346, 635; Recessional: 218.

12. NEW PILGRIMS OF HOPE BOOK LAUNCHED:

Monsignor John Allen has harnessed his love of the geography and history of our diocese, penning a very special book which is being sold in aid of Caritas Salford. The book, Pilgrims of Hope, has been published in time for the start of the 2025 Jubilee Year which is also focused on the theme of Pilgrims of Hope, and is available to purchase by visiting the Caritas website: www.caritassalford.org.uk/pilgrimbook

13. SCHOOL NEWS:

Corpus Christi: Last week we were inspected by the Catholic School Inspection Team. We are delighted with the outcome and will share the report with our parish family once it has been approved, and Quality Assured by the inspection team. Thank you for the kind words and well wishes sent from the parish. We had a very busy week this week here at Corpus Christi. Our Reception children performed their Christmas nativity for the school and their families. They were amazing! We were very proud of them all. We also had our annual Christmas jumper day this week. Our Mini Vinnies raised over £180 for the wonderful charity - Mary's Meals. Thank you to our families for supporting us. On this day we also had our delicious Christmas dinner and enjoyed the pantomime of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Next week, we look forward to celebrating our Advent Mass with our parish

family.

St Herbert's: Well what a week!!! We welcomed Ofsted on Tuesday and Wednesday and the final report will be published in the new year. On Tuesday Early Years performed the Nativity for their families - they were wonderful and of course some things didn't go to plan but nevertheless they did a fantastic job. On Wednesday afternoon and Thursday Key Stage 1 performed their nativity story again, a wonderful job, fantastic singing and acting. To take the children to a pantomime was quite expensive for parents so the staff decided to bring the panto to the children - Jack, the Beans that Talk, and that Giant lad from Shaw. That's right, the staff performed the story for the children and again at night for the parents!!! The children thought it was hilarious as did the parents!!! There was a lot of adlibbing but lots of fun. On Monday we held a non-uniform day in return for toiletries, gloves and hats which will be delivered to Caritas who will share them out amongst the homeless. Thank you for the Christmas goodies for our vulnerable families. We are truly grateful.

16. SUNDAY SMILE: At last Sunday's coffee morning a parishioner was telling his friends about his grandfather, Bill. It seems Bill tried to warn everybody about the Titanic. He screamed and shouted about the iceberg, and how the ship was going to sink, but all they did was throw him out of the cinema.

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: William Woods

Lately Dead: John C Slevin, Maureen Creegan, Bob Plover

Anniversary: Nancy Wilson

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.



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