

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY YEAR C

29 December 2024

As an example for us to follow, the Holy Family can seem a little too perfect: when we consider the more “dramatic” events of the Christmas and Easter story, it can seem so far removed from us. And yet, as today’s Gospel reminds us there were also the so-called “hidden years” - the many years of family life in Nazareth, spent in ordinary things. During that time, we hear how Jesus grew and matured, and in the glimpse of that family life we see our example. Our celebration of this feast announces that there is a lasting value in the ideals of family life, and the relationship between husband, wife, parents and children. Whatever the changing details of each age, honour, understanding and love always remain the recipe for the perfect, and holy, human family. It is love that we put on over all the other clothes of changing cultures and places, to guarantee the life of the family in imitation of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

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 Reading: Book of Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14: He who fears the Lord honours his parents.

Psalms: 128: 1-2.3. 4-5: Blessed are all who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Second Reading: Letter of St Paul to the Colossians 3: 12-21: In an incredibly short space the letter to the Colossians gives a whole series of instructions on living in a community: Compassion, forgiveness, love and peace – not to mention gratitude.

Gospel: Luke 2: 41-52: Jesus is accidentally left behind in the Temple – he recognises it is his Father’s house – and he grows in wisdom.

3. HAPPY NEW YEAR: I would like to wish everyone a very happy and holy New Year. Fr Lawrence.

4. CORPUS CHRISTI PLANNED GIVING: The sets of envelopes are available 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.

5. CORPUS CHRISTI CHILDREN’S LITURGY: There will be no lessons while the primary school is closed for the Christmas break. We will resume on Sunday 12th January. Thank you for your support, new helpers are always welcome. See one of the helpers for more information.

6. CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING: Our Laudato Si’ Centre is once again joining forces with a Christmas Tree recycling project in a bid to care for community and common home. The project raises funds for local charities by collecting used Christmas trees, while chippings from

the trees will be repurposed across the Laudato Si’ Centre. Find out more: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/christmas-tree-recycling-24>

7. SALFORD DIOCESE – JOB VACANCY

Parish Administrator – St Mary and St John Fisher:

Appointment Type: Part-time, permanent; **Working Hours:** 9 hours per week; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm; **Location:** St Mary’s Presbytery, Duke Street, Denton, M34 2AN; **Salary:** £12.60 per hour.

To find out more and apply at

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies>

8. PARISH SVP: The next food pantry will take place on Friday, 10 January at Corpus Christi Presbytery from 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm. Please spread the work to anyone who may benefit from it. Thank you.

9. OPENING MASS FOR THE PILGRIMS OF HOPE JUBILEE: Pope Francis has invited dioceses across the world to unite in prayer as we begin the 2025 "Pilgrims of Hope" Jubilee. Our diocese will be marking the start of the Jubilee with a Mass, celebrated by Bishop John, today, on Sunday 29th December at 2pm at Salford Cathedral's Temporary Church. All are welcome to join us as we mark the start of this special year of grace.

10. CRISIS SUPPORT OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD: If you or anyone in your local community requires support over the Christmas period, Caritas Salford has put together a page on their website which includes information on when their services are open, as well as signposting to other organisations who might also be able to support those in urgent need. You can read more here: www.caritassalford.org.uk/service-christmas-opening-times/

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 536; Offertory: 155, 362; Communion: 651; Recessional: 622.

ST HERBERT’S: Entrance: 622; Offertory: 501; Communion: 155, 526; Recessional: 317.

11. ADVICE AS ENERGY BILLS CONTINUE TO RISE: If you, anyone you know, or someone in your parish community needs support around rising energy bills, wider 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.

12. SAINTS OF THE WEEK:

St Basil, The Great and St Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church – 2 January:

St Basil and St Gregory Nazianzen were close friends and great figures of the Eastern Church in the fourth century. Basil was Bishop of Caesarea and active in promoting the monastic life, writing a “rule” which is still observed today. Gregory was Bishop of Constantinople, and because of his great learning is still known in the East as “Gregory the Theologian”; he eventually retired from the episcopacy to return to his monastery in Nazianzus. Gregory summed up their lives:

“Our greatest concern, our great name, was to be Christian and to be called Christians”.

13. SUNDAY SMILE: On Broadway last Monday, whilst delivering items to local supermarkets, a Cadbury’s lorry collided with a truck carrying Lego. It caused a huge traffic jam and police had to close the road for a time, saying that it had become choc-a-block.



WEEKDAY CALENDAR

- MONDAY:** Both churches closed
- TUESDAY:** **Corpus Christi: Funeral Service at 11.00 am for Michael Darren Geoffrey Hall (RIP):**
Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
- WEDNESDAY:** **St Herbert’s:** Private Prayer 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: Private Intention
Lately Dead: John C. Slevin, Sue Campbell
R.I.P: Michael Darren Geoffrey Hall, Holy Souls in Purgatory
Anniversary: Michael Lally, Burton, Walsh, Scott, Spencer, Quayle, Connelly and Nokes Families

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, Shirley Pryce.



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

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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.