

THIS WEEKEND		Second Sunday of Advent		Year C
Sat 4th December	5.00pm	St O	Catherine Gillibrand (A)	
	6.30pm	St T	Parishioners	
Sun 5th December	8:30am	St O	Parishioners	
	9.30am	St T	Parishioners	
	11.00am	St MM	Gerard Smith, Kath Evans Sean Grumlesh	
Divine Office Week 2				
Mon 6th December	9.30am	St O	Operation (RC)	
Tues 7th December <i>St Ambrose</i>	9.15am	St T	Anthony Lyonette (B'day Rem)	
	9.30am	St O	Philomena & James Mellows	
Wed 8th December <i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30am	St MM	No Mass	
	9.30am	St O	Special Intention	
Thu 9th December	9.30am	St O	Frances Duignan & Roy Tilling	
	7.00pm	St T	Kath + David Nicholson 60th Wedding (A)	
Fri 10th December	9.15am	St T	Patricia Bishop	
	9.30am	St O	Adam Mercer (ill)	
NEXT WEEKEND		Third Sunday of Advent		Year C
Sat 11th December	5.00pm	St O	Jack Gillibrand (A)	
	6.30pm	St T	Parishioners	
Sun 12th December	8:30am	St O	Parishioners	
	9.30am	St T	Parishioners	
	11.00am	St MM	Parishioners	

Mass Intentions: Christmas Vigil and Christmas Day Masses will be offered for Parishioners. If any Mass intentions are for dates between 18th Dec—2nd January 2022 please can they be submitted by 15th December 2021.



Mass at St Teresa's can be viewed live through the webcam:
<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-teresas-penwortham> Or by scanning
the QR code left.

The CATHOLIC CHURCH

in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON

St Mary Magdalen, St Oswald, St Teresa

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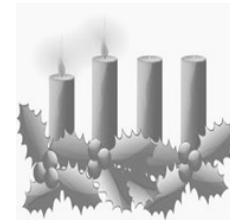
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Second Sunday of Advent 5th December 2021

'Prepare a way for the Lord!'

Today's readings offer the gift of joy, and the invitation to hear and respond to God who is reaching out to draw us ever closer.

In the **First Reading**, the Prophet Baruch reminds us that, despite all the challenges to our faith and hope in the Lord, we are called to follow God by the light of salvation.

Today's **Gospel** puts this salvation of the Lord in a specific political, historical and geographical setting. By firmly anchoring the ministry of John the Baptist to a particular point in history, St Luke also gives weight to the reality of Jesus in a time and place. (Some scholars have deduced from these historical references that Jesus was baptised in the October of AD 27 – just after his thirtieth birthday – and was crucified on 3rd April AD 30). In addition, Luke introduces us to 'the voice' that will announce the Saviour with insistence and urgency.

The **Psalmist** heralds the marvels worked for us by the Lord.

St Paul (**Second Reading**), writing this letter of gratitude to the church at Philippi from prison, acknowledges his confidence in the one who, in us, will complete these good work of faith.

In the coming week, how may I be a 'voice crying in the wilderness'? How can I more fruitfully respond to Christ's wonderful call? How will I continue to discern what is always best?

Honouring Sunday: During the pandemic, public worship was suspended for a time and there have been restrictions on parish life. As people begin returning to more regular patterns of parish life and following the first face to face meeting of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales in Leeds, the bishops have issued the following statement about the importance of honouring Sunday were they strongly encourage returning to Mass if able:

"We recognise that for some people there may be certain factors that hinder attendance at Sunday mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday mass. However, we now encourage all Catholics to look again at the patterns they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays. This would include consideration and reflection about what we might do on Sundays, such as sports or shopping, or other leisure and social activities. This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to every Catholic and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the mass."

Please adhere to guidelines when entering and leaving the church.

*Face coverings will remain mandatory for all those coming to a church service. (Exemptions for medical reasons excluded.) * Hand sanitising will remain in place as people arrive.

*Weddings, funerals and baptisms guests will be limited by the capacity of each building.

***St. Teresa's & St. Mary Magdalen's Reconciliation Service with confession:** Friday 10th December at 6.30pm

***St. Oswald's Reconciliation Service with confession:** Saturday 11th December at 10am.

Foodbank Request: During Christmas donations be made in the first 2 weeks of December to enable distribution by Friday 17th December. All donations will be welcome but some suggestions are tinned ham, tinned salmon ,mince pies with good sell by dates and any other Christmas 'goodies'. Thank you for your continued generosity.

The SVP Rosary Group will next meet at St Mary Magdalen's church on Thurs 16th December

St Mary Magdalen's Bingo Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm. All Welcome.

SVP Christmas Hot Pot lunch will take place on 9th December 12.30-14.30 at St Teresa's Parish Centre. We are limiting numbers to 60. If you would like to go please include your name on the list at the back of church and state if you require transport.

The SVP are also involved in the Christmas Day lunch in the Parish Centre, this is for anyone who will be alone on Christmas day. For more information contact Georgina -073377341993 or Catherine 740569.

St. Oswald's Caritas Group are holding a Christmas Coffee Morning on Friday 10th. December in the Church Hall, Chapel lane, from 10-00am until 12 noon. Everyone is welcome together with your friends. In addition to the coffee, tea, cakes, and mince pies there will be a raffle and plant sale.

Lourdes 2022 - Be part of the Liverpool Archdiocese Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes Thursday 21st July 2022- Saturday 30th July 2022 Ages 15 (or in year 10)- 22 years old Cost- £540 Deposit- £40. Online applications at: liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk

Christmas Mass times have now been arranged, and application forms will be available next weekend with the printed newsletters, in church or on the parish website. Applications must be in by Sunday 19th December. Christmas Eve Vigil, Christmas Day and the following days leading up to the 'Epiphany', are known as the 'Octave of Christmas', and consequently, all of these are celebrated as Christmas Masses. Therefore, any one of these Masses would fulfil any obligation, you feel, you may have.

St Teresa's Ladies Association

*Craft + Gift Fair in the Parish centre Sunday 5th Dec 10.00am—4.00pm—ideal Christmas shopping opportunity !

*Will all who have booked for the Christmas meal please note to meet at San Marcos at 12.30pm 7th December.

*Meeting Tuesday 14th Dec 10.00am after Mass to finish crafting our Christmas Puddings or just come along for coffee, scones and a chat.

*Thank you to all who filled a shoe box 77 boxes have now been sent to the Ukraine and will be delightfully received.

St. Oswald's RED BOXES --- Please bring your RED Mission boxes and leave them in the side room. They will be collected, emptied and replaced before Christmas. Circumstances have greatly reduced the amounts donated so we are asking that you donate directly if you no longer use your RED BOX. Please use the following: Bank Ref. 20-80-33, Account No. 70635529 please quote Ref. 1014 (St Oswalds). Many Thanks, Anthony Chappell

Pastoral Plan: To find out more, you are welcome to any of these open meetings:

*Tuesday 7th Dec 7.00pm – 8.30pm in Holy Rosary Church, Aintree

*Thursday 9th Dec 7.00pm – 8.30pm on Zoom The link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86421512557?pwd=SVd5cFhtQ0dwUFJzQihLSlQ5VjJJQT09> . Meeting ID: 864 2151 2557 Passcode: 132667

Joseph Tipping Bulb Sales to support The Sons of Divine Providence missions in Kenya. If you would like to order any bulbs please email : tipping.joseph@gmail.com or ring on 01772 743637. Collections or delivery can be arranged. Thank you for all your support.

Mini-daffodils £6, **Hyacinths** (Pink, Blue, White) £6, **Mixed Narcissi** £6, **Cheerfulness** £6, **Mixed Crocuses** £6, **Mixed Iris** £6, **Mini Tulips** £6, **Large Tulips** £8, **Snowdrops** £6, **2 bowls of bulbs** £10 and **Amaryllis** (Red, Apple Blossom, White) £8.

Also, baskets £12 each of **Mini-Daffodils, Crocus and White Daffodils**.

Prayer for the Week - The Magnificat

My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed; The Almighty works marvels for me, Holy is His Name! His mercy is from age to age, on all who fear Him.

He puts forth His arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted. He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, His servant, remembering His mercy, the mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons forever. Amen

