

2nd Sunday of Advent (Year A)		
4.30 - 4.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
5.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Elizabeth Turley (ld)
6.00 pm	Neo-catechumenal Mass	Parishioners
9.30 am	Sunday Mass	Violet & Leslie McKeown
11.00 am	Sunday Mass	Clare Kellgren-Parker (ld)
Monday 9th December		
6.30 - 6.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
7.00 pm	Parish Mass	Tricia McDonnell & Michael Goff (ld)
Tuesday 10th December		
9.30 am	Parish Mass	John Stanley Roberts (A)
Wednesday 11th December		
12.00 noon	Parish Mass	Shelagh
Thursday 12th December		
12.00 noon	Parish Mass	Joe McGhee (A)
Friday 13th December		
	Private Prayer	
Saturday 14th December		
4.30 - 4.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
3rd Sunday in Advent (Year A)		
5.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Mary Owens
6.00 am	Neo-catechumenal Mass	Parishioners
9.30 am	Sunday Mass	Anne Rudd (ld)
11.00 am	Sunday Mass	Agnes Hilliard (bd)

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**NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISH OF
ST CHARLES BORROMEO & ST THOMAS MORE**
SERVING THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF AIGBURTH



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Parish Deacon:
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Dcn Jeremy Michinson

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2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8th December 2019



Change of heart

'Once again, we come to the Holiday Season, a deeply religious time that each of us observes, in his own way, by going to the mall of his choice.' Dave Barry

We might recognise ourselves in the above statement! We are so used to the commercial side of Christmas – the frenzy of ads and gift-buying, the extravagant decorations and parties – that it is easy to forget what we are really celebrating.

That's where John the Baptist comes in. We first meet John in Luke's Gospel, before he is even born: Elizabeth's pregnancy is announced at the same time as Mary's, though John will be born first. The next we hear of John, he appears as God's messenger (as we hear in today's Gospel), preparing the way of the Lord. His job is to set the stage for Jesus to begin his ministry, and his central message is repentance. The Greek word for repentance was *metanoia*, which literally means a change of heart, or turning one's life around. So John is inviting his audience to make a break with the past, turn to God, and go in a different direction. When Jesus begins his own ministry, his first message is the very same: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

This is a fitting message as we enter the second week of Advent. As we prepare to welcome Jesus, we are invited to *metanoia*, or change of heart. As we ponder the mysteries of Christmas, we are nudged onwards in a new direction. This week, we could make a conscious effort to move away from the noise and lights of 'the mall', to still our minds, and to open our hearts to God's call.

'Christmas is a season for kindling the fire for hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart.' Washington Irving.

Triona Doherty



to all visitors and to new parishioners.

Thank you for your participation in our worship. Your presence has enriched our Eucharistic celebration.


May the same Eucharist enrich your life.
We wish you all a blessed week.



*A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight
Isaiah 40:3*

Christmas Mass Intentions.

Many parishioners ask for a Mass to be said on Christmas Day. To try to accommodate everyone, as in previous years we will offer a Novena of Masses over the Christmas period. If you wish someone to be remembered please put their name and a donation in an envelope and hand it into the office.

Mass Attendance	Offertory	Music on 
30 Nov/1 Dec	30 Nov/1 Dec	15th December
5.00 pm: 200	Plate: £632.55	9.30am
9.30am: 169	Envelopes: £594.53	Organ
11.00am: 200	S/O: £410.00	11.00am
Total: 569	Total: £1637.08	Music Group
	Thank you for your generosity.	

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The Parish of St Charles and St Thomas More, illuminated by the Light of Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, seeks to bring that light to South Liverpool always striving to be a loving and welcoming community where all people are included and valued, and strangers are treated as friends. Fed and nurtured by scripture, prayer and the Sacraments, we journey together to come closer to God so that we can proclaim His love in our thoughts, words and actions.

Thought for the week

Give, and ask no return.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday
6.30 – 6.45 pm
Saturday
4.30- 4.45 pm



CANDLE INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

Sanctuary Candle:
Maureen Hall
Marian Candle:
Sick (EG)
Sacred Heart Candle:
(CD)

PRAYER INTENTION BOOK

A book is placed near St. Anthony's statue in which to write your prayer requests which will be offered to God at the week-end Masses.



We hold in prayer all who are sick in body, mind or spirit, at home or in hospital, the housebound and all who care for them.

We pray for those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We pray also for those who mourn that they come to experience the peace of the Risen Christ.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Helmut Schneider,
Mark Morrisroe, Charlotte Kent,
Catherine Hughes, Alison Mary Hughes, Margaret Rita Cooney,
Leonard Boyland

SICK:

Susan Bell, Rachel Gordon,
Mary Owens, T McAndrew

*Newsletter items to mart.wood52@gmail.com
by 8pm on Wednesday 11 December*

Year 8 - Confirmation 2020

Have you been confirmed?

Are you in Year 8?

Are you ready to receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation to empower, guide and strengthen you?

If you are willing to mark this milestone in starting your adult journey in Faith then:

If you are in Year 8 at a Catholic School

Animate Youth Ministries will be delivering confirmation preparation as part of the Religious Education curriculum and you will be contacted through school.

If you are in Year 8 in a non-Catholic School

Please register online to attend the free preparation day on Saturday 29 February 2020.

The link is under the tab *Confirmation // Called to Serve* at www.animateyouth.org.

If you are the parent or relative or a friend or neighbour of a potential Confirmation candidate, please do pass on this information.

For further details contact Fr Simon Gore on 01744 740461/467 or s.gore@animateyouth.co.uk

Pastoral Associate Update:

As we reach the halfway point in discerning our proposals for *Sharing the Mission of Jesus*, I do encourage you to attend parish meetings or submit proposals directly online (www.synod2020.co.uk) or to parish/pastoral area Synod members.

Singing the "Gather" song with first communion children across the pastoral area the words "proclaim, proclaim!" stand out as we celebrate Bible Sunday.

We give thanks to our Ministers of the Word entrusted to make God's voice present in our readings.

Online this week:
"Don't say God is silent, when your Bible is closed."

God Bless, Helen.

I'm at St Anthony of Padua's this Sunday.

With You Always

Catch up Sessions

If your child has missed the preparation session for Session 3 there is a catch up session

8th December after 11am Mass.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation

For the celebration of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation there will be two services held on Tuesday 10th December at 4.30 pm and 6 pm here in St Charles Church.

Parents speak with Fr Ron to sign up for a slot at one of these services this weekend.

Pizza and Prayers Chocolate Raffle

to raise funds for the Youth Lourdes Pilgrimage.

Tickets on sale this week-end and next week-end at all Masses. The raffle draw will take place next Sunday 15 December at the end of the 11am Mass.

Thank you for your support!

LIVE SIMPLY

We are collecting for Micah Food Bank until the **15th December.**



We know that these donations to the foodbank make a big difference in the lives of those who depend upon them.

If possible please donate: tea bags, instant coffee, milk (UHT/ Long life), tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, soup, Weetabix (own shop brands ok), tinned fruit/ vegetables, dried rice/pasta, pasta sauces, lentils, pulses, biscuits, cereal bars, cake bars, chocolate bars, pot noodles, nappies (size 4, 5, and 6), sanitary towels, bags for life.

Items can be left in the boxes at the back of church. Many thanks.

Christmas Bingo

*Sunday 8 December at 3.00 pm in the Parish Hall
Tickets £2 including mince pie and coffee/tea.*

Christmas jumpers optional!

Donations for raffle prizes gratefully received.

Tickets available after all week- end Masses.

All proceeds to parish funds.

Carol Service Choir Practices

Rehearsal with our organist
Steve Mannings on Sunday 8th
starting at 12noon directly after
Mass and Monday 9th at 7.30pm.

Bach Cantata 140

at the Cathedral
Sunday 8 December
3pm as part of Evening Prayer.

Pensioners Club

meets in the parish hall on
Monday 9th December at 2 pm.

Complex Catholicism: Discovering the Reality of Young Catholics in England & Wales

talk presented by Stephen Davies
at Hope University Chapel
L16 8ND (free parking).
Monday 9 December
7 for 7:30pm- 8:45pm.
Night Prayer at 9pm

Asso Fosso Group

meets in the parish hall
(small meeting room)
on Monday 9th December
at 7.30 pm.

FILM NIGHT

The Flint Street Nativity
Monday 9th December at 7.30 pm
in the Parish Hall.

*It is a 1999 British television
comedy film*

*Entrance will be by donation, so
please be your usual generous
selves. There will be a glass of
mulled wine and mince pies (but
feel free to bring your own bottle as
well) and raffles. It will be a great
night for everyone.*

*Please let us know if you are
coming as places are limited.*

Creative at Christmas:

crafting course
*Christmas Ring making a festive
design using seasonal materials*
at the Cathedral

Tuesday 10 December 1- 4pm,
Gibberd Room £15
booking:
c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk

Cafod Carols

at St Teresa's Church,
23 College Road,
Up Holland, WN8 0PY
Tuesday 10 December
7:30 – 9pm

ANNUAL APPEAL FOR THE HOMELESS

*Once again we ask if you would like
to donate toiletries, underwear,
hats, gloves, scarves and socks to
the Missionaries of Charity,
in Seel Street,
will give these items to the very
poor and homeless in Liverpool
over the Christmas period.
Your generous donations
will be gratefully received.*

KNIT A SQUARE

It is estimated that there are 1.9
million orphans in South Africa.

KNIT A SQUARE
is a Charity aiming to reach children
of all races who are vulnerable,
deprived or parentless by providing
squares to be made into blankets.

If you can help in any way, by
knitting, crocheting squares or by
donating wool, needles or a small
amount of money towards postage.

For a copy of the information
please ring or e-mail the Parish
Office or contact Cath Riley at
cathriley@blueyonder.co.uk
or call her on 0151 280 9545.

Thank you in advance.

TWIDDLEMUFFS, KNITTED HATS & OTHER CRAFT ITEMS



are on sale throughout Advent.

All proceeds in aid of
Network for a Better World,
a Liverpool-based lay missionary
organisation which works with
marginalised people in a remote
corner of southern Malawi.

To see items contact
Barbara 07939 497694.

Christmas Raffle

Unclaimed Prizes

First Prize

Food Hamper

Blue ticket 941-945

Third Prize

Wine Hamper

Pink ticket 441-445

Fifth Prize

Cuddly toy

Yellow ticket 376-380

Piety Shop

is open before and after week-end Masses and has a selection of rosary beads, pictures and prayer books available for sale.

Christmas Cards are also available for sale.

Archdiocese Directories and Parish Diaries

on sale at the back of church price £3.50 for directories and £1 for Parish Diaries

Please put the money for these in the papers box. Thank you.

MEMORIAL CANDLES FOR CHRISTMAS

On Christmas Eve and during Christmas week oil candles will be lit and left burning for 7 days around our church in remembrance of our loved ones. Each candle will be inscribed with the name of the person in whose memory it is dedicated.

If you would like a candle to burn in memory of one of your loved ones please place £5 in an envelope along with their name and write 'Memorial Candle' on the front and post it through the letterbox at the Presbytery or leave in the sacristy.



SANCTUARY CANDLE,

MARIAN CANDLE & THE SACRED HEART CANDLE

can be requested for many reasons. A dedication to a member of your family, young or old, living or dead. For a friend who is in need of prayer, an anniversary or for yourself for a private intention.

Choose a particular week throughout the year, put the name and date on an envelope together with a donation and bring it to the parish office.



TO OUR YOUNG CHILDREN

There are some prayer books and story books on the hymn book trolley at the back of church for you to use while you are at Mass. Hope you enjoy them.

Thursday Afternoon Tea

Next meets on Thursday,
12th December between
2pm – 3.30pm.

New members welcome.

Come and enjoy tea/coffee
and cake plus a different activity
every week!

Details – Margaret 427 0407

Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten

at the Cathedral

Sunday 15 December

3pm as part of Evening Prayer.



will be held this
year on

Monday 16th December
at 7.30 pm

Creative at Christmas:
crafting course at the Cathedral
Inside Out
making a door hanging to
welcome guests

Tuesday 17 December 1 – 4pm,
Gibberd Room £15.

booking:

c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk

A Celebration of Christmas

Classic carols & traditional reading at
the Cathedrals.

Saturday 14 December 7 – 9 pm.

Tickets £5

www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral



Bambinelli Sunday 15th December

For the past several decades, each
year on Gaudete Sunday, the Third
Sunday of Advent, children (and
adults) bring their Baby Jesus figures
from their crib at their homes to St
Peter's Square where the Pope will
bless both the people and the
figurines.

**This year we will celebrate
"Bambinelli Sunday"
at all Masses.**

All are invited to bring the Baby
Jesus figures from their home to
Mass that morning to be blessed.

Following the blessing,
take your "Bambinelli" home
and place it in a gift box, wrap it and
save it for Christmas.
Let this be the first gift your family
opens on Christmas,
when together you place your Baby
Jesus figure in the crib,
and have a home blessing of the
nativity for your whole family.

Parish Carol Service

*Our carol service this year will take place on
Tuesday 17th December at 7:30pm.*

*The Parish choir has been practising very hard and will lead our
singing. Please do invite family and friends for what will be a wonderful
evening in preparation for our Christmas celebrations.*

Dementia Friendly Christmas Carol Service

with Archbishop Malcolm McMahon at the Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King on Thursday 19th December at 2pm.

Featuring the students from Great Crosby
and Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary Schools.

Children's Nativity Service Sunday 22nd December at 3pm

This is a short service of carols, readings and a tableau, prepared and
delivered for and by our children. Please come and support and encourage
your child/children to get involved.

Tableau / Readings

There will be lists at the back of church from next week-end. Once the
cast is assembled we will contact you with details nearer the date

Afternoon tea

You are invited to meet for a small tea party in the hall after the service
and also to provide the food!! Please see and sign another list at the back
of the church.

Presents for the children of prisoners

As a sign of sharing at Christmas, you are asked to bring the gift of an
activity which prisoners can use to engage with their children, during
visiting. Things like stationery, puzzles, games, books and
make believe toys would all be very welcome.

Festival Carol Service

music, readings, carols with refreshments at the Cathedral
Sunday 22 December at 5pm

Masses for the Octave of Christmas

<i>24th December</i>	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	<i>5.00 pm</i> <i>Midnight Mass</i>
<i>25th December</i>	<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>9.30 am</i> <i>11.00 am</i>
<i>26th December</i>	<i>St Stephen's Day</i>	<i>11.30 am</i>
<i>27th December</i>	<i>St John the Apostle</i>	<i>11.30 am</i>
<i>28th December</i>	<i>Holy Innocent Martyrs</i>	<i>11.30 am</i>
	<i>Vigil Mass</i> <i>Neo-Catechumenal Community</i>	<i>5.00 pm</i> <i>6.00 pm</i>
<i>29th December</i>	<i>Feast of the Holy Family</i>	<i>9.30 am</i> <i>11.00 am</i>
<i>30th December</i>		<i>11.30 am</i>
<i>31st December</i>	<i>St Sylvester</i>	<i>11.30 am</i>
<i>1st January 2020</i>	<i>Mary Mother of God</i>	<i>11.30 am</i>