



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

4th December 2021

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2nd Sunday of Advent *Liturgical Year C*

Regular Mass Times

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| Sunday | 10.00 |
| Monday | 07:30 |
| Tuesday | 07:30 |
| Wednesday | 09.00 |
| Thursday | 07:30 |
| Friday | 09:00 |
| Saturday (vigil) | 18.00 |

Gospel Thoughts

In the darkness of winter, we can fall into despair, for there is much to despair about: the resurgence of COVID and the recurring threat to our health and our superficial freedoms; the awful pictures and stories of the migrants massing on the borders of Poland or drowning in the Channel, misused as political pawns by governments frightened of their right wing voters. We are horrified as we watch elements of our society crumble into drugs and the ensuing violence and terror on some of our streets.

So, we pray for anyone going through dark days at the present time: for people insecure in their jobs, their health or their home life; for displaced people and refugees, who wait at barbed-wired-borders, hoping to get to a better life; for those barely alive in the famine of East Africa and in countries torn apart by civil strife and terrorism.

St. Paul bids us to look at life and especially at people through eyes tinted with hope, even in dark times. His praise and joyful message to the people of Philippi reminds us of the way Jesus always looked at people; able to see beyond the exterior, right into the goodness of their true selves. To see people through hopeful eyes makes us aware of the good in their lives. To look with the eyes of hope and love, lets us recognise the good they have done rather than what they have failed to do. Paul hopes that God who began this good work among them would bring it to completion.

Let's look at ourselves too with hopeful eyes, with the eyes of God and the eyes of St. Paul. God's good work has only begun in us. God will bring the good work to completion. All we need do is to co-operate with the working of grace. By the end of our life this work will be complete, and we will have reached 'the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us'.

Terry



Mass Intentions

- Sat 4: Terri Valiant
- Sun 5: Wilcock Family
- Mon 6: Parishioners
- Tue 7: Holy Souls
- Wed 8: Sr Mary Spain
- Thu 9: Val Brandrick
- Fri 10: Cecilia Flatley RIP
- Sat 11: Jimmy Gallagher
- Sun 12: Kitty & Harry Morley

Advent Sharing

The newsletter this week is filled with invitations to events. Parish life is getting busy as we journey towards Christmas. We are invited to a recollection for the Readers, to a meeting of the SVP JPIC group, to Mass on December 8th, to Gospel Sharing on Wednesday, Bingo on the 17th and a Coral Christmas Concert on the 16th. The Financial Council meets on the 7th and there is a celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the 20th. We can't be everywhere.

Faced with these demands of parish community life and home life too, we may wonder if we will ever sit in peace between now and Christmas! It is good to hear the words of Pope Francis at the beginning of Advent: "*Even during our busiest days, we must not neglect prayer.*" The Pope stressed that *prayer always keeps the lamp of our heart lit, bringing us back to God, reawakening the soul from slumber and focusing it "on what matters, on the purpose of existence"*. We must never neglect prayer, he underscored, and to avoid that we can consider prayer of the heart, repeating brief invocations. The Pope suggested that during Advent we make a habit of saying "*Come, Lord Jesus*" through the day.

"Come Lord Jesus" might be the prayer we will utter at the beginning of Saturday evening's Mass, when we take a moment of silence to pray quietly for Ava White and Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and all other child victims of violence, physical and sexual abuse. We pray too for the perpetrators of these crimes.

Advent being a time of repentance, we will also receive through the "*Asperges*" the waters of baptism, reminding us to allow God to turn our hearts back to God's way and allow God's Spirit to enter into our hearts with the Spirit of Peace and of fortitude.

May the Son of God calm all our fears in his Love and fill us with peace and Joy as we begin the second week of our journey through Advent.

Terry

Parish Notice Board

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Wednesday December 8th
Mass at 9am

This is a special day of Prayer for all Catholics and is also the feast of the Patron Saint of the White Fathers.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Advent is one of those opportunities in the year to turn to the Lord and to the Community in recognition of our sin. We ask for forgiveness and the grace of conversion through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
Monday 20th December at 7pm

SVP Justice & Peace Group Meeting on Thursday 9th December at 6pm in church.

All are welcome. We will prepare our next presentation, the call of *Laudato Si*, meet our councillors... Any parishioner is welcome to join us.

Toiletries Needed Please give for Christmas to the FOOD BANK

Toothpaste & brushes, soaps, shampoo, deodorant (women & men), nail clippers/files, make-up, etc.
Please place in box at church entrance. Thank you. 🌸🙏

Offerings on 28th November

Envelopes £77.00
Plate £153.43
CAFOD £20.00
Animate £20.00
Thank you

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Friday 11.00 – 13.00
Sacrament of Reconciliation available

News from the Pastoral Development Dept.

To find out more about the new post-Synod 2020 Pastoral Plan, 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

Advent Mondays (6 December 7pm)

The focus of the upcoming session is the 5th Development Area of the Pastoral Plan (young people and young adults).

If you want us to keep you posted about future events, please sign up at:

<https://forms.gle/vgGnFTvSdvNZZ2776>

or through the website

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/Advent-Mondays.

Alternatively, join the Zoom Meeting, Monday 6 December 7pm on:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89479111452?pwd=mDhmzkf1mgznyvdvrit1q2nryw9uut09>.

WHAT WE DID NEXT CHOIR PRESENTS Festive Favourites

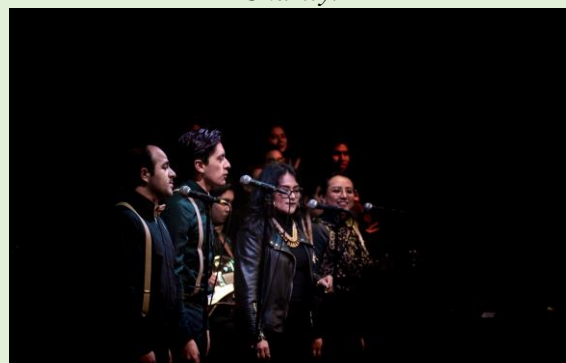
here in our church

Thursday 16th December.

Doors open at 7pm.

Donations on the door.

Profits will go to Liverpool Women's Hospital
Charity.



Financial Council Meeting
On Tuesday 7th December at 6pm.

RECOLLECTION FOR READERS
Sunday 12th December at 3pm.

GOSPEL SHARING

An enjoyable and formative 50 minutes every Wednesday evening at 6.30pm in a warmed Guild Room. Deepen your knowledge of the **Word of God** by sharing on the Gospel of Sunday.

"Don't worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time."

SVP CONVERSATIONS

It was good to see so many turn out last Tuesday evening to meet with Dr. Matthew Thompson, of Liverpool Community Spirit, despite the cold evening weather. We had an excellent and enjoyable exchange.

Our next conversation will be on the last Tuesday of February; to be announced soon!

Christmas Raffle

Much gratitude and congratulations are due to the organisers and supporters of the Christmas Raffle. Thanks to everyone's contributions and efforts, £480 was raised for the Financial Council's discretion. 😊👍



BINGO IS BACK!

SVP Primary School at 7pm on Friday 17th December.
Organised by Mr & Mrs Ian Hastie

Lottery Results 20/11/21

03 05 06 08 12 13
No Winners
Jackpot £750

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Kitty BAXTER, Catherine BOWLES, Betty CARDEN, Vera CARTLEDGE, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Joe EDIE, Jean ENNIS, Jimmy GALLAGHER, Mary HAINS, Raymond JOYCE, Maureen MAGUIRE, Cathy MURRAY, Jean PERRY, Ava RUDZINSKI, Jean TAYLOR, Robert WARD

Also, for the intentions of: Anne & Joan BAXTER, Denise BELL Rita & Jimmy FLATLEY, Germaine, Beverly HARPER, Joan HART, Theresa HASTIE, Madeleine M'CANN & Family, Teresa SWIFT, Martha TAGUE, David THOMAS, Cath WILSON

And for those who have died: Tommy BAXTER, Sean CONNEELY, Cecilia FLATLEY, Joan FORD, Ava White