

# Our Lady Immaculate & St Joseph Catholic Church

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www.ourladystjoseph-prescot.co.uk Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Risley

# Sunday 8th December 2024 Second Sunday of Advent (C)





'καὶ εἰσελθὼν πρὸς αὐτὴν εἶπεν Χαῖρε, κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ κύριος μετὰ σοῦ'

#### **JUBILEE 2025**

The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope", and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. Preparations for the 2025 Year of Jubilee began in Advent 2023, which marked the start of a year of prayer. Resources for use by parishes, priests, religious, laypeople, and more, will be available to help guide you as you ready yourself for this most vital year in the Church's life.

# **School Nativity**

On Monday 9th December at 6.30pm the school will perform their Nativity play in church, with musical accompaniment by our local Salvation Army Brass band. In the past seating has been limited, however with some clever reworking this is now an open event for all the parish to attend so everyone is welcome to come along.

# **Bambinelli Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

This beautiful Advent Tradition, Bambinelli Sunday, was instituted by Saint Pope John Paul II during his Papacy. The tradition follows that on the Fourth Sunday of Advent children and adults bring their Baby Jesus figures from their homes to St Peters Square where they are blessed by the Pope.

All children and families are invited to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their homes to be blessed during Mass this Sunday.

### **Christmas Mass Bouquets**

Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are now available from the Piety Stall. These work like a regular Mass card but allow us to offer many intentions for one Mass instead of the usually restriction of one intention per Mass. Mass for those included on the Mass bouquets will be offered on the Sunday within the Christmas Octave, which this year will be Sunday 29th December, the Feast of the Holy Family.

### **School Choir**

This coming Friday the school choir will be singing carols in Prescot Library from 10.15 am onwards. If you are out and about on Friday, do stop in and enjoy the festive music.

St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic Academy Christmas Carol Service Monday 16th December at 6pm-7pm. There will be music and readings led by the students.

**Feast Days** 

# Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception is the conception of the Virgin Mary free from original sin by virtue of the merits of her son Jesus. The Church teaches that God acted upon Mary in the first moment of her conception by keeping her immaculate.

# Friday 13th - Memorial of St Lucy

One of the most famous of the Virgin Martyrs, her name is mentioned in the ancient Canons. She suffered martyrdom at Syracuse about the year 304, probably during the persecution of the Emperor Diocletian. There are many legends about her but few facts are known, but despite this devotion to her spread almost throughout the whole Church and dates back to the earliest times.

# Saturday 14th - Memorial of St John of the Cross

St John was born at Fontiveros in Old Castille in Spain about 1542, and learnt the importance of self sacrificing love from his parents. He was a Carmelite Friar and in 1568 he persuaded St Teresa of Avila to be the first to undertake the reform of the Carmelite Order, which was hard work and caused him many trials. Suffering and prayer brought him very close to God. He was a fine poet, a mystic, outstanding in holiness, and a warm and lovable person. He died at Ubeda in Andalusia in 1591

#### **Ecumenical Christmas Events**

There is a poster at the back of church detailing different ecumenical events during Advent to help us prepare for Christmas.

### **Christmas Flowers**

If anyone would like to make a donation towards flowers in church for Christmas, please see Fr Dominic after Mass.

Offertory Collection - Gift Aid £155 Loose - £249. Thank you!



Christmas Mass Times



Christmas Eve - Vigil Mass 4.30 pm

Christmas Day - Midnight Mass 12.00 am

- Mass of Christmas Day 11.00 am

# Second Sunday of Advent (C) Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 7th	6.00 pm	Mary Mullin Jeffers
Sunday 8th	11.00 am	Malcolm Rawson
Monday 9th	12.00 pm	Patricia Morrison
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 pm	Bernard Greaves
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 pm	Wincenty Jurek
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am 11.30 am 12.00 pm	Adoration & Confessions Rosary Charles Martin
	6.00 pm	Danielle Brooks
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Milheiro Family

# Please remember the members of our parish who are sick and those who have asked for our prayers:

Derek McEgan, Sandra Johnson, Helen Clarke, Anita Potts, Steve Potts, Kerry Scott, Anna Pemberton, David Gerrard, Mary Davis, Ann Davey, James Williams