Our Parishes Newsletter

1st Sunday of Advent 27th November 2016

This Week's Readings

First Reading	Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm	Ps.121:1-2.4-5.6-9.R.cf.v1
Second Reading	Romans 13:11-14
Gospel	Matthew 24:37-44

Parish Priest: Father Ned Wall
The Presbytery, 164, Carrington Lane
Permanent Deacons: Anthony Caffrey and John Conway
The RC Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 23402

Website: http://ourparishes.church

CONTACT DETAILS

All Saints
164 Carrington Lane
Ashton-on-Mersey
M33 5WL

Telephone:
0161 962 4444

St Margaret Ward
Cherry Lane
Sale
M33 4GY

Telephone:
0161 962 4444

Our Lady of Lourdes
Chapel Lane
Partington
M31 4EZ

Telephone:
0161 775 2905

Email:
parishes3@yahoo.com

http://ourparishes.church

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading
Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm
Ps. 71:1-2.7-8

Second Reading
Romans 15:4-9

Gospel
Matthew 3:1-12

REFLECTION

The season of Advent is a time for us to remember the coming of Christ, at his birth, and begin preparing not only to remember his birth, but also his coming to take us to himself. Our Gospel today tells us about two men, and two women, on the outside apparently the same, doing the same work, and yet there is an important difference between each couple – one is prepared and one is not.
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We do not know when the Lord will come and in many ways, this is a blessing. It is a question of being ready for eventuality. "Stay awake, for you do not know what day your Lord is coming". Advent is a time to deepen our relationship with God and with others, based on a caring and understanding love. We need to learn how to find God, to find Jesus in every person and every experience – to love our neighbour as ourselves – to love others as God loves us.

If our daily lives are full of spirit of Jesus, and then we have prepared and do not have to fear – no matter when God calls us to himself, because we know what he is going to say, "Come my friend, I want to call you now, to share with you my life that never ends." And we will respond, "yes Lord, I am ready. I have been waiting for you all this time." It will be an encounter, not of strangers, but of two old friends. The season of Advent is to wake ourselves up, and begin more earnestly to prepare for the coming of Christ.

PSALM

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.
Alleluia

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our
earth shall yield its increase.

ALL PARISHES

Advent: A Time of Preparation

In the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays, before Christmas. The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to", and refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Today we light our First Advent Candle , The Candle of Hope.

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Advent Talks "Hope on the Horizon"

Once again a reminder of these two nights that will be happening on:

1st December 8pm St Margaret Ward

15th December 8pm St Margaret Ward

There will be Mass before both talks at 7.30pm. All Welcome, please come along and join Margaret Lillis and Sr Catherine.

Parish Christmas Fairs

Please remember have mini Christmas Fairs taking place at the following:

Sunday 4th December - All Saints Church Fair

Sunday 11th December - Our Lady of Lourdes Church Fair

Both of the above fairs will take place straight after Mass.

We still ask for toiletries, chocolates and bottles for both these Parish Fairs. We need your generosity on the day as All Saints Fair proceeds will go towards the Roof Fund and Our Lady of Lourdes proceeds will go towards a defibrillator.

Monday Club

This week we have the great pleasure of being entertained by Agnus (Agi) whose beautiful singing, no doubt, will be a special pleasure.

Looking forward to seeing you at 2.00pm at All Saints Parish Centre.

First Communion Programme Enrolment Masses

Can we please remember in our prayers the children from All Saints and Our Lady of Lourdes today, who are enrolling for their First Holy Communion journey.

Catenian Provincial Carol Service

There will be a Catenian Provincial Carol Service Sunday 4th December at All Saints, Ashton on Mersey at 2pm. There will be the old favourites including Silent Night, O Come All Ye Faithful and Away in a Manger sung by the children. There will be a Retiring Collection for All Saints Roof Fund and refreshments in the parish centre afterwards. So please do come along and enjoy a Christmas Tradition.

Voice Diocesan Magazine

Copies of this magazine now available in all three parishes. If you do take one we ask you to leave a £1 donation.

North Cheshire Serra Speakers

On Monday, 28th November, Fr Eamon Mulcahy, a Spiritan, will talk about his vocation. Everyone very welcome. Please ring Gerry Lanigan (Tel 0161 428 9103) on or before the Friday preceding the meeting, if possible. The meeting is at "Westleigh", Groby Road, Altrincham. Mass at 7.15pm followed by a light supper and the talk.

World Gifts

There will be World Gifts magazines available at the back of church, for an alternative gift that helps and support some CAFOD projects .

CAFOD Volunteers Needed

CAFOD are looking to recruit volunteers for Schools and Parishes, all the information can be found on our website http://ourparishes.church/c-a-f-o-d-recruiting-parish-volunteers/

Food Bank

A car full of food and toiletries have once again been dropped off at the local warehouse in Timperley. The food is distributed around our Trafford communities. There have once again expressed their sincere thanks to you all.

Christmas Postage Stamps

Christmas Postage Stamps are now available in all Post Offices. Please remember to ask when you are purchasing your stamps for religious stamps, to keep Christ in Christmas.

Newsletter Items

Each week we try to provide useful information and articles for our Newsletter. If you should have any items you wish to put in the Newsletter please send a email to parishes3@yahoo.com by 3.00pm on a Wednesday, we will try our best to make sure your item is put in the newsletter for that

weekend. There are occasions when it is not possible to fit everything in. In this case we will make sure it goes in the following week. Thank you

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All Saints

All Saints Bidding Prayers

Today is the 1st Sunday of Advent and the start of a new church year and what better way to mark it and to get into the spirit of Christmas than by resolving to sign up to write bidding prayers for our Masses. We are looking for volunteers, either as individuals or as a family, to write prayers for December through to March. You don't have to read them out but it is a wonderful opportunity for us all to contribute to the prayerfulness of our Eucharist. It's not about fancy words or phrases, either. It's all about what comes from the heart. Prayers can to be handed in to the sacristy, or you can email them to parishes3@yahoo.com by the Friday before the Sunday. Joe Keaney, with clipboard and pen, will be canvassing for volunteers after the 9.30am Mass today. So please make eye contact, come forward, and join in. The more varied the voices, the better. Thank you.

Heating System: All Saints

Could we please ask if you turn the heating off in church, could you please ensure you switch it back on when you leave as the heating is on a timer and will not function if switched off. Thank you

Traidcraft

It's charity Christmas card week and Traidcraft cards will be on sale, along with gifts and decorations, in the parish centre after 9.30 Mass. Come and get your Fairtrade coffee and tea and browse our selection.

These cards provide vital funds for Cafod and Christian Aid as well as Traidcraft.

All Saints School Christmas Fair

All Saints School will be holding a Christmas Fair on Friday 9th December from 3:45 - 6 pm. Father Christmas will be there. Bottle and Chocolate Tombola, Irish Coffee, Hot Dogs and Burgers and many more festive stalls. All welcome.

All Saints Mini Christmas Fair

Over the next few weekends tickets will be sold outside church for our Hamper Raffle. If you have not bought any yet here is your opportunity to do so. Please try to support this in raising funds for our roof.

All Saints Bidding Prayers Rota - November 2016

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to contribute bidding prayers for the autumn. Here is a reminder to all of you who signed up for November.

27th Theresa Dwyer

Prize Bingo

Sunday 4th December there will be Prize Bingo taking place at All Saints parish Centre. Doors open at 5.30pm and eyes down will be at 6.30pm. The bar will be open - All Welcome

The Offertory Collection was £803.36 - **Thanks all once again for your giving and generosity.**

St Margaret Ward

Parish Farewell to Mr Ratchford

Thursday Evening Mass 8th December 7.30pm will be a special Parish Celebration for us all to give thanks to Mr Ratchford for all he has done over the past 30 years for our Parish School. Please come along and let others know it is happening too.

Piety Stall

We have started a small Piety Stall which will be available before and after Mass on Saturday evenings. We will try to add more resources if this is what the Parish would like. Please have a word with us if we can help. Please take a look as you enter or leave Mass.

A Reminder

Tea and coffee is served in the staffroom after Mass each week. Please try to drop in and meet each other - everyone is very welcome.

Christmas Fair

St Margaret Ward School are holding their Christmas Fair on Saturday 3rd December 11am until 1pm. We would be very grateful for any donations of groceries, toiletries, bottles or chocolate for the stalls. Please leave any donations in the Sacristy and we will collect them from there. Many thanks.'

The Offertory Collection was £445.95 - **Thanks all once again for your giving and generosity.**

Our Lady of Lourdes

Mini Christmas Fair

We will be holding a mini Christmas Fair on Sunday 11th December after 11.00am Mass at the back of the church. We ask for your support in providing, Bottles, chocolates and toiletries. So please give what you can, and start bringing in your items. We will also have a Christmas Hamper Raffle, tickets will be on sale soon. All proceeds will go towards a Defibrillator for the church.

The Offertory Collection was £300.46 - **Thanks all once again for your giving and generosity.**

Other News

Christmas Market

On Sat and Sun 10/11th December 2016,
Holy Angels parish in Hale Barns are holding their first
Christmas Market which it is hoped will become an annual event.
Details available at http://holyangelshall.co.uk
ALL are welcome, come and buy gifts from
high quality trades. A fun packed day for all.

Advent Reflection:

"*I was a Stranger…"* Sun 4 Dec 4:30 – 6:30pm,
Wistaton Hall, Crewe, CW2 8JS.
Organised by the Commission for Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility
and led by Mary Kilcoyne (Catholic Children's Society),
You are invited to join us to reflect on our personal and community
responsibility in light of the current migration situation.
All are warmly welcome!

St. Joseph's Walkers

Our next walk is a very family friendly walk around Tatton Park.
The route is gentle, suitable for pushchairs or buggies and will allow
opportunities en route for café visits, retail therapy and adventure playground
time!
We will meet in the church park on Sunday 27th November at 12.45pm.
For more information please ring Ian on 0161 969 7247. All walkers new and
old are very welcome!

		St. Margaret Ward		All Saints		Our Lady of Lourdes
1st Sunday of Advent						
Sat 26th	5.30pm	Arnold Roberts				
Sun 27th			9.30am	Ged Ludlow	11.00 am	Ger Murphy
Sun 27th			5.00pm	Ann & Thomas McDonagh		
Mon 28th	9.15am	Eucharistic Service	9.15am	Eucharistic Service		No service
Tues 29th	9.15am	Eucharistic Service		No Service	7.30pm	Kathleen Gorman
Wed 30th	9.15.am	Eucharistic Service	7.30pm	Eucharistic Service	12.15pm	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 1st	7.30pm	Tom Kennedy (Sick)		No Service		No Service
Fri 2nd	9.15am	Eucharistic Service	7.30pm	Rita & Peter Chantrell	12 .15pm	Bernie Fitzsimmons
2nd Sunday of Advent						
Sat 3rd	5.30pm	Ernie Haughton				
Sun 4th			9.30am	Helen McDermott	11.00 am	Veronica Mahon
Sun 4th			5.00pm	Jim Bones		