

We welcome in to our parish community Harry and Charlie Pedgler who were Baptised here at St Joseph's last weekend. Please keep them and their family in your prayers. May God bless them and Our Blessed Mother protect them always!

If you wish to have your child Baptised at St Joseph's church, Please ring the office to book a place on the next Baptism Meeting.

Tea and Coffee.

Tea and coffee will be served after the 9.30 am Holy Mass on the **Second and Fourth Sunday of each month in the Parish Hall.**



Metropolitan Cathedral Concerts over Advent/Christmas Season

Each year the Cathedral produces a poster advertising the principal services and concerts that take place during the Advent/ Christmas season. Attached is the 2023 poster. Below is a short text about each event which can be used on social media as each event approaches:

Choral Evening Prayer on the Feast of Christ the King - beginning at 3pm, this will be presided by Canon Anthony O'Brien, and feature music by Mozart, Leighton, Howells and Parsons (poster attached).

Advent Sequence - As the season of Advent begins, the cathedral choir and clergy offer a sequence of music and readings to prepare us for the Advent journey. The service lasts around 70 minutes and features the choir singing from a variety of places around the cathedral.

A Ceremony of Carols - The boy choristers join harpist Elizabeth McNulty to perform Benjamin Britten's sequence of carol texts by English poets. The performance lasts around 40 minutes and is free to attend, with a retiring collection.


A Celebration of Christmas - All are welcome to the Metropolitan Cathedral for a family Christmas concert with music www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral.org.uk)

Festival Carol Service - A traditional carol service with carols for all to sing, and seasonal music sung by the choir. from the choirs and carols for all to sing. www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral.org.uk

Last weeks Collection.

Total Collection for the last weekend.

Gift Aid: £295.15
Loose Plate: £293.44
Total: £588.59

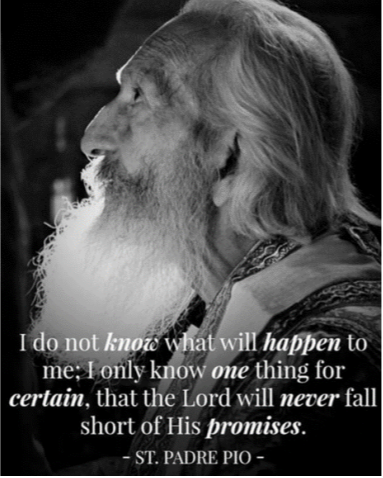


Animate Youth Appeal last weekend: £256.73

Thank you for your wonderful generosity!

Church Cleaning Rota

This week it is Group 2. Thank you to **ALL** our volunteers who help to clean and prepare our church throughout the year.



I do not *know* what will *happen* to me; I only know *one* thing for *certain*, that the Lord will *never* fall short of His *promises*.
- ST. PADRE PIO -

There will be an advent service of music and readings at St John's, Wigan at 6pm on Sunday 3rd December. Refreshments afterwards, all welcome

Holy Mass Intentions.

If you would like to request a Mass to be celebrated here at St Joseph's church, there are envelopes at the back of church. **Please state clearly for whom your Mass intention is for and the date you wish to have the Mass celebrated on. We will try to meet your requests,** Please enclose your offering and pass to the parish office.

The great Doctor of the Church St Anselm declared that a single Mass offered for oneself during life may be worth more than a thousand celebrated for the same intention after your death.



St Joseph's Catholic Church

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First Sunday of Advent.
3rd December 2023

First Sunday of Advent	9.30 am 5 pm	Harry Gregory Fr Andrew
Monday	9.30 am	Frances Smith
Tuesday <i>Memorial of St John Almond</i>	No public Mass	
Wednesday	No public Mass	
Thursday <i>Memorial of St Ambrose</i>	11.00am Requiem Mass	Paula Cranham R.I.P
Friday <i>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary</i>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday	No public Mass	
Second Sunday of Advent	9.30 am 5 pm	Paul Cottram (Anniversary) Mary Chaffin

Sacrament of Reconciliation available on request.

Readings for First Sunday of Advent

First Reading	A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 63:16-17;64:1.3-8
Psalm Response	God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.
Second Reading	A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians. 1 Cor 1:3-9
The Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!
Gospel	A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. Mk 13:33-37
Communion Antiphon	The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

The Archdiocese of Liverpool: Registered Charity No: 1199714

The First Sunday of Advent

First Sunday of Advent invites us to reflect on y daily life-for what do I ask forgiveness? For what do I give thanks? We also look forward to a new beginning and a chance to start again on the way of discipleship. Both thanksgiving and renewal are to be found in today's readings. The Gospel is an invitation to wake up, to keep watch, to live fully the present moment under God, in whom we live and move and have our being.



Latest Pro-Life News: Stop the 14-day limit on experimenting on embryos being removed

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) is pushing to remove the 14-day limit for experimenting on embryos, despite 97% of submissions from the general public to their consultation objecting to these plans.

Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website that makes it easy for you to email your MP asking them to oppose a change to legislation that, if passed, would pave the way for the removal of the 14-day limit. Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/14days to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds.

AN ADVENT EVENING OF RECOLLECTION FOR MEN.

An Advent Evening of Recollection for Men organised by the Wigan and District Catholic Men's Society, will take place at; **St Patrick's Church, Wigan (WN1 3RZ)** on **Wednesday 6th Dec from 7pm.**



The Evening will include a Talk by CMS Chaplain and Parish Priest, Father Ian O'Shea, and **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament;** concluding with **Night Prayer and Benediction.**

Followed by refreshments served in the Lappin Room. All men are welcome.

Sick in our Parish

Please pray the sick of our community, especially Phil Waterhouse, Fr John Johnson, Pauline Fowler and remembering all the patients in Wroughtington and Wigan hospital and our local Hospice. Heal thy servants, O Lord, who are sick and put their trust in Thee. Send them help O Lord, and comfort from thy Holy Place.



Pray for all those who have died

In your charity please pray for Paula Cranham and Pat Stancel who have died and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time. In this month we particularly remember the Holy Souls.

Eternal rest grant on to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in your peace. Amen.



Right To Life UK Pro Life Prayers

"For all parents expecting a new child, that they might be blessed with a safe and healthy pregnancy for mother and baby. Lord hear us".



Christmas Fair December 10th 2023

Last Chance!
Donations are still required for this year's Christmas Fair

Items needed are;
Fancy goods (toiletries, cosmetics, candles, **home accessories** eg: candles, diffusers etc. (**new items only please**)
and **unused children's toys.**

Bottles of beer, wine, and spirits for the **K of C bottle tombola stall.**

Chocolate for the tombola and mulled wine.
Good as new handbags, scarves and costume jewellery.

Calling our parish bakers for **cakes** and **mince pies** on the day for the cake and refreshment stall. **Items can be left** at the **back of church** after Holy Mass. If you know anyone who would like to hire a tabletop to sell their own goods, please contact **Jill: 07790 498784**

Families of Parishes - Everything you need to know - Wednesday 6 December

Do you want to know about Families of Parishes? Did you miss the roadshows that took place recently?

Join a Zoom meeting led by Fr Philip Inch and Fr Matthew Nunes at 7.00pm on Wednesday 6th December: here is the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86421512557?pwd=SVd5cFhtQ0dwUFJzQjhLSlQ5VjJjQ0T09>

Catholic Pic

The December edition of the Catholic Pic is available to download : <https://tinyurl.com/y3jnjsnc>

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL

"Taking to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus, we will go into the world to proclaim the Good News to the whole of Creation"

The Knights of St Columba



The Knights of St Columba are holding their annual Christmas service, with the choirs of St Joseph's, St Marie's and St Bernadette's primary schools and the Three Churches Choir, in **St Marie's church, on Tuesday, 12 December at 6.45.** There will be a **raffle for a Christmas hamper** at the end of the service. Everyone is welcome, not just parents and friends of the children taking part.

Lights to Remember - Sunday 10 December

All are welcome to attend Marie Curie's Lights to Remember Service at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral on Sunday 10 December at 5pm - 6pm, with refreshments and mince pies served afterwards. The event is for people who have been affected by terminal illness or bereavement, and an opportunity to come together in our local community, joined by Marie Curie staff and inspirational supporters. All are warmly invited.



Raffle for a Signed Wigan Rugby League Shirt.

Signed 2023 Super League Champions and League Winners shirt.

All proceeds in aid of Church Funds. Tickets available after the weekend Masses from Dave Hesketh and Eileen Bithall.
Thanks to everyone for their generosity so far!

Mary's Meals – Double the Love

From 22 November 2023 to 22 January 2024, donations made to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1million. Today, we face some of our greatest challenges yet in a world devastated by conflict, food insecurity and the cost of living crisis, which we know is affecting people here in the UK as well as in the countries where we work, such as Syria, Haiti and South Sudan. With Double the Love, your donation will be matched and your kindness will go even further – meaning we can reach even more desperately hungry children with a life-changing school meal. There are many ways to get involved, find out more at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>