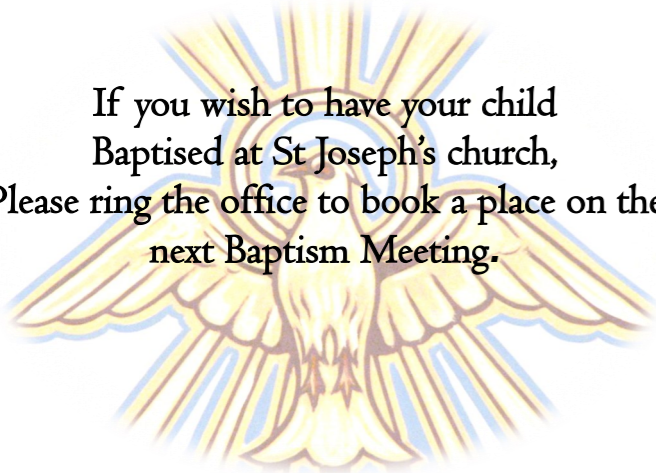


If you wish to have your child Baptised at St Joseph's church, Please ring the office to book a place on the next Baptism Meeting.



**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.**



**Church Cleaning Rota**  
This week it is Group 3. Thank you to **ALL** our volunteers who help to clean and prepare our church throughout the year.



If you ever feel distressed during your day, call upon Our Lady, just say this simple prayer: "Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now".

**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](http://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](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral.org.uk)

**Last weeks Collection.**  
**Total Collection for the last weekend.**  
Gift Aid: £427.25  
Loose Plate: £213.25  
Total: £690.50

Thank You!

Thank you for your wonderful generosity!



**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**  
Crow Orchard Road, Wrightington WN6 9PA  
Parish Priest and Episcopal Vicar for Clergy: Fr. Philip Gregory  
Tel: 01257 676 027  
E-mail: [stjwrightington@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stjwrightington@rcaol.org.uk)



<b>Second Sunday of Advent.</b> <b>10th December 2023</b>		
<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	9.30 am	Paul Cottram (Anniversary)
	5 pm	Mary Chaffin
<b>Monday</b>	9.30 am	Maria Morris (sick)
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>Memorial of St John Almond</i>	No public Mass	
<b>Wednesday</b>	No public Mass	
<b>Thursday</b> <i>Memorial of St John of the Cross</i>	10.30 am Requiem Mass	Joseph Kavanagh R.I.P
<b>Friday</b>	No public Mass	
<b>Saturday</b>	No public Mass	
<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	9.30 am	Jane Riley Sheerin
	5 pm	People of the Parish

**Sacrament of Reconciliation available on request.**


<b>Readings for Second Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>First Reading</b>	A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 40:1- 5.9-11
<b>Psalm Response</b>	Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
<b>Second Reading</b>	A reading from the second letter of St Peter. 2 Pt 3:8-14
<b>The Gospel Acclamation</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all humankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!
<b>Gospel</b>	A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. Mk 1:1-8
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

The Archdiocese of Liverpool: Registered Charity No: 1199714

## The Second Sunday of Advent

As Christmas approaches, we could ask ourselves: how can we prepare to celebrate the birthday of Our Saviour? The proclamation of John the Baptist points to the preparation that really counts: conversion of heart and life. The deeper meaning of metanoia is change of vision, a radically new outlook, in the light of the Gospel. God is our compassionate Father, our Abba, who desires nothing less than our hearts, our whole selves. We are accepted and loved by Him, while we are still sinners. Receiving his forgiving-love means a revolution in values, beliefs and direction in life.

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

 Pro-abortion MPs, Stella Creasy and Diana Johnson, have tabled two extreme abortion up to birth amendments in an attempt to hijack the Government's flagship Criminal Justice Bill. Both amendments propose removing offences that make it illegal to perform a self-abortion at any point right through to birth. Neither of the amendments outlines circumstances in which it would continue to be an offence to perform a self-abortion - the changes to the law would apply throughout all nine months of pregnancy and would not exclude sex-selective abortions. Stella Creasy's amendment, if it became law, would also repeal Section 60 of the Offences Against the Person Act, which is currently used to make it illegal to hide the body of a dead newborn baby, including in circumstances when the baby has been killed through infanticide. These extreme changes to the law would likely lead to a tragic increase in the number of babies' lives being ended through late-term abortions performed at home, as well as the lives of many more women being endangered.

Please visit the Right to Life website and take action and contact your MP.

### Christmas Masses 2024

#### Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December

First Mass of Christmas 6.30pm

and

12.00 Midnight

#### Christmas Day Monday 25th December

9.30am



Fr Phil would be very grateful for any donations towards the Christmas flowers. Please place any donations in the basket at the back of church. Thank you as always for your generosity.

### 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 Joseph Kavanagh who has 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**

*"Let us pray for our politicians and decision-makers, that they would always strive to protect all human life and human dignity from the point of conception till natural death. Lord hear us".*

### **Christmas Fair**

**December 10th 2023**

**This Weekend in the Parish Hall**



### Feeding Liverpool

Deacon Andrew Cleary, who is a Trustee of Feeding Liverpool, has asked if we could share this information with you.

"This Christmas, we are asking people to join together to support Feeding Liverpool's Christmas Appeal to help us and the 70 member charities we support that provide emergency and community food support in the region as we work towards #GoodFoodForAll. Your support will help us continue to put good food on tables this winter and beyond, at a time when Government Statistics indicate that 132,000 people in the Liverpool City Region – or 9% of the population – are having to turn to emergency food charities to feed themselves or their family." Launch Day: Tuesday 28th November 2023 · Feeding Liverpool's donation page: [Help Feed Liverpool this Christmas - JustGiving](#)

### Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal

International development charity Christian Aid is appealing for more help in boosting funds to continue to support its local partners.

Church leaders are being urged to renew appeals for donations - every amount will make a difference; £6 will pay for a basic hygiene kit while a donation of £37 will pay for a food parcel for a family of five in Gaza.

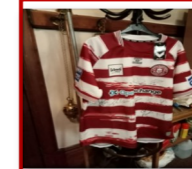
Further details on what is being done with the money is in the press release attached.

To make a donation, please visit the Middle East Crisis Appeal page on the [Christian Aid website](#).

### 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/>

### **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"