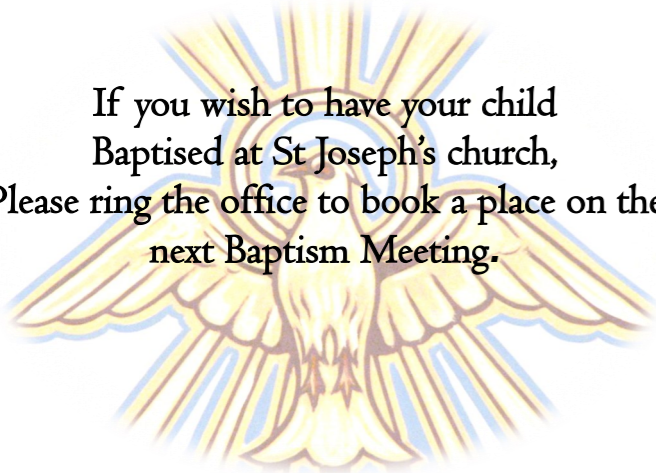


If you wish to have your child Baptised at St Joseph's church, Please ring the office to book a place on the next Baptism Meeting.



**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.**



**Request for Resources**  
Fr James Fasakin, the new Chaplain at Risely Prison, has asked if anyone could please provide or know of any organisation that can offer the inmates Rosary beads, Catholic Bibles and Holy Pictures.  
Thank you for your kind support.  
If you have some spare resources, you can contact Fr James via email at [j.fasakin@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:j.fasakin@rcaol.org.uk), or by phone at 01925 733333 (office) or 07733680555 (mobile).

**Last weeks Collection.**  
**Total Collection for the last weekend.**  
Gift Aid: £ 322.05  
Loose Plate: £ 353.63  
Total: £675.68

Thank You!

Thank you for your wonderful generosity!

**Church Cleaning Rota**  
This week it is Group 5. Thank you to **ALL** our volunteers who help to clean and prepare our church throughout the year.

**How to Save your Children through the Rosary.**  
Pray the Rosary and every time you pray the Rosary say;  
**'With this Rosary, I bind all my children to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for her guidance and protection'.**  
In doing so, Our Lady promised to see to their souls.  
**Mother Mary to Fr. Gobbi.**

**First Friday Devotions Holy Mass**  
**9.30 am**  
**5th January 2024**



**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)



**Fourth Sunday of Advent.**  
**24th December 2023**

<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> <b>First Mass of Christmas</b> <b>Christmas Mass at Midnight</b>	9.30 am 6.30pm 12.00 Mass at Midnight	Fr John Johnson People of the Parish People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b> <i>Christmas Day</i> <i>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</i>	9.30 am	People of the Parish
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30 am	Rebecca Georgeson (S.I)
<b>Wednesday</b>	No public Mass	
<b>Thursday</b>	No public Mass	
<b>Friday</b>	No public Mass	
<b>Saturday</b>	No public Mass	
<b>Sunday Feast of The Holy Family</b>	9.30 am 5 pm	Peter & Sheila Castelli John Smith (Memorial)

**Readings for Fourth Sunday of Advent**

<b>First Reading</b>	A reading from the second book of Samuel. 2 Sm 7:1-5.8-12.14.16
<b>Psalm Response</b>	I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.
<b>Second Reading</b>	A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans. Rom 16:25=27
<b>The Gospel Acclamation</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!
<b>Gospel</b>	A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. Lk 1:26-38
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Behold a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.



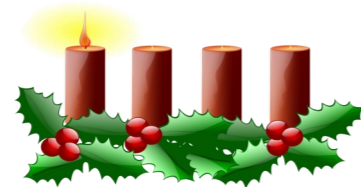
### The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The season of preparation is drawing to a close. Like Mary, by getting ready involves deep listening to what God is asking of me now and an interior willingness to say: "Let what you have said be done to me". What is God asking of me now, as a person, in the family, at work, and indeed within the faith community of the Church? Have I noticed a pattern of nudges from God calling me to a deeper, perhaps different engagement as a disciple? Are my gifts-tokens of God's grace-fully at the service of my neighbour?

**FR PHIL AND FR ANDREW WISHES YOU ALL  
A VERY HAPPY, BLESSED AND GRACEFILLED  
CHRISTMAS!**



**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 Brenda Harmer, Fr John Johnson, Pauline Fowler and remembering all the patients in Wrightington 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 Kirsty Aspinall and Marleen McGuire 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

*"Today, with the Nativity of Christ in sight, our prayer focuses on expectant mothers. For all those going into labour now and in the next months, we pray for the safety and wellbeing of both mother and baby. Lord hear us".*

#### 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](#).**

#### 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Crib

This year marks the 800th Anniversary of the First Nativity Crib, created by St Francis of Assisi in Greccio in Italy in 1223. To mark this special anniversary, and to pray for our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, we pray "a child's prayer" at Christmas.

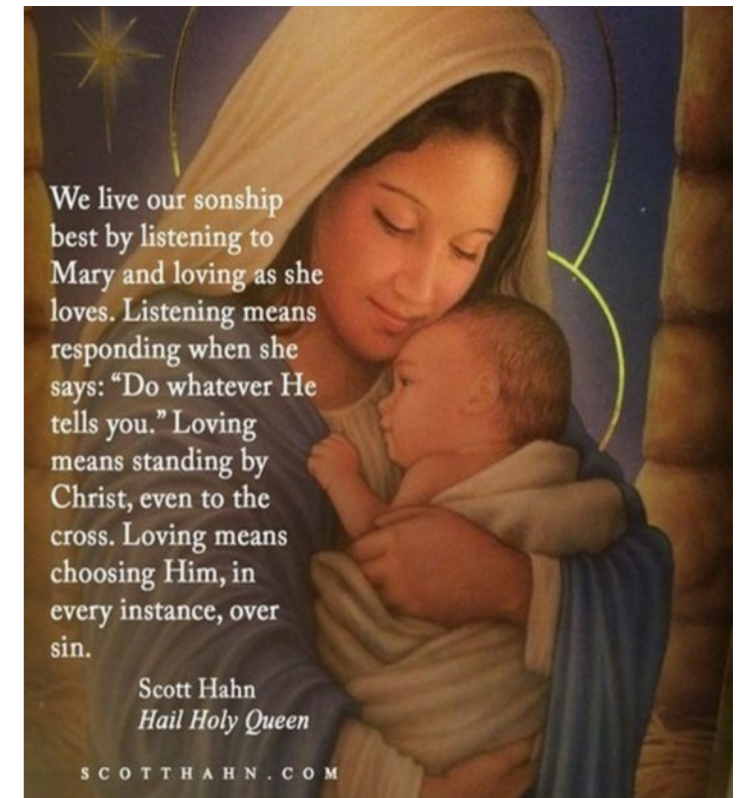
"Dear Jesus, At this time of year, we picture you in the stable at Bethlehem, with Mary and Joseph, a picture of peace and family love, surrounded by the animals and adoring shepherds. We pray that the peace you brought into the world on that first Christmas night will return to our world, and the light of your guiding star will lead us all one day to be with you in Heaven. Amen."

*Prayer by Michael Byrne KGCHS Lieutenant for England and Wales, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*

#### 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](#)



We live our sonship best by listening to Mary and loving as she loves. Listening means responding when she says: "Do whatever He tells you." Loving means standing by Christ, even to the cross. Loving means choosing Him, in every instance, over sin.

Scott Hahn  
Hail Holy Queen

SCOTTHAHN.COM

#### 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"