

THE TWO COMINGS OF CHRIST

(LUKE 21:25-28, 34-36)



Our first Gospel reading for the new liturgical cycle presents Jesus speaking to his disciples about the coming of the “Son of Man” for the final judgement, indicated by his mentioning “signs”, both in the cosmic and human realms.

He urges his followers to see in these events the heralding of their redemption, the definitive establishing of the kingdom of God; therefore, they should respond positively with confidence and eager anticipation.

There is no time-frame given for the events which Luke describes. By the time he is writing, it is clear that the second coming may be long delayed, so the disciples have to settle down to life in the meantime. This can lead to their becoming complacent and slipping into bad habits, so the reading also gives instruction about remaining alert. Some of the warnings Luke has given earlier find an echo here, for instance, that of the parable of the steward who abuses his position over the household, thinking that the owner is not likely to arrive anytime soon; and the parable of the seed which is choked by thorns, interpreted as “the worries and riches and pleasures of life” which stifle a wholehearted response to the word of God, not to mention indulging excessively in drink and dissolute behaviour. He prefaces all this by the instruction to keep praying, which will keep them in the proper attitude to welcome the arrival of the Son of Man. ■

REFLECT

The word “Advent” means approach, arrival, coming. The liturgy in these four weeks leading up to the celebration of Christmas invites us to reflect on two comings of Christ. The first is Christ’s coming into our world as one of us “in every way except sin”. The second, less comfortable coming is at the end of time, when Christ will appear in glory as universal judge. We can see from the earliest writings of the apostle Paul that the first disciples expected the second coming to take place within their lifetime, then had to come to terms with the fact that this was growing more and more unlikely.

The greatest danger, perhaps, is that we become, unintentionally, complacent, that indeed the cares and problems of daily life can gradually weaken our commitment to living as disciples of Jesus. Thus, the season of Advent encourages us to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the first coming, as though we were expecting his final appearing: the Prefaces of the Mass for Advent put it this way; “that, when he comes again in glory and majesty... we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope”; and “so that he may find us watchful in prayer and exultant in his praise”.

Advent, like Lent, is a penitential season in which we are encouraged to look at ourselves and correct anything which detracts from our full commitment to the person of Jesus and his teachings. It is a time to renew and strengthen our relationship with Jesus. ■

LEARN

The word “Advent” means coming, arrival, approach.

The season of Advent has two themes: the coming of Christ in our human flesh at Christmas and Christ’s second coming in power and glory for judgement.

Advent is a penitential season to prepare for the feast of the Incarnation: hence purple vestments and the omission of the Gloria at Mass.

SAY

“Hark! A herald voice is calling: ‘Christ is nigh,’ it seems to say.”

(Edward Caswall)

DO

Pay close attention to the Preface of the Mass during Advent: read it over at home and notice the references to the second coming of Christ.



The Parish of St CUTHBERT

**1st Sunday of Advent
27 November 2021**

Parish Website

www.stcuthberts.org.uk

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Newsletter: newsletter@stcuthberts.org.uk

Please remember in your prayers.....

*All in your families & those of
our parishioners who are
sick..*

*Remember all those
who have died recently....*

*All those with Anniversaries
at this time ...*



Mass Intentions 

Campbell O'Brien-King

Anniversary

Martina McCabe

RIP

Edward Monaghan

Anniversary

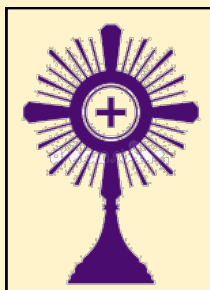
Exposition Before Sunday Masses During Advent

Sat Vigil 5.00pm –5.25 pm

Sunday 9.00 am-9.25 am

10.45 am– 11.10am

Starting Sunday 28 November.



BOLTON LIONS CLUB TOY COLLECTION

This Weekend

AT ST CUTHBERT'S
PARISH NOVEMBER
27TH/28TH 2021



ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE



For the whole Parish in
St Thomas of Canterbury church.
Tuesday 14th December
1.00 pm & 7.30 pm

The Parish Liturgy for the First Week of Advent

Monday November 29	Tuesday November 30	Wednesday December 1	Thursday December 2	Friday December 3	Saturday December 4	Sunday December 5
Weekday	<i>St Andrew, Apostle</i>	Weekday	Weekday	<i>St Francis Xavier, Priest</i>	<i>St John Damascene, Priest</i>	2nd Sunday of Advent
No Service	Mass	Mass	Mass	Requiem Mass For Eileen Tunney	Reconciliation 4.45 - 5.15pm Vigil Mass	Masses 9.30 am St Joseph & 11.15am St Thomas of Canterbury
	10.00 am	10.00 am	10.00 am	10.00 am	5.30 pm	
	Thomas of Canterbury	St Joseph	Thomas of Canterbury	Thomas of Canterbury	Thomas of Canterbury	

PRAYER TO RENEW OUR CHURCH

Lord Jesus, you speak to us today, as you spoke to holy men and women who have gone before us.

In every age and in our own time, you call to us and say:
Renew My Church.

Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us, and so enable us

- to hear you clearly
- to listen to each other attentively
 - to imagine our future boldly
 - to discern your direction wisely
- to persevere in your holy will courageously
 - to stay together in charity
 - to surrender our own plans readily
 - to embrace the greater good
 - to hand on your gifts to future generations

May we remain in the holy company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints.

May their example and presence inspire us with patent confidence in the work of your grace.

We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

THREE PRIORITIES FOR OUR PARISH

1. Be open to the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit guide us in all that we do

2. We grow together as a Family

Let us be inclusive, look after and reach out to each other the best way we can

3. To bring other people to Jesus

Let us live our Faith outwardly and share the Joy of Jesus in our lives with others

Synod

Pope Francis has called a Universal Synod which is taking place in every Catholic diocese across the world. The Synod is themed:

“For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission”. We want to hear from as many people as possible, those involved in the church and those who are not. You can take part by completing an online submission using the QR code or following this link.

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3D3FXJ2.

Please share this link with family and friends. We have until 1st March 2022 to make our submissions then, after national and continental gatherings, the Synod of Bishops will gather in Rome in 2023 to reflect on what has been heard. Please remember the Synod in your prayers. Your contribution is invaluable and will make a considerable difference to the future of the Church in our diocese and across the world.

Poinsettia Sale

After Weekend Masses next weekend at St Thomas of Canterbury church. Why not donate a poinsettia to decorate the church for Christmas in remembrance of loved ones.

All in Aid of Thornleigh
Community Charity

If you would like to support this, please contact Ken Hogg
849114



Entrance: Maranatha**Laudate 84**

Like a sea without a shore love divine is boundless.
Time is now and evermore and His love surrounds
us.

*Maranatha! Maranatha! Maranatha! Come, Lord
Jesus, come!*

So that we could all be free He appeared among us,
blest are those who have not seen, yet believe His
promise.

All our visions, all our dreams, are but ghostly shad-
ows of the radiant clarity waiting at life's close.

Death where is your victory? Death where is your
sting? Closer than the air we breathe is our risen
King

Offertory: Take my hands Laudate 608

1. Take my hands and make them as your own and
use them for your kingdom here on earth.
Consecrate them to your care, anoint them for your
service where you may need your gospel to be
sown.

2. Take my hands, they speak now for my heart, and
by their actions they will show your love. Guard
them on their daily course, be their strength and
guiding force to ever serve the Trinity above.

3. Take my hands; I give them to you, Lord.
Prepare them for the service of your name.
Open them to human need and by their love they'll
sow your seed so all may know the love and hope
you gave.

Communion: Come back to me**Laudate 842**

Come back to me with all your heart
Don't let fear keep us apart
Trees do bend though straight and tall
So must we to others' call

Refrain:

*Long have I waited for
Your coming home to me*

And living deeply our new lives

The wilderness will lead you
To the place where I will speak
Integrity and justice
With tenderness
You shall know. (R)

You shall sleep secure with peace
Faithfulness shall be your joy (R)

**Dismissal: O come, O come Emmanuel
Laudate 112 (vs 1,4,5)**

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I heard a story recently that has helped me through the month of November and helps me look forward to Advent and Christmas this year. I hope that this story helps you too and that you can share it with those around you.

There was a king who had three sons. He decided that he would set them a challenge and the one who succeeded would be the next king. He called them together in a great barn and said: 'The one who can fill this barn the fullest will be the next king!' The eldest son decided to fill the barn with wood and spent the day gathering as much wood as possible. The second son decided to fill the barn with straw and set about gathering as much straw as possible. The youngest son went to the market and was seen placing some items in his pocket. The king and his three sons gathered together, as it began to grow dark. The eldest son tried to fill the barn with wood, but he didn't have enough. The second son tried to fill the barn with straw, but he failed as well. By now it was very dark. Then the youngest son took out a box of matches and a candle. He lit the candle and filled the barn with light!

This story helped me as I remembered loved ones who have died and made me realise that the temptation is to fill the darkness of grief with lots of things but the only thing that can fill that space in our

lives is the light of Christ risen from the dead. That transformed the way I prayed and remembered my mum and dad, other family members and friends who are no longer with me. It brought me great peace in the darkness of grief. I hope that it will help you too.

Now we begin Advent, and the story helps me think about how I am going to prepare for Christmas. My reflections now are based on the candles we have on the Advent wreath. The four in the circle represent Hope, Peace, Love and Joy.

Hope: in the first week of Advent, I am going to reflect on where I have lost hope and the darkness in my life that is there as a result and what I have been trying to fill that space with unsuccessfully. Then I am going to remember the story of the barn and the candle and imagine that barn of despair to be transformed by the light of Christ into a place full of hope.

Peace: in the second week of Advent, I am going to reflect on where I am at war and the darkness in my life that is there as a result and what I have been trying to fill that space with unsuccessfully. Then I am going to remember the story of the barn and the candle and imagine that barn of war to be transformed by the light of Christ into a place full of peace.

Love: in the third week of Advent, I am going to reflect on where there is hate and jealousy and the darkness in my life that is there as a result and what I have been trying to fill that space with unsuccessfully. Then I am going to remember the story of the barn and the candle and imagine that barn of hate and jealousy to be transformed by the light of Christ into a place full of love.

Joy: in the fourth week of Advent, I am going to reflect on where there is

sadness and the darkness in my life that is there as a result and what I have been trying to fill that space with unsuccessfully. Then I am going to remember the story of the barn and the candle and imagine that barn of sadness to be transformed by the light of Christ into a place full of love.

Faith: when it comes to Christmas I am going to reflect on where there is doubt and the darkness in my life that is there as a result and what I have been trying to fill that space with unsuccessfully. Then I am going to imagine that barn of doubt to be transformed by the light of Christ into a place full of faith.

In all of this I will be calling on the Holy Spirit to open my mind and my heart and my whole self to God. I invite you to do the same during Advent. There is always the danger that we try to fill the darkness of Advent and Christmas with lots of activity, parties, presents, food and drink. But there is nothing that can fill our lives in the way that Jesus can. I pray that we all have a blessed and fruitful Advent and Christmas filled with Jesus and that by the power of the Holy Spirit we can share this story with people around us who are in darkness and need the light of Jesus in their lives too.

God bless you all, Fr Chris



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Friday 24 December	Christmas Eve	
St Joseph Church	1.15-2.15 pm	Christmas Crib visiting Hour
St Thomas of Canterbury Church	2.30—3.30 pm	Christmas Crib visiting Hour
The visiting hour is open to both adults and children (children must be accompanied by an adult) Please come along, bring your children or grandchildren with you and spend some time at our Crib and to come and see Baby Jesus		
St Thomas of Canterbury Church	5.30 pm	Christmas Mass
St Joseph Church	8.00 pm	Christmas Mass
Saturday 25 December	Christmas Day	
St Thomas of Canterbury Church	10.30 am	
Sunday 26th December	Holy Family	
St Joseph Church	9.30 am	
St Thomas of Canterbury Church	11.15 am	

CHRISTMAS MASSES LOOKING AFTER OUR PARISH FAMILY

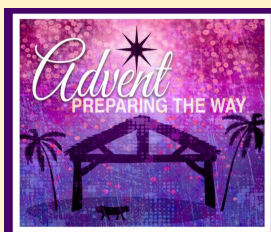
We now intend to fully open up all the benches in our Churches. However, please be mindful of those around you and, where it is possible, ensure there is some distance between households so we continue to look after all members of our Church family.

Unless there is any change in guidelines Tickets **WILL NOT** be issued for the Christmas Masses this year.

We are expecting all Christmas Masses to have a high attendance and so this will mean that our benches will more than likely be fully occupied without any provision for social distancing so please bear this in mind when choosing which Mass you wish to attend. If you are feeling unsure or vulnerable you may wish to consider joining online and/or attending one of the other Masses during Christmas week. All Masses will be livestreamed.

To try and keep everyone as safe as possible please be mindful of not congregating together and taking time particularly when leaving after Mass to allow the Church to empty slowly.
Please also continue to use the hand sanitisers

Thank You



Throughout Advent there will be available on our YouTube channel daily reflections and prayers read by young people of the parish. They are based upon the Advent and Christmas Wisdom from Pope Francis collated by John Cleary to hopefully provide a short time to reflect each day on the Holy Spirit and the true message of Advent and Christmas.



You're Invited
To Join Us For
**COFFEE
AND
CAROLS**

*Friday 10th December
10.30—11.30 am*

The Triangle Community Methodist Church
BL1 5QP



ST CUTHBERTS' PARISH GOES ON AIR

Starting this Sunday 28th November and for the following 4 Sundays Our Parish will be making a Broadcast for the Season of Advent and telling the Christmas Story on the **"Spirit of Bolton"** Programme which goes out at 6.00 p.m.

The Readings are being made by our Schoolchildren/Altar Servers and the Music by our Parish Music Group

Advent is a very special time, a time of waiting and a time of Reflection and Prayer.

Please tune in, listen and enjoy



"Love is the greatest power because it pulls down the walls of selfishness."
Pope Francis.

Caritas Salford's #Loved Advent Appeal

Thanks to your kindness, Caritas Salford was able to support 5,000 families across our diocese this year*. To see the difference that your generous support makes, please view the short film - #Loved - produced for this Advent, by visiting our website <http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/advent-2021/>

Throughout 2021 you have helped to provide:

- ◆ A safe place to live for young parents and their infant child with 24/7 support.
- ◆ Food parcels and shopping vouchers.
- ◆ Essential household items and toiletries.
- ◆ School uniform, shoes and Christmas treats/presents.
- ◆ Financial grants to families facing a crisis, illness or poverty.
- ◆ 1:1 advice sessions with our trained staff for as long as it takes.

*2019/20 Caritas Salford's Impact Report

We now ask for your help to continue this transformative work with children and families.

Donations can be made online at our website, enabling Gift Aid to be claimed easily, which adds 25% extra to your gift. It is also the best way to save costs on administration. Setting up a direct debit can also be done in this way.

Alternatively, please call Rachel Taylor during office hours on 0161 817 2285. You can also send a cheque made payable to 'Caritas Diocese of Salford', marked FAO Rachel Taylor: ADVENT APPEAL to: Caritas House, Nobby Stiles Drive, Collyhurst, Manchester M4 4FA. Please include your full name, address and postcode, and whether you wish to gift aid the donation.

Thank you to all the parishioners of St Cuthbert's.

Please continue to pray that those we support will know they are loved.



In partnership with Smithills Open Farm
St Joseph's RC High School Presents:

Discover the meaning of the first Christmas by being there in person as the story that impacted on the world for centuries to come unfolds...

#Found in a Barn! Cost: £4

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e>

Thursday 16th December @ 6.30pm
#You will be found! #Loved

Refreshments available to purchase: Carrs Pasties, Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Christmas gifts available from Elcha-doodle-do and much more!

St Joseph's RC High School - #Found in a Barn @ Smithills Open Farm

Discover the meaning of the first Christmas by being there in person as the story that impacted on the world for centuries to come unfolds...

www.eventbrite.co.uk



Elf Run for Bolton Hospice Wednesday 8th December 2021

Last year St. Joseph's took part in a sponsored Elf Run in aid of Bolton Hospice and we were blown away by the very generous donations given by our families, raising over £3,000!

All students will be provided with a sponsorship form for any cash donations. Online donations can be made at

[St Joseph's RCP](http://StJosephsRCP.org.uk) is fundraising for Bolton Hospice (justgiving.com)

We thank you for your continued support.

St. Joseph's R.C. Primary School

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.
See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

“In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 24

Response:
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)
3. His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will. The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.
May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: “There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

“Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we
make,
gathered from among your gifts to us,
and may what you grant us to celebrate
devoutly here below
gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated,
profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing
things,
you teach us by them to love the things of
heaven
and hold fast to what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Time always seems long to the child who is waiting – for Christmas, for next summer, for becoming a grownup: long also when he surrenders his whole soul to each moment of a happy day.

Dag Hammarskjöld

Dates for Your Diary

Nov 28	Bolton FM Our Parish on Air each Sunday
Dec 5	Poinsettia Sale
Dec 8	Elf Run Bolton Hospice
Dec 10	Coffee & Carols @ The Triangle
Dec 14	Advent Reconciliation Service
Dec 16	Found in a Barn