



# The Parish of St CUTHBERT

**3rd Sunday of Advent**  
*Gaudete Sunday 12 December 2021*

Parish Website

[www.stcuthberts.org.uk](http://www.stcuthberts.org.uk)

### Contact Details for Fr Chris:

[christopher.gorton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:christopher.gorton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

Phone: 01204 587996

Address: 7 Eastbourne Grove, Heaton, Bolton BL1 5TR

Mail will be redirected to SToC school until further notice

Office hours: Mon - Fri ( 10.30-12.30 )

Phone Number: 01204 497068

Office email: [office@stcuthberts.org.uk](mailto:office@stcuthberts.org.uk)

Newsletter: [newsletter@stcuthberts.org.uk](mailto: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

Sean O'Mahoney	Lately Dead
Private Intention	
Frances Ekbery	Lately Dead
Thanksgiving Mass	Good Results
Bancroft & Moore Families	In memory

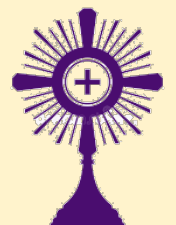
### ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE



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

### 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



**Poinsettia Sale** A BIG THANK YOU to all who supported the Charity Sale of Poinsettia plants last weekend.

We will have raised over £500.00 to support Thornleigh School Students Charity Appeal.

There are a small number of plants left which will be on sale this weekend.



# The Parish Liturgy for the Third Week of Advent

Monday December 13	Tuesday December 14	Wednesday December 15	Thursday December 16	Friday December 17	Saturday December 18	Sunday December 19
Advent Weekday	<i>St John of the Cross, Priest</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>St Flannan</i>	4th Sunday of Advent
No Service	<b>Mass</b> 10.00 am <b>Advent Reconciliation Services</b>	<b>Requiem Mass for Sean Mahoney</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>Mass</b> Reconciliation immediately after Mass	Reconciliation 4.45 - 5.15pm <b>Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Masses</b> 9.30 am St Joseph & 11.15am St Thomas of Canterbury
	See Advert	10.00 am	10.00 am	10.00 am	5.30 pm	
	Thomas of Canterbury	Thomas of Canterbury	Thomas of Canterbury	St Joseph	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 patient 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

## THANK YOU from SVP

(St Vincent de Paul Society)

A very big "thank you" from the Parish SVP group for donations placed in the wall box at the back of St Thomas of Canterbury church which have totalled £250 over the past six months.



The activity of the group has continued to be limited by the impact of COVID-19 and we are especially disappointed that it has not been possible to organise our usual social events and Christmas lunch.

We are working in partnership with our local schools to ensure that some help is directed at Christmas time to a number of families in need through the provision of food hampers, basic necessities and vouchers. You may wish to consider making a donation to the SVP; if so, please place your donation in an envelope marked for the SVP and post it in the red internal mail box in the church porch.

Happy Christmas to you all.

## Wilfred Speakman

There was a recent notice in the Bolton News reporting the death of **Wilfred Speakman**.

He died on 20th November in Wimborne, Dorset, aged 95.

He had been Head of St Cuthbert's School and Head of Sixth Form Centre at Thornleigh.

His late wife, Noreen, had been a teacher at STOC school.



**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.

## Dates for Your Diary

- Dec 12** Streets of Light Up
- Dec 14** Advent Reconciliation Services
- Dec 16** Found in a Barn
- Dec 19** Music for the Christmas Season
- Dec 23** Carols with Fr Chris & Brass Band
- Dec 24** For Christmas Masses  
**Dec 25** please see the Table overleaf
- New Year** Dates to follow next week

# Music for the Christmas Season

St. Thomas of Canterbury Church  
Sunday 19th December,  
3.00pm

## Featuring

Cantamus Community Choir  
Westhoughton High School Staff Choir  
Young String Players from St Thomas of Canterbury Primary School



Donation requested on admission

All donations in aid of Urban Outreach



**Can you draw & paint? Do you enjoy drawing & painting? Do you know of anyone who does?** Would you like to take part in an art project for the Parish? Young or older, even elderly. Fr Chris wants to form a team or teams to produce some art work for both churches. Just as we need musicians and

their talents, we need artists to enliven our faith. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please contact the office with your name and contact details and we will get back to you.

As a team and as individuals you will be working to a design brief, contributing your ideas in terms of research, sketches, drawings and paintings or design work. We hope to start this in the new year. More will follow depending on the overall response.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

<b>Friday 24 December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	
<b>St Joseph Church</b>	1.15-2.15 pm	Christmas Crib visiting Hour
<b>St Thomas of Canterbury Church</b>	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		
<b>St Thomas of Canterbury Church</b>	5.30 pm	Christmas Mass
<b>St Joseph Church</b>	7.30 pm	Carol Concert & Music for the Mass led by Cantamus
<b>St Joseph Church</b>	8.00 pm	Christmas Mass
<b>Saturday 25 December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	
<b>St Thomas of Canterbury Church</b>	10.30 am	
<b>Sunday 26th December</b>	<b>Holy Family</b>	
<b>St Joseph Church</b>	9.30 am	
<b>St Thomas of Canterbury Church</b>	11.15 am	

### CHRISTMAS MASSES LOOKING AFTER OUR PARISH FAMILY

We have now fully opened 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



You are invited to an informal Introductory Evening  
at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church Eastbourne Grove Bolton  
BL1 5TR  
on Tuesday 4th January at 7.00 p.m. in the Becket Suite

### “Journey In Faith”

is a Course which explores the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. Maybe you want to look deeper into your faith? Are you thinking about becoming a Catholic? Are you thinking about returning to Church after a break or do you just want to know more about the Christian Faith in general?

There is no pressure or on-going commitment so why not just come along and see what the Course has to offer and meet us here at our Parish - we would love to see you  
Everyone is welcome

*If you have any queries, please telephone the Parish Office 01204 497068 or  
email: [office@stcuthberts.org.uk](mailto:office@stcuthberts.org.uk)*



## ST CUTHBERTS PARISH GOES ON AIR

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. Also, Join us in the Parish Advent Reflections

**Please tune in, listen and enjoy**

## PARISH DRAW

### "NEWS"

We are now preparing for

**Jan – March 2022 Draw**

**A Really big THANK YOU**

*to all our members who have paid by standing order during the pandemic,*

*we are now in a position to invite back our members who pay by cash.*

*Can we invite you to please put your £10.00 for the next quarter*

*in an envelope (mark it "Parish Draw" and write your name clearly on the envelope) and place it in the collection basket*

*If you would like to pay by Standing Order, please put your name and contact details on the list in the porch*

**marked "SO"** (Standing Order)

*If you would like to join the Draw please put your name on the contact list **marked "NM"** (New Member) and we will get in touch with details .*

Parish Contacts:

St. Joseph - Peter Hough 01024 846864

St. Thomas of Canterbury - Jackie Sweeney  
01204 406856

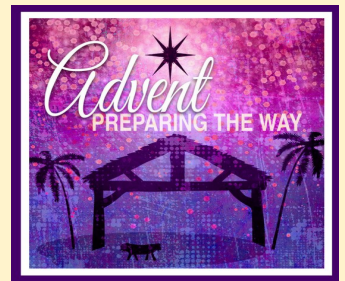
## Used Postage Stamps

We are no longer collecting used postage stamps as has been the tradition in the parish in past years.



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.




**Streets of Light**

Let

**Our Parish**

be a beacon of light to our neighbours and friends

**LIGHT UP!**

**Sun 12<sup>th</sup> December to Sun 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

Let us all join together in the spirit of **Christmas** and in these uncertain times light up our homes, offices, schools and places of work

Let's make our windows shine with the message that in wondering what happens next, we share **hope** and fill our streets with **love** this **Christmas**

**St Joseph's RC High School - #Found in a Barn @ Smithills Open Farm 16 December**  
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](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)