

Lighting the Advent Candle
- The Blessed Virgin Mary

We say together:

We have this Advent Ring to remind us of the coming of Jesus - the Light of the World.

We sing:

**The holly and the ivy are dancing in a ring,
round the berry-bright red candles,
and the white and shining King.**

The fourth candle is lit:

We light this candle to remind us of Mother Mary, who told God she would obey.

**And four for Mother Mary,
'I cannot see the way,
but you promise me a baby,
I believe you, I obey'.**

**The holly and the ivy are dancing in a ring,
round the berry-bright red candles,
and the white and shining King.**

During the week:



Christmas Eve
3.00pm Crib Service
8.30pm Bethlehem Mass
~ an early Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
11.00am Parish Mass

Thursday 26th - No Mass today

Saturday 28th - 10am-11am

Divine Dusters & helpers.... *a quick dust and clean as we know dust and dirt continues to settle on our pews, following the work on the roof.*

The Candle by the Blessed Virgin Mary burns this week for Carol Spear, for healing & wholeness

Next Sunday - 29th Dec.

Holy Family Sunday - 11.00am Parish Mass

To help you prepare for our worship why not

look up the readings we will use:

Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Parish Contact Details:

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St Paul, King Cross, Halifax

Sunday 22 December 2024

Welcome to the Parish Mass today,
on the Fourth Sunday of Advent

A special welcome if you are visiting.
If you require Gluten free altar bread - please have a word with one of the Welcomers at the door.

Hymns: 181; 186; 11; 161; 9

Readers: Mary Barton-Marshall & Keith Fairhurst
Intercessions: Tom Oakes

*There's a contactless payment facility at the back of Church if you are without cash for your offering.
If you pay tax please make use of the Gift Aid envelopes - it helps us a great deal - Thank you!*

During the week please pray for:

The people of Edwards Road & Southowram

Among our congregation: Brenda Stones, Sheila Tomlinson, Andreas Tsoutsoulis

Monday - Our keeping of Advent
Tuesday - Food Banks & all who use them
Wednesday - for all who may join us at our Christmas Services this year, that they may return
Thursday - Peace in the troubled areas of the world
Friday - All who find this time of year difficult
Saturday - our organist & choir

Those who are sick or in need:

Adam Rose, Louise Stewart, Paul Ainsworth, Clifford Brown, Stuart Wade, Julian Haw, Michael Benn, Katie O'Halloran, Paul Fawcett, David Hudson, Laraine Cowgill, Bronwyn Crowther, Harrison Stones, Christine Palethorpe, Tim Forward, Denise Keenan, Judy Wright, Jennifer Fairhurst, Theo Mayfield, Susan Wainwright, Lynn Hudson, Agnes Arak, Michael Kenyon, Barry Potter, Elizabeth Fairbourne, Beryl Wilson, Philippa Jordan

Those in long term sickness:

David Porter, Adrian Western, Carl Jones

Recently departed: Madeline Russell

Anniversaries:

George Fletcher (22) Albert Slater, Lily Foster (23) Marjorie Cheslett, Kathleen Sutcliffe (24) George Wade (25) Ivy Hollos, Fred Ferrari, Jean Whalley (27) Elsie Barker, Pauline Wilson, Emily Gatehouse, Allen Tew (28)

ADVENT 4

*Our readings now follow those in Year C –
with readings mainly from St Luke's Gospel.
Daily Eucharistic Readings follow Year 1 Lections*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour. *(cf. Isaiah 45:8)*

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray [as Advent draws to a close, that Christ will truly come into our hearts]
Lord, fill our hearts with your love,
and as you revealed to us by an angel
the coming of your Son as man,
so lead us through his suffering and death
to the glory of his resurrection,
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING (Micah 5: 1-4)

A reading from the prophet Micah

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them
till the time when she who is to give birth
gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will
come back to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock with the power
of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his
God. They will live secure, for from then on he
will extend his power to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 79)

**R: God of hosts, bring us back; let your
face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **R:**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **R:**

May your hand be on the one you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R:**

SECOND READING (Hebrews 10: 5-10)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:
You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a
body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or
sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was
commanded in the scroll of the book, "God, here I
am! I am coming to obey your will."

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the
Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is:
the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the
sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them;
and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey
your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it
with the second. And this will was for us to be made
holy by the offering of his body made once and for
all by Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord.

let what you have said be done to me.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel (Luke 1: 39-44)

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.*

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a
town in the hill country of Judah. She went into
Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as
soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child
leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the
Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, "Of all
women you are the most blessed, and blessed is
the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured
with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the
moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in
my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who
believed that the promise made her by the Lord
would be fulfilled."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON and THOUGHT FOR
THE WEEK – Behold a Virgin shall conceive and
bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.
(Isaiah 7:14)

TODAY at 5pm

Carol Service

