

Saturday/ Sunday 7th/8th December 2019

2nd Sunday of Advent / Start of the Church's New Year, Cycle A

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday:

Sat 7th 6.00 pm Jenny Mallon

Sun 8th 11.00 am **Parishioners**

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mon 9th 9.00 am William McCarthy

Tue 10th 9.00 am Liz Wilkinson

Wed 11th **12 noon Wedding Philomena Maughan and Michael Doherty**

2.30 pm No service @ Convent

Thur 12th **7.30 pm** William Riding

Memorial of St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Fri 13th 9.00 am Christina D'Souza

Memorial of St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor

Sat 14th **9.30 am** Mass @ St Michael & All Angels, Westvale

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday **3rd Sunday of Advent/ Cycle A;**

Sat 14th 6.00 pm **Parishioners**

Sun 15th 11.00 am Stephen Moore

Mass Intentions received: Betty Kirwin, Ann Smart, David Lang, Paul Cowie, Dennis Kearns, Margaret Horner

**Let us pray for all those who have recently died, especially;
Betty Kirwin**

your prayers are also asked for her family and friends at this time

- for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time
- all those who are sad, the sick, lonely, or depressed
- all our Special Intentions for family and friends, alive or dead
- for the empty place at the table; a candle lit, prayer before our meal
- the separated and divorced; the unemployed, the hungry & homeless

**Sacrament of Reconciliation and
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar
5.15 pm-5.45pm Saturdays and
9.15am- 9.45am Sundays**

Our **Synod** Members, lay people and our priests, after reflecting on the earlier meetings, met the Synod coordinating team and they and others fed back parts of a report and analysis and the four main themes for further discussion. The next stages now will build on that report and the four main themes of Synod 2020. **Listening:** This is the key word. This next stage of **Synod 2020** is continuing the listening exercises. Listening to as many people as possible - those who are active in the Church, those coming to Mass each weekend and those who are less involved. So, we invite people to come together; to listen to each other about **life** and about **faith** and the Church and share what we hear with those on the Synod team. The Synod team who have developed the themed topics now look to parishioners to develop proposals that will be voted on at our Synod in 2020.

If you would like to find out more about **Synod 2020** there is great information on-line, please visit www.synod2020.org.uk and follow the links

Thanks for all those who attended the three meetings arranged here about local Synod 'Listening and Discernment' - the themes for the Synod have now been developed from all the feedback from parishes across the archdiocese.

The next parish meeting is open to **ALL** parishioners, but **Eucharistic ministers, Readers and Children's Liturgy Catechists need to attend:**

**6.45pm Collin's Room, Tea and coffee and first session before Mass,
followed by second session after Mass; finished by 9pm at latest.**

Thursday, 12th December: the second theme- 'sharing the mission of Jesus'

*We pray for our young parishioners who work so hard for their A level, GCSEs and other qualifications this year. All Saints Catholic High School continues to have its best results. The efforts of the staff, pupils and family support is seen in the overall positive environment that has been created there, over recent years. Please continue to support Catholic education, for the benefit of the wider community too. All Saints Catholic High, and both St Joseph and St Laurence's Primary schools each provide wonderful care to our children, as they study and learn for life. Together, as Home-Church-Schools, we will look to build upon the support and care we can give to each other and our wider society. Our **HOME-CHURCH-SCHOOL** links, each support and build up the parish family, as we recognise and celebrate being part of something bigger; the visible Body of Christ; the gathered community; this is what CHURCH is really all about- we are the People of God- mainly lay people, with religious, the deacons, priests, bishops, altogether across our archdiocese of Liverpool- making up part of the world-wide family of the Church, gathered by God the Father, under His Son, the Word of God and with the Holy Spirit and with the Pope.*

FINANCES: CATHOS £284.90 Church Repairs £11.91

SAB £27.90 Lourdes £17.95 Animate Youth £2.00

Thank you for your generosity, support & prayers.

No Convent service, Wednesday this week

1st	Gerard Riley	Christine Callaghan
2nd	Libbie Ely	Teresa Taylor
Int	Anthony Ely	Barbara Lye
HL	Joe Bennett	Margaret Byrne
CL	Jane Hines	Alex Fleming
CL	Tony Bennett	Ann Murphy
HR	Lesley Lester	Sr Jessie
CR	Ray Hines	Ann Conning
CR	Chris Davies	Ellen Richards

Welcome to all our children and their families at weekend Masses: for those who are prepared/preparing to receive the gifts of Jesus; in both the sacraments of Reconciliation, (Forgiveness, Confession) and the gift of His Body & Blood, Eucharist (Holy Communion); for those already prepared they can now celebrate ANY time they come to Church in future and throughout the REST of the lives. Attendance at **WEEKLY** Saturday/Sunday Mass, is expected. For Year 5 children and above from any school in the parish, **they and their families are invited to come to reconciliation times before Saturday evening and Sunday morning Mass here in Church, any weekend**, where the children will sit on a chair near the Tabernacle for confession Adults and children can continue to celebrate Reconciliation and Communion **again** and often, any weekend in the future.

Families must never worry about their children making noises in Church; it is their way of praying. They will learn over time, from the adults being quieter, to help create together a quieter atmosphere.

It is that time of year again when we really need you to come and help with our festive singing for the December Services. All **adult** Volunteers are welcome. If you are interested in finding out more, come along after the 11am Mass on Sunday and see the organist, Jim Gaffney. The practices will be in Church on **Mondays**, at 7pm

**Carol Service at the Daughters of the Heart of Mary
6-8 Cherryfield Drive Kirkby L32 9PA
20th December 7pm All welcome.
Refreshments available afterwards**

ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE'S PARISH

Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated. A Registered Charity No 232709

Parish Priest: Fr Sean Kirwin Parish Secretary: Maria Byrne.

Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.00am – 4.00pm Tel: 546 3674 Fax: 546 9857

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre

Manager: Elaine Churchill Tel: 07377341977

St Joseph the Worker RC Primary: Head: Mrs Jude Ryan. Tel: 477 8173

St Laurence's RC Primary: Head: Miss Sarah Jane Carroll Tel: 546 4733

All Saints Catholic High: Head: Mr Tony McGuinness. Tel: 477 8740

ADVENT 2019

A new week, a new season; the Church's year begins again with Advent- a time of preparation- waiting for the second coming of the Lord and the approaching birthday of the baby Jesus, the Saviour of the world.

There is so much to do, and we can busy ourselves with many things; but what are we really getting ready for and will we be ready, in truth?

The Advent season does **not** jump to the feast day of the birthday of the baby. Whist shops and adverts, festive decorations and festive recorded music will fill up our daily and weekly lives if we let it, the first half of the Advent season draws our minds and hearts rather to the coming of the promised Messiah, like the ancient prophets first hoped for, before Jesus was born; now for Christians we await the promised general resurrection of the dead, with the return of the risen adult Jesus- His second coming;.

However busy in the coming weeks, always then try to bring the birth of the baby Jesus to the front of our minds, as the reason for the season- when we find ourselves busy, with the commercial madness of shopping and spending. It is a simple tale and Santa Claus (St Nicholas) whose feast we celebrated on Friday last week- a third century bishop in Turkey, who gave three bags of gold to a poor family with three daughters; this is an important part of the approaching Christian feast; when food and drink are shared, love celebrated, the gift of being together and receiving the gifts that God has sent, come Wednesday, 25th December, the year of our Lord, 2019.

FR SEAN