

Sunday
10th December 2023
Second Sunday of Advent



**St Clare of Assisi
Catholic Church**

Downsfield Road, Chester
CH4 8HH

Priest: Fr Bernard Forshaw

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Year B
Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11
Psalms 84;
2 Peter 3:8-14;
Mk 1:1-8

Website: stclares.co.uk
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Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered
Charity 234025

If you wish to make a donation to St Clare's church Sort Code: 30-15-52 Acct number: 54579560

AN ADVENT PRAYER Lord help us to repair the way for your coming, to repair broken relationships, to repair hurts, to forgive others. Help us to prepare the way for your coming, to prepare our minds by reading your Word in Scripture, to prepare our hearts by opening them in prayer. Help us to share the way for your coming, to share with the poor and needy for your sake. Amen

MASSES AND SERVICES

Intentions

Sat 9 th Dec	Exposition & Holy Hour for Peace 10.30am – 11.30am: Rosary 5.40pm Vigil Mass 6.00pm	
Sun 10 th Dec	Mass 9.30am <i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	Agnes Latham (SB) Hugh Acworth RIP
<u>NOTE:</u> Mon 11 th Dec	NO MASS	
Tues 12 th Dec	St Anthony's Devotions & Mass 7pm	Rosa Clayton & family (KC)
Wed 13 th Dec	St Lucy Exposition 8.45am – 9.30am Mass 9.30am	Kirsten Davies and Family (KC)
Thurs 14 th Dec	St John of the Cross Rosary 9.10 Mass 9.30am	Maureen Brady RIP
Fri 15 th Dec	Exposition 8.45-9.30am Mass 9.30am Friday Abstinence	Rosemary Prendergast RIP
Sat 16 th Dec	Exposition & Holy Hour for Peace:10.30am – 11.30am Rosary 5.40 pm Vigil Mass 6.00pm	David Brown (SB)
Sun 17 th Dec	Mass 9.30am <i>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	Chris and Vangi Murphy and family (KC)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 10.30 - 11.30am and on request.

ADVENT AT ST. CLARE'S

SECOND SUNDAY 9th/10th DEC: Bible Sunday **is this weekend** please bring your Bible to be blessed at the end of Mass

THIRD SUNDAY 16th/17th DEC: Retiring Collection for Caritas...supporting the Poor & Needy of our Diocese

FOURTH WEEKEND OF ADVENT Saturday 23rd Dec "Come Home for Christmas" Exposition and Confessions from 9.30am -11.30am

6pm vigil Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24th Dec 9.30am Mass of the 4th Sunday of Advent

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

CHRISTMAS EVE 4.00pm **CRIB SERVICE & FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS (Especially for children)**

8.00pm **CHRISTMAS CAROLS & MASS OF CHRISTMAS NIGHT**

CHRISTMAS DAY 9.30am **MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY**

THE SICK, ELDERLY AND HOUSE BOUND and those in care homes are important members of our parish community: Trisha Cannon, Edward Craggs, Veronica Creaney, Mike Darby. W. Downes, Jenny Guest, Lorna Jarvis, Mary, Judy Kearney, Peter Lloyd, Catherine Maher, Rosemary McCabe, Rosemary Roberts, Eileen Wyatt, Sarah Russell. ***If anyone is in need of a visit / Holy Communion before Christmas, please let Fr Bernard know 01244 671015***

ANNIVERSARIES OCCURING ABOUT THIS TIME: Ann O'Grady, David Brown and Terence Durham.
May they rest in peace.

TEA & COFFEE AFTER 9.30am MASS ON SUNDAY This week it is provided by Mary & Pat for Parkinsons UK and next week by Catherine and Elaine for St Clare's SVP. There will be no coffee morning on 24th & 31st Dec
Please join us especially if you are new to the parish or just visiting.

RETIRING COLLECTION this weekend for Church Flowers at Christmas - please be generous

SING A NEW SONG TO THE LORD: Singing Practices are beginning again and we are in great need of new singers to join the Music Group. If you can sing in tune, then you will be very welcome. We shall be holding a practices on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21st at about 7.30pm and will finish by 8.15pm If you have any queries, please contact Kate Hughes on 01244 683538 or e-mail kate.hughes@me.com

SVP CONFERENCE: This week we have helped a family with a donation towards their Gas & Electricity outlay. If anyone has used Ink Cartridges they can be left in the box by the lobby outside door. The SVP can recover a small cash sum on these. 2 Dates for your diary:- 14th Dec 11am St Werburghs SVP are singing carols along Lightfoot Street and at 2.30pm at the Oaklands Care Home. Tues 19th Dec 4.30pm the SVP will have a table at the CHS Christmas Fair which is followed by their Carol Concert. Lastly donations to the sponsored walk continue to arrive and we may top £2,000. Thanks to all. Keep safe and as well as possible this week. God bless. Steve

FOODBANK Please keep bringing foodbank donations. These will be taken to the warehouse. Last month 17kg of food was taken.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS Booklets available in the church porch

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: It is intended to start in the New Year at 9.30am Mass on Sundays. Please consider volunteering to help, several people are needed to work in teams of a minimum of 2. Training and resources will be available. See Fr Bernard or any Parish Council member.

SUNDAY LUNCH GATHERING: The Sunday Lunch in January Lunch is TBA. Contact Catherine for details:- 01244678825 or catherine117hg@hotmail.co.uk

CHRISTMAS CARDS and calendars are on sale in the repository, please take a look after Mass.

HIGHLIGHT FROM THE HIGH You are invited to our school Christmas Fair on Tuesday 19th December from 4:30pm, entry fee £1, followed by Carol Service at 6:30pm. We are still welcoming book donations for one of our stalls. Thank you.

ST CLARE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: We are all very busy preparing for the Christmas celebrations in school. The Key Stage One children are working hard practising their Nativity and Key Stage Two are preparing for the Carol Concert in Church. On Wednesday, our Year Five children went to the Bluecoat Charity's Christmas Tree light switch on and were thrilled to receive gifts from Father Christmas. As ever, their singing was beautiful and members of the public were blown away by how passionately they sang. We have a snowman called Albert in school, who is hiding each morning waiting to be found by one of our children, he is causing quite a lot of excitement in school.

When you have read this newsletter, please pass it on to someone in your neighbourhood /local area

