



Second Sunday of Christmas 3 January 2021

Today we hear the Prologue of St John's Gospel, the same reading that we hear at the Mass During the Day on Christmas Day. John doesn't tell us the details of Christ's birth – no mention of a stable in Bethlehem or visits from shepherds or wise men. But his message is very clear, that the eternal Son of God has been born into our world: "The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory". Those three lines sum up the essence of the Christmas event and its significance in terms of all that follows from it. The Prologue also talks about the battle between light and darkness. Christ is the light coming into our world, a light that the darkness cannot overpower; he comes to illumine the way for us to live, that we might become children of God.

Marriage Matters: You have been chosen: St Paul says "You have been chosen" and John says "All things have life in Him". In a marriage, each partner has been personally called to love their spouse in a lifelong relationship. The fact that God calls us individually means that He has chosen us for a specific reason: to bring life to my partner, to understand and forgive.

Think Vocations: The wise men travelled far in order to bear witness to Christ as the Saviour of the whole world. Our basic vocation, through baptism, is to make Christ known in the world around us. Some have a more specific vocation but each one of us, at the end of Mass, is invited to manifest Christ as we "Go and announce the gospel of the Lord."

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: As the new year begins, let us pray for the people of the parish of St Marie and St Joseph, Bury, and for Fr Bill Foley, their parish priest. We pray for their primary schools, for St Gabriel's High School and for Holy Cross College, as well as the patients, staff and chaplaincy at Fairfield General Hospital and the Bury Hospice. May Mary and Joseph lead us to Jesus the Lord.

Prayer During the Pandemic: O God, our refuge and our shield, even when we walk in the shadow of death you are there at our side. Be with your people in this time of danger: bring strength to the afflicted and protection to those untouched by disease. Give us love and courage that we may trust in your power to save and reach out to all who need our care. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Masses / Services This Week
Unlike in previous lockdowns, we are able to keep our churches open for public worship whilst being in Tier 4. Government guidelines require people attending places of worship to wear a face mask (unless exempt for some reason)
Sunday – Second Sunday of Christmas Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & Sun 11am
Monday – Christmas Weekday No Mass today
Tuesday – Christmas Weekday Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm (Mass for Epiphany)
Wednesday – The Epiphany of the Lord (Solemnity) Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am Mass at SsPP 6.30pm
Thursday – Christmas Weekday or St Raymond of Penyafort Mass at SsPP 6.30pm
Friday – Christmas Weekday Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am
Saturday – Christmas Weekday Mass at SsPP 12noon
Sunday – The Baptism of the Lord Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & Sun 11am
Live-streaming is via our Facebook page: Our Lady of Hope Parish, Salford (https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopesalford/)

Sick: All those who are suffering from the coronavirus and others who are sick at this time, including, Robert Livesey, Nuala Corridan, Tomas Cusack, John Ainsworth, Emily Martin (a sick child), Marie Campbell, David Pickup, Sue Remmer. Sr Therese Murphy, Pat Griffin

Lately Dead: All who have died of the coronavirus and others who have died recently: Tony Richards, Molly Robinson, Sylvia Davies, Anthony Philip Carroll, Graham Hadfield

Anniversaries: Maureen Gordon, Eric Bickley, Herbert Gooden

Birthday Remembrance: William Jackson

Masses Received: Maureen Gordon (A), Eric Bickley (A), Herbert Gooden (A), Graham Hadfield (LD), Julie Webster, Anne McKeever

National Prayer Cycle: During Christmastide we are asked to pray for Migrants & Refugees and Expectant Mothers

A New Year Blessing

May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace, pour out his blessing in abundance, and keep you safe from harm throughout the year. Amen.

St Luke, Swinton Park Rd, Irlams o'th' Height, M6 7WR Tel: 0161 736 2696
Ss Peter and Paul, Park Road, Pendleton, Salford M6 8JR
Parish Priest: Canon Michael Cooke VG **Assistant Priest:** Father Mark Paver
Email: priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk **www.ourladyofhope.org.uk**
Diocese of Salford Registered Charity 250037

Bank Details (for Standing Orders or BACS)
 TSDT Our Lady of Hope
 50317403 20 55 34
Cheques: Payable to Our Lady of Hope

Christmastide

Whilst for many in our society Christmas is effectively over, we still have a whole week of celebrating it within the Church, with today's Second Sunday of Christmas, The Epiphany on Wednesday and the Baptism of the Lord next weekend. Let us make full use of the Christmas season, to pray about and reflect upon the mystery of the Incarnation.

God is with Us - Christmas at Home Resource: The Department for Formation has created a resource pack for the Christmas Season, downloadable from www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/christmas-at-home

Fr Mark: First of all, many thanks for all your prayers and messages of support whilst Fr Mark was not well. He is recovering now, though the process takes time, and gradually moving back into the range of work he is involved with. He celebrated Mass publicly on Saturday for the first time in over two weeks and he is back on call for the hospital (though only responding to emergencies at the moment).

White Flower Appeal: Next weekend we will hold our annual appeal to support the work of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). Baskets will be available for any monetary contribution you may wish to make and there will also be postcards for you to sign if you wish to support their current campaign to stop home abortions.

The Drama Displayed: A Journey of Salvation: This is a free series of online talks offered by the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst. A range of excellent speakers will examine the key moments of salvation history, with the aid of great works of art. At 7.30pm every second Thursday, from 14 January to 25 March. For further information and for registration: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-drama-displayed/>

6 January – The Epiphany of the Lord

Today is the "Feast of the Manifestation", or the "Showing" of the Saviour to the whole world. In the wise men who travel from the East, we see all the nations other than the people of Israel being welcomed at the New Temple of the New Covenant - the new born child in the manger. A look at the Psalm response shows this: "All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord." By this feast, we proclaim God's plan was to extend his salvation to men and women of every nation, of every time and every place - including us. In many ways this is our Christmas Feast, when we celebrate the Good News of the Saviour's birth revealed at last to us.

Marriage Matters: The gift of unity: At this joyful time of the year, let us look with delight at one another, remembering that we have each been entrusted, by God, with the grace he meant for each other when we got married. God's gift has made us one body and the gift of our children is this grace made flesh bringing joy into our hearts

Next Week's Newsletter: Beryl Wakefield

Please send notices before Wednesday
Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk

Ss Peter & Paul 500 Club Winners 2020

The final draws for 2020 have just been made and so here is a complete list of all the winners. Thank you for your support which has raised £4090 for the parish.

January 2020

D Morley (137)	£143
Peter Lea (155)	£71
Nicola Concannon (63)	£71

February 2020

J Theempalangadan (28)	£140
Regina Singh (27)	£70
Peter McNamara (91)	£70

March 2020

Jane Smith (54)	£136
Emma Brady (140)	£68
K Henderson-Playfair (237)	£68

April 2020

Barbara Bancroft (194)	£135
Teresa Doherty (234)	£67
Christina Nixon (66)	£67

May 2020

Peter McNamara (139)	£134
Pauline Gilbert (383)	£67
Catherine Ball (52)	£67

June 2020

Jane Bentham (128)	£136
Anne Naughton (86)	£68
David Cordner (259)	£68

July 2020

Sioned Hickey (39)	£137
Katy Ferguson (227)	£68
Frank Crompton (168)	£68

August 2020

Joan Sweeney (4)	£136
Debbie Palmer (105)	£68
Angela Garner (161)	£68

September 2020

Sindu Sandeep (380)	£132
Christina Nixon (66)	£66
Jan McIntyre (144)	£66

October 2020

Sheila Thompson (44)	£133
Jane Bentham (128)	£66
Jan McIntyre (144)	£66

November 2020

David Smith (212)	£133
Agnes Kelly (101)	£66
Vincent Lawton (173)	£66

December 2020

Liz Ainley (82)	£132
Christina Nixon (66)	£66
Gincy George (51)	£66

Bonus Draw

Carol Doyle (170)	£408
Emily Palmer (108)	£204
Peter Kelly (142)	£204

If you are not already a member of the 500 Club but would like to join for 2021, please get in touch via email: office@ourladyofhope.org.uk