



Parish of St Anne and St Joseph

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Facebook

St Anne and St Joseph, Accrington

Website

www.stanneandstjosephaccrington.org.uk

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

17th December 2023

Monday 18th December

9:00am Holy Mass - St Anne's
9:30am Holy Mass - St Joseph's

Tuesday 19th December

9:00am Holy Mass - St Anne's
9:30am Holy Mass - St Joseph's

Wednesday 20th December

NO MASS AT St Anne's

9:30am Holy Mass - St Joseph's

Thursday 21st December

9:30am Holy Mass - St Anne's
6:30pm Holy Mass St Anne's

Friday 22nd December

9:00am Holy Mass - St Anne's
9:30am Holy Mass - St Joseph's

Saturday 23rd December

10:00am Holy Mass - St Joseph's
11:00am Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament and Confessions St Anne's
12:00noon Holy Mass - St Anne's
5:30pm Vigil Mass - St Anne's

Sunday 24th December

9:00am Holy Mass - St Joseph's
11:00am Holy Mass - St Anne's

**Christmas Mass Times are on the
next page**

READERS' ROTA

In St Anne's

Saturday, 23rd December, 5:30pm

David Windle & Anne Anderson

Sunday, 24th December, 11:00am

Tony Yates & Andrew Szlaz

Sunday, Christmas Eve, 5:30pm

Paul Nester & Margaret Gaskell

Midnight Mass

David Windle

Monday, Christmas Day, 11:00am

Tony Yates & Andrew Szlaz

In St Joseph's

Sunday, 24th December, 9:00am

Mary Rosbotham

Sunday, Christmas Eve, 7:30pm

Anne Bradshaw

Monday, Christmas Day, 10:00am

Mary Rosbotham & Catherine Devenport

Confessions in St Anne's

Saturdays: 11:00am - 11:45am

4:45pm - 5:15pm

Confessions in St Joseph's

Saturdays: 10:30am - 11:30am



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Paul Duffy, Helen Hyndman, Fred & Jenny Greer, Joan Gallagher, Steven Atkinson, Dorothy Grimshaw, Michael & Margaret Coyne, Stephanie Reid, Trudy Barker, Mark Frodsham, Michael Grady

Lately Dead: Margaret Casson, John Thompson, Dorothy Grimshaw, Trudy Barker

Anniversaries: Ruth Winterbottom, Ellen Warburton

CHURCH CLEANING

There will be a thorough clean of St Anne's church after 9:00am Mass this coming Monday, 18th December. If you can spare the time, please do come along to help get the church ready for Christmas.



KNIGHTS OF SAINT COLUMBA

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 19th December at 7:30pm** in the Marian Room at St Anne's.



DEANERY LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

26th July to 2nd August

Hotel St Georges £909 Single Room
£1059

Hotel Padoue £979 Single Room £1204
Price Includes: Return flights Manchester - Carcassonne and transfers, Airport Duty & Passenger Taxes. 1 suitcase per person for the aircraft hold 20kgs. 7 night's full board Salford Affiliation Fee, Northern Star Travel Rep Not Included: Travel Insurance £60 Per Person

Further details from Fr Francis

Information Evening 7:00pm

15th January 2024 in St Joseph's Hall

PIETY STALLS



The piety stalls in both churches are now open after the weekend Masses. We have recently stocked up with plenty of Christmas cards, Advent calendars and small gifts. Also on sale :

Walk With Me Booklets for the season of Advent £1
Diocesan Almanac £3.50

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



CHRISTMAS EVE

5:30pm Vigil Mass at St Anne's
7:30pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's
Midnight Mass at St Anne's

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00am Mass at St Joseph's
11:00am Mass at St Anne's

IN IT TO WIN IT!!! WEEK 6

Saturday Night's winning number was:

30 - Anne Anderson

Wednesday Night's winning number was:

57 - Rollover



Many thanks to all those who support our weekly lottery.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Please note, there will be **NO** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St Joseph's Church until further notice. We hope to resume in Spring next year.

SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday 17th December
at 6:30pm**

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in St Joseph's Church featuring the debut of our diocesan string quartet group.

Festive refreshments to follow.

THURSDAY MASS AT ST ANNE'S

This Thursday, there will be an additional Mass at 9:30am as we welcome the staff and students from our primary school, St Anne's & St Joseph's.

**All parishioners are welcome
to attend.**

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

A massive thank you to everyone who helped to make the fayre a great success.

Your generosity helped to raise a grand total of:

£2,640.00!!!

DOOR RAFFLE NUMBERS

Listed below are the raffle numbers from Sunday's fayre. Please check your tickets to see if you are one of our lucky winners!

1:	£100	2096
2:	£75	Claimed
3:	£50	Claimed
4:	£25	Claimed
5:	£25	2339
6:	Meat Hamper	2141
7:	Prosecco	1908
8:	Photo Frame	Claimed
9:	Prosecco	2287
10:	Toiletries	1392
11:	Beer Hamper	1072
12:	Biscuits	Claimed



Father's Musings

So who is coming? This Sunday's readings help to answer that question. John the Baptist is asked about the coming of the Messiah - is it him? He affirms his role as "a witness to speak for the light", by pointing to the one who stands among the crowd unknown to them who is coming after him. This idea is present in the First Reading, where Isaiah proclaims what the "anointed one" ('Messiah' in Hebrew) will do, and the joy that this will bring. It is interesting that the Psalm appointed for this Sunday is the Magnificat - Mary's song of praise at the announcement that the Messiah would be born of her - in which she sings of the works of the coming Messiah. Paul then reminds us that we are still waiting patiently: "God has called you, and he will not fail you." This is why, on this 'Gaudete' Sunday, we as God's people rejoice in his care, made visible in his promises, fulfilled in Jesus.



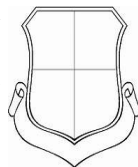
Many, many thanks to all who worked so hard in the weeks leading up to the Christmas Fair and on the day to make it such a great success. The total raised was £2,640.06. Thank you also to all the people who came to support the Fair. There was a great atmosphere in the hall. There are some unclaimed Raffle Prizes - details inside the newsletter.

Do check your tickets to see if you are a lucky winner.

During the week I presided at the Requiem Masses for Trudy Barker and Dorothy Grimshaw. Please remember them and their families in your prayers at this sad time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

The children from school have been in church this week practising for their nativity play which they will lead us in on **Wednesday 20th December**. There will be two performances at 2:30pm and 6:00pm in the evening. Do try to come along and support them.

Speaking of schools I was at a 'rebranding meeting' in our primary school on Wednesday. Now that we have joined the Romero Trust we are looking at different ways of how best we can market to the wider community what fantastic resources we have in our Primary School. We looked at changes in uniform (conscious of costs), changes in the school badge and maybe a motto - we thought of '*Nihil Sine Christo*' - Nothing without Christ but that is not the only possibility. We also looked at how we can get the info 'out there' so that parents will choose to send their children to our wonderful school. These are small changes that will have a big impact. The future is bright. The future is Romero.



Do come along to the Carol Service on Sunday evening 6:30pm at St Joseph's with our diocesan string quartet making their debut.

Advent blessings for the coming week. Don't forget to wear something **ROSE** at Mass this weekend.

Fr Francis