

Sunday
3rd December 2023
First Sunday of Advent

Year B
Isiah 63:16-17. 64:1.3-8
Psalms 79;
1 Cor 1: 3 - 9
Mk 33: 33-37



Website: stclares.co.uk
Facebook: [StClaresChester](https://www.facebook.com/StClaresChester)

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered
Charity 234025

**St Clare of Assisi
Catholic Church**

Downsfield Road, Chester
CH4 8HH

Priest: Fr Bernard Forshaw

Tel 01244 671015

07885 772887

Email; contact@stclares.co.uk

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

AN ADVENT PRAYER May this holy Advent season bring joy to your heart, a joy the world cannot give; a joy to uplift you when your spirit feels low; a joy to refresh you when your life feels weary; a joy to sustain you when your days feel empty, the joy of knowing that the Lord is with you this Christmas and always. Amen

MASSES AND SERVICES

Intentions

Sat 2 nd Dec	Exposition & Holy Hour for Peace:10.30am – 11.30am Rosary 5.40 pm Vigil Mass 6.00pm	Elizabeth Blair-Park (KC) Zygmunt Weselak
Sun 3 rd Dec	Mass 9.30am	
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
Mon 4 th Dec	Rosary 9.10am Mass 9.30am	
<i>Ferial</i>		
Tues 5 th Dec	<i>Ferial</i> St Anthony's Devotions & Mass 7pm	Eileen Green
Wed 6 th Dec	Exposition 8.45am – 9.30am Mass 9.30am	Elizabeth Blair-Park (KC)
<i>Op St Nicholas</i>		
Thurs 7 th Dec	Rosary 9.10am Mass 9.30am	Philip John Whitlock
<i>St Ambrose</i>		
Fri 8 th Dec	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Rosary 9.10am Mass 9.30am	Maureen Brady
Sat 9 th Dec	Exposition & Holy Hour for Peace 10.30am – 11.30am: Rosary 5.40pm Vigil Mass 6.00pm	Agnes Latham (SB) Hugh Acworth RIP
Sun 10 th Dec	Mass 9.30am	

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

ADVENT AT ST. CLARE'S

FIRST SUNDAY: 2nd/3rd DEC: Opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Sick at both Masses.
SECOND SUNDAY 9th/10th DEC: Bible Sundaybring your Bible to Mass and have it blessed.
THIRD SUNDAY 16th/17th DEC: Retiring Collection for Carita...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 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
8.00pm CHRISTMAS CAROLS MASS OF CHRISTMAS NIGHT
CHRISTMAS DAY 9.30am MASS OF CHRISTMAS

THE SICK, ELDERLY AND HOUSE BOUND and those in care homes are important members of our parish community: Trisha Cannon, Veronica Creaney, Mike Darby. W. Downes, Jenny Guest, Lorna Jarvis, Mary, Judy Kearney, Peter Lloyd, Rosemary McCabe, Rosemary Roberts, Krysia Wesalak, Eileen Wyatt, Sarah Russell.

If anyone is in need of a visit / Holy Communion, please let Fr Bernard know 01244 671015

TEA & COFFEE AFTER 9.30am MASS ON SUNDAY This week it is Sue on behalf of CAFOD and next week Mary & Pat for Parkinsons UK. **Please join us especially if you are new to the parish or just visiting.**

RED MISSIO BOXES: Please bring into Church this week for emptying, if you haven't already done so.

ANNIVERSARIES OCCURRING ABOUT THIS TIME: John Moore, Mary Walley, Irene Diver, Zygmunt Weselak, Fr. John Davies OFM Cap, Anna Barry, Ann Fenney, Anthony Broaden and Peter Parker.. **May they rest in peace.**

NEXT WEEKEND There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Sick at both the 6pm Mass on Saturday and the 9.30am Mass on Sunday.

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 two practices between now and Christmas. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5th, after Evening Mass and THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21st. Both practices will begin 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

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.

SVP CONFERENCE: This week we have provided

a cooker to a family in need. The Holiday Home annual report shows that 27 families were given holidays they otherwise wouldn't have had. 2 adults with children were the most common family with single mothers making up 70% of the families. 6 adult only families used the facility. Financially the HH is in a good position although its necessary to build the capital for replacement again in 10 years or so. Thanks for all your support throughout this and previous years. God bless. Steve

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

SUNDAY LUNCH GATHERING: The Christmas Sunday Lunch is this Sunday at the Stamford Bridge. The January Lunch venue 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: Thank you to all the parishioners who joined us for the Advent Mass on Friday morning. It was a super celebration to mark the start of Advent and the children were thrilled with the gift of an Advent calendar they received from Fr Bernard.

On Wednesday this week, the children participated in 'No Pens Day' to raise awareness of the children who struggle with talking and understanding words. The lessons were all very creative and the pupils loved the opportunity to spend the day chatting to each other and their teachers.

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