

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

Second Sunday of Advent
10th December 2023

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An Unlit Advent Candle for Peace

The second candle on Advent wreaths traditionally is lit to pray for peace. As an act of remembrance for those who have died in the Israel/Palestine conflict, our second Advent candle will not lit today and remain unlit for the rest of Advent.

This choice not to light the candle follows the news that celebrations to mark Christmas in the Holy Land will be minimal this year. The Latin Patriarch in Jerusalem has asked all the parishes in the Holy Land to subdue their celebrations thus the traditional

Christmas lights in Bethlehem are not being lit this year as a reminder that we stand in solidarity with all who are suffering in the Holy Land. You may wish to do something like this at home too, you may consider limiting your decorations or cut back in one part of your home. If you wish please take one of the Longing for Peace cards at the back of the church you could place this in a part of your home instead of decorations. This will remind us of the need for peace and that Advent longing for peace.

Jesus was born at in Bethlehem in what is now know as part of the West Bank, it was controlled and occupied by the Romans. The events of over 2000 years ago and of now, remind us that sadly, nothing much has changed. We are still caught up in conflict and challenge, fear and uncertainty. We remember that God is still present even in the most difficult places, and in the midst of violent conflict so many people are wishing for and seeking peace!



Longing for Peace



Childrens Liturgy and Activities

The next date for Childrens Liturgy is
Sunday 17th December

Also on Sunday 10th December we will
be holding a Children and Family Crafts

and Christingle Service at 3.30pm at St Columba's. We will gather for
a range of children's activities including making a Christingle and
other Christmas crafts. We will then celebrate a short Christingle
service. All are welcome.



Archdiocesan and Deanery Synodal Councils

Today we will share a short letter being read at every Mass in our
deanery. It tells us about the work of our Deanery Synodal Council
which has been set up in the light of the pastoral plan which developed
from our Synod 2020 process. Every deanery now have these
councils and our local group will continue to meet to help discern
future needs and plans for the church in our deanery.

Nugent and Food Bank Thanks

This week both Nugent and the local foodbank collected our donations.
Both were really happy and expressed their thanks for your support.
We continue to be a collection point for the foodbank and after
Christmas we will have a specific regifting appeal for the Nugent shop
as we have done in previous years.

CAFOD Fun Run/Walk

This year's CAFOD fun run will take place on Wednesday 27th
December. It will be the 40th year that the run has taken place. It is
based at the the Mystery Park in Wavertree. There is a 3k and 5k route
and people of all ages are welcome to join and can run or walk the
routes. Registration takes place at 10am
and the run starts at 11am. The cost to
take part is £5 per child, £10 per adult
and £20 per family.

Or just turn up on the day - it's a great
way to burn off any Christmas excess!



Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 9th/10th December - Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday 5.30pm Mass at St JF (People of the Parish)

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Jackie McGlynn)

Tuesday 12th December

9.15am Mass at St C (Bernard Fitzsimons)

Wednesday 13th December

9.15am Mass at St JF (Alfie and Anita Moorcroft)

Thursday 14th December

9.15am Mass at St C (Peace in Middle East)



Next Weekend 16th/17th December - Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday 5.30pm Mass at St JF (Deceased priests of the parish)

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (People of the Parish)

Confession - available before and after Mass or by appointment

Collections: Weeks 11th Nov - 3rd Dec TOTAL £1420.67

Youth Sunday (Animate) - £124.88

Second Collection Today for Survive-Miva

This weekend we will have a second collection for Survive Miva a specialist missions charity that provides cars, vans and bicycles for missionaries around the world. Based here in Liverpool, it makes grants to mission projects around the world. So a donation today could be the gift of transport for a missionary priest or sister and the people they serve in our poorer missions around the world.

With the terrible war in Gaza still on our news every day, and remembering the forgotten conflicts around the world, I am minded that this year we could send our Christmas Mass collections to help as an act of solidarity and Christmas giving. I suggest we could split the collection, sending half to CAFOD's emergency Palestine Appeal and half to Ethiopia to support the Sisters of Charity's work in supporting women victims of sexual assault in the Tigray conflict.

Advent and Christmas Services

The dates and times of Advent and Christmas Services are as follows

Childrens Crafts and Christingle Service

Sunday 10th Dec 3.30pm at St Columba.

Mince pies and mulled wine will be served after Mass on Saturday 23rd December at St John Fisher.



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve (Sunday 24th)

Children's and Family Mass 5.30pm at St Columba

'Midnight' Mass 8.00pm at St John Fisher

Christmas Day (Monday 25th)

Christmas Morning Mass 10am at St Columba

Tuesday 26th (Boxing Day) Mass at 10.00am at St C

Wednesday 27th Mass at 9.15am at St JF

Thursday 28th Mass at 9.15am at St C



We will return to our usual Mass schedule the weekend of 30th/31st December (The Feast of the Holy Family) and the following week.



Please pray for the sick of our parish:

Les Orritt, Joan Haigh, Norma Pritchard, Loretta McDonnell, M. Rivi, Thomas Hopkins, Amy Murphy, Joseph Cameron, Sharon Whitting, Rowan Sanderson, Karen Duffy, James Murphy, Betty Stewart, Elizabeth Jones, Marie Shepherd, Eileen Hayden

Parish Safeguarding Representative

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives is

Jan Box 0151 548 5268

Please make contact if you have any concerns relating to the safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults in our parish.