

St. Gregory's Newsletter

2nd Sunday of Advent

10th December

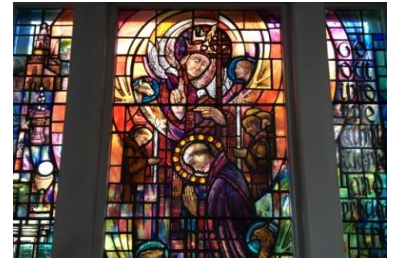
Mass Book pg. 82



The Parish Office is staffed on
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
09.00 to 13.00.

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Archdiocese of Liverpool Registered Charity
No. 32709



Saint of the Week

ST. LUCY

Martyred at Syracuse in 304, Lucy's name is included in the Roman Canon. She was a wealthy Sicilian who refused marriage offers, giving her goods to the poor, and was accused by a suitor to the state authorities. Her torture was unsuccessful as she proved to be immovable till she was finally killed by the sword. Lucia – the Saint of light, due to new eyes which according to legend she received from God.

'To God's servants the right words will not be wanting, for the Holy Spirit speaks in us... all who live piously and chastely are temples of the Holy Spirit.'

Prayer attributed to Saint Lucy.



Advent reflection

*Trust the past to the Mercy of God,
The present to His Love,
And the future to His Providence.*

St. Augustine of Hippo

*Live in such a way that your Heavenly Father may
be proud of you,
As He is proud of so many other chosen souls.*

Padre Pio

*Whoever surrenders unconditionally to the Lord will
be chosen by Him as an instrument for building His
kingdom.*

St. Teresa Benedicta

* * *

This is the darkest time of the year, - when we open up the church in the morning it's still dark, when we come home in the evening it is pitch black. Thinking of all the many dark, lonely, poverty-stricken, violated and war-torn places in our world, what can we do?

*When all around us is dark, what do we do?
We become a light, however small. We dare to love,
dare to reach out, there is no real choice.*

*Because light always overpowers the darkness.
Love wins every time over hatred and violence.*

*It may take a lifetime for us to see it,
but love will win out.*

From the Play 'Romero, Heartbeat of El Salvador'

Children's Corner

L	O	C	U	S	T	S	S	M	E	JOHN
R	E	I	E	G	A	S	S	E	M	PREACHED
E	E	O	R	N	I	T	E	S	D	WILDERNESS
R	R	V	D	I	N	I	N	S	E	MESSAGE
T	R	A	I	E	V	I	R	E	H	REPENT
Y	L	A	P	R	A	E	E	G	C	VOICE
S	E	E	N	E	C	A	D	A	A	PREPARE
E	R	N	B	I	R	I	L	N	E	BELT
C	N	H	O	J	A	P	I	A	R	LOCUSTS
I	O	V	I	H	I	S	W	S	P	HONEY
										SANDALS
										RIVER

A VERY BIG THANK YOU

from
our food bank STOREHOUSE

... for your most generous Christmas gifts.

Items always required are tuna, tinned meat such as ham, biscuits, dried packets of pasta with sauce, jam, hygiene products, shampoo, etc.

2nd Sunday of Advent

10th December

9:30am John & Elizabeth Watmough (A)
11:00am William & Annette Hayes
6:30pm Mary Cartmell (FM)

Weekday Masses

Monday 8:30am Teresa Hamer
Tuesday 8:30am Jim Critchley
Wednesday 8:30am Margaret Fishwick, Alice Robinson, James & Sarah Cornwall & the Rev. Isherwood (FM)
Thursday 8:30am Tom Grady (sick)
Friday 8:30am Maureen Booth
Saturday 10:00am Tommy Green (A)

Weekly Confession Saturday after morning Mass

17th December, 3rd of Advent, 'Gaudete'

9:30am Hazel Lee (A)
11:00am Fr. John Smith & Carol Ann
6:30pm Father Firth

3:00pm Service of Reconciliation

Saints of the Week

St. Damasus I
Our Lady of Guadalupe
St. Lucy
St. John of the Cross

Rosary 20 minutes before weekday Mass

Please Pray For Our Sick Brothers And Sisters

Margaret Wood, Bill Burns, Margaret Bower, Margaret Brindle, Winifred Calderbank, Hugh O'Daly, Victoria Mary Birkett, Lois Chiasson, Mildred Bridge, Agnes Martindale, Robert Stretton, Bill Barnes, Maureen Jackson, Olive Farmworth, Theresa Kershaw, Gerard McGuigan, Julie Hurley, Thomas Moss, Paul Spedding, Maureen Hill

Darish Notices

Baptism

Today we welcome in baptism Betsy Eileen Golder, Blake Arthur Adlam and Darcey-Ann Rose Adlam. We pray for them and wish them and their families every blessing on their new faith journey.

Choir

Are you willing to sing with the choir for the Christmas services? Practice next Tuesday, 7:00pm, just turn up, no long term commitment required.

Bambinelli Sunday

This year we will celebrate a custom traditionally held on the 3rd Sunday of Advent at St. Peter's Square when the Pope blesses Baby Jesus figures which people bring from their homes to be put into the crib on Christmas Eve. We are all invited to bring the Baby Jesus figure from our homes to Mass next Sunday, to be blessed. Why not make your own 'Bambino' and bring it along? You could then take it home, wrap it up in a gift box and make it the first present your family open up on Christmas Day, place it in the crib, and have a home blessing of the Nativity for your whole family..

Reconciliation Service

Next Sunday, as usual, this will be celebrated at 3:00pm in our church. Perhaps you could bring a friend who otherwise might be unaware of the service. It is a great way to prepare for the Christmas season. If anyone is afraid of listing sins and has not committed a mortal sin, to go to a priest and say 'Father I am a sinner in need of God's mercy' will do.

Collection

Thank you very much for last week's collection of £1097.49

Honesty Box

Please can those people who 'bought' Christmas cards and have yet to pay, put the money in the honesty box so that we can 'square up' with our expenses.

200 Club

1st Prize: £50 No:180 Kirsten Dewsnap, 2nd: £30 No:136 Elizabeth Corcoran, 3rd: £20 No: 77 Mrs L. Entwistle

2018 Catholic Directories for Sale

... with useful information about our Archdiocese, by the card-stand, £3.50 each, please place money in the honesty box.

The Wider Picture

A Dickensian Christmas @ Our Cathedral

Come and enjoy a feast of Christmas music on Saturday 16th December at 7.00pm. Compèred by BBC Radio Merseyside's Roger Phillips, featuring a range of Christmas music, old and new, performed by the Metropolitan Cathedral Choirs. Tickets £5 and £10 for a family ticket (2 adults, 2 children), from [lpoolmetmusic.ticketsource.co.uk](http://poolmetmusic.ticketsource.co.uk) or the Cathedral Gift shop on 0151 707 3525 See poster.

Ministering to the Assembly

Counting - 11th December
S.A.S. - 24th December
Dial a Ride "
Readers "
Eucharistic Ministers "

Eileen Snape & Rita MacIntyre
Sandra Donnelly and Madge Martin
Tommy McGuigan and Paul Thompson
Marissa Sanders
Chris Huddy
Richard Jackson
Yvonne Cunliffe
Nora Ball
Daryl Hobin
David Chadwick
George Walmsley

Alex Duxbury
Carol Hardman
Joe Commerford