

We light the third Advent candle. The first was for Hope, the second for Love, the third is for Joy. The angels on Christmas night gave a command: Rejoice! We are filled with joy at the birth of Christ.

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am Leo and Sheila and Paul Dickinson  
11.00am Mgr. Leo Alston  
6.30pm Margaret and James Entwistle, Pauline Simpson

### Weekday Masses

Mon. 8.30am Albert Jones (A)  
Tues. 8.30am Peter Evans  
Wed. 8.30am Josie Down  
Thurs. 8.30am Fr. John Smith  
Fri. 8.30am Olive Farnworth (FM)  
Sat. 8.30am Katie Walsh

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am Valerie Bretherton  
11.00am Harry and Monica Turner  
6.30pm Patricia and George Walker

### Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Jayne Hodge · Kathleen Reynolds · Bridget Cain · Hazel Lee · Mary Patten · Agnes Martindale · Robert Stretton · Hilda Haworth · Mildred Bridge · Margaret and Fred Wood · Harold Sutton · Josie Down · Mary Campbell · Margaret Bower · Thomas Moss · Winifred Marshall · Gerard Baker · Hugh O'Daly · Margaret Dearden · Maureen Jackson · David Woods · Frank Morris · David Lynch · Dorothy McDonald (Howarth) · John Lilley

Please remember baby Arthur Thomas Baker who died at birth this week. We offer our sympathy and our prayers to Garry and Karryn and all their family. We will pray for him at a service here on Wednesday at 11.00am.

### Baptism

We welcome in baptism this week Noah Anthony Bretherton. May the Lord bless him and his family.

Noah's is the last baptism of 2015..... the fifty fourth child welcomed in baptism this year. We thank God for this "abundant harvest" and we thank the parents who have with faith brought their children for baptism.... but we remember that this is only the first step in their Faith journey and we all continue to pray for them and their families.

### Welcome

Last Sunday we welcomed Arianna Helm into the community of St. Gregory's. We wish her, Michael and Eithne every blessing.

### Roadside Crib

Thanks to Frank and his Team for setting up our roadside crib. That and the star which shines from the tower of the church remind passers-by of the Christmas story.

### Living Crib

Next Sunday at the 11.00am mass the children will form a "living crib" as they come dressed as shepherds, kings, Mary, Joseph, donkeys, stars – all the characters of the Bethlehem story... and we need a baby, too! On Thursday evening we had a most lovely telling of the Christmas story by the children – *Their* Christmas play (as we heard on the radio recently) was a real Christmas play – no Santas, crackers, - just the simple story of the birth of Jesus beautifully sung and presented. Thank you children – and indeed the staff of our school.

### Offertory Collection

Thank you for last week's collection of £1001.

### Christmas Envelopes

I am told that there is no envelope for Christmas Day in the boxes.... we get them from Ireland, nuff said!! But there are spares at the back of the box. Please use one of them and we'll know it is the Christmas one.

### A Happy Birthday!

Olive Farnworth will be 98 on Thursday. A very happy birthday Olive from us all at Weldbank. We wish you every blessing and happiness and continued good health. (Her address: Lakeside, Chorley Road, Standish, WN1 2XN)

### Youth Group

**Christmas Youth Social** – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. 7.00 – 9.00pm at the Church House. Christmas games, music and fun! Come along and get to know each other. Age 12+, if you feel you can classify yourself as Youth, come along!

**Children's Christmas Party** – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 12.00 – 1.00pm at the Church House. Christmas games, food and a time to have fun! Ages 7 – 11. younger children are welcome, but we ask that they are accompanied by an adult.

### St. Joseph's, Anderton

Our neighbours at St. Joseph's invite us to share their "Carols by Candlelight" service (led by Mike Gannon) on Tuesday at 7.30pm. All are welcome (no charge!).

### S.V.P.

The SVP thank you for your very generous Christmas gifts of £706.48 for their work this Christmas. The monies will be well used to bring some Christmas cheer to others less fortunate than ourselves.

### Ministering to the Assembly

**Counters (14<sup>th</sup> December)** Marie Dewland and Mary Hargreaves

**Rotas (20<sup>th</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

**S.A.S.** Mary Wakeman and Liz Fowler

**Readers** Marissa Sanders

**Ministers** Edward Brierley

David Chadwick

**Dial a Ride**

Taxi

Elizabeth Green

Nick Mather

Richard Jackson

Rick Gillett

Linda Corcoran

Carol Hardman