

Day	Time and	Place	Intention
17 th December	10.30am	Church	Ann Ibison

Sunday readings: year B

Please Note: There will be no Holy Mass on Mondays until further notice.

Anniversaries from our List: Please pray for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time especially Ann Ibison, Thomas Booth, Marjorie Mary Sharples, Joseph Dewhurst, John Holden, Maria Helena Cunnington, Thomas Marsh, Mary Catherine Hegarty, Maria Reynolds, Anna McMahan and John Taylor.

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Time	Where	What
17 th Dec	10.30	Church	Children's Liturgy
19 th Dec.	2pm & 6pm	Church “	Infant Nativity “ “
21 st Dec.	1.30		School breaks up
21 st Jan.	3pm.	Inglewhite Con. church	Christian Unity Service



St. Francis Hill Chapel Newsletter

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(newsletter items)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
17th December, 2017

Parish Mission Statement

Our Parish, guided by the example of our patron, St. Francis, seeks to be a welcoming Catholic Community, by living, sharing and growing in faith. We strive to deepen our own relationship with Christ and meet the needs of others.

Christmas Masses:

Saturday, 23 rd Dec.	6pm – Vigil Mass of Sunday at Hill Chapel 7pm – Vigil Mass of Sunday at Claughton
Sunday, 24 th Dec.	No morning mass at Hill Chapel or Claughton 6pm - Christmas Vigil Mass at Hill Chapel 9pm - Christmas Vigil Mass at Claughton
Christmas Day, 25 th Dec.	9am – Mass at Claughton 10.30am – Mass at Hill Chapel
Monday, 1 st Jan.	8am – Adoration at Claughton 9am – Holy Mass at Claughton

Sick of the Parish: Please pray for Ted Eastham who is sick. If you would like the parish to pray for someone who is currently sick, please email

news@stfrancis.org.uk or ring Fr. Sony on 01772 865229. It will then be included on the sick list of the Newsletter. We have an area in church where you can write on a card and hang it up if you prefer it not to go on the parish newsletter. M. Peel.

Recent Deaths and Anniversaries: Please pray for Mrs. Elizabeth McQuiggan of Bushell House who has died recently. The Mass intention today is for Ann Ibison, wife of Lawrence.

Blessings: Adults and children who would like a blessing during Communion please go to Fr. Sony.

From the Bishop of Lancaster: Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard.

The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to U-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

Christmas Fair – Thanks: Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Fair on Sunday. We made £160.00 for the parish. The school raised £595.00 towards the outdoor amphitheatre. It was fabulous to hear the children sing and play in the school band. They sang and played with so much joy and enthusiasm. They are indeed very talented. Thank you, looking forward to the next family mass. M. Peel.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for December - For the Elderly.

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Safeguarding: Your Safeguarding representative is Maria Peel. For contact details please see the Safeguarding poster at the back of church. Safeguarding representatives have special responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people and adults at risk. The Safeguarding Co-ordinator can be contacted on 01772 728433 Find out more: www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk
www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk

Advent Challenge: During Advent I thought it would be nice if we were able to continue to donate to Ingol Food Bank. Each day through Advent children enjoy opening the Advent calendar especially with the lure of

chocolate inside. It would be lovely to give throughout Advent to those who need our help especially at this time of the year. No family should go hungry especially at Christmas. I am going to take on the challenge of donating daily throughout the next 25 days If you can join me or donate a few items of non-perishable foods, I am sure the Food Bank would be very grateful. Items can be left at the back of church in the festive boxes. M. Peel.

From the Archives: The origins of 'Silent Night

The carol was first performed on [Christmas Eve](#), 1818, at St Nicholas parish church in [Oberndorf](#), a village in the [Austrian Empire](#) on the [Salzach](#) river in present-day Austria. A young priest, Father Joseph Mohr, had come to Oberndorf the year before. He had written the lyrics of the carol "Stille Nacht" in 1816. Mohr brought the words to [Franz Xavier Gruber](#), schoolmaster and [organist](#) in the nearby village of [Arnsdorf](#). Fr. Mohr asked Gruber to compose a melody for the Christmas Eve mass using his words. Legend has it that on Christmas Eve night the organ in the church had been damaged by mice so together they performed the new carol playing the melody on a guitar. It was declared an '[intangible cultural heritage](#)' by [UNESCO](#) in 2011. The song has been recorded by a large number of singers from every music genre. The version sung by [Bing Crosby](#) is the [third best-selling single of all-time](#). Have a Happy and Peaceful Christmas. M. Bryan

Next Cleaning & Gardening Day: 16th December.

Notices:

Carol Service: St. Mary's, Goosnargh, is holding its Annual Carol Service in the church today at 6.30pm. The clergy and Parochial Church Council invite the parishioners of St. Francis to this service. Everyone welcome.

**Tea, Coffee and biscuits available after the
Sunday Mass.
All parishioners, friends and visitors are very welcome
to join us**