

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Intention</b>
9 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30	Church	Margaret Penchion

No Monday morning Masses until further notice.

Sunday readings: year B.

**Feasts of the Week**

Tuesday	-	St. Damasus I
Wednesday	-	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Friday	-	St. John of the Cross

**Anniversaries from our List:** Please pray for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time especially Margarita Mahon, John James Carter, Margaret Penchion, Henry Eccles, Gulielmus Eccles, Carlos Frederick Webb, Anna Moon, Richard Gornall, Lucy Ann Nelson, Francis Herbert Drake and Winnifred Ibison.

**Attendance & Collection:**

Attendance - 79                      Collection - £296.20  
 Diocesan Poor Mission Fund - £43.90

**Dates for Your Diary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>What</b>
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	10.30	Church	Family Mass
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	10.30	Church	Children's Liturgy
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec.		Church	Carol Service
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	10.30	Church	Infant Nativity Play
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec.			School breaks up for Christmas.
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	5.00pm	Church	Christmas Vigil Mass
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	10.30	Church	Christmas Day Mass



# St. Francis Hill Chapel Newsletter

Tel: 01772 865229

Horns Lane, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2FJ

Clergy: Fr. Sony Joseph Kadamthodu

Web: [www.stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk)

E-mails: [news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk)  
 (newsletter items)

In case of emergency & unable to contact  
Fr. Sony, please ring Fr. Dutton 01772 782641 or  
Canon Doyle 01772 782244

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2018

### *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.*

**Mass Intention for Today** is for Margaret Penchion.

**Christmas Masses:** 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. Vigil Mass at 5.00pm.  
 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. Christmas Day Mass at 10.30am.

**Cycle of Prayer: Advent/Christmas:** Openness to the Word of God (especially on Bible Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Advent), Expectant Mothers (especially on Fourth Sunday of Advent).

**Sick of the Parish:** If you would like the parish to pray for someone who is currently sick, please email [news@stfrancis.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancis.org.uk) or ring Fr. Sony on 01772 865229. It will then be included on the sick list of the Newsletter. Please pray for a parishioner who is sick and in hospital, Mr. Joe Nugent, formerly of Bushell House. 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.

### **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Our Annual Christmas Fair is being held today, 9<sup>th</sup> December, in school, following the family mass. Tombola, cake stall, refreshments, etc.

### **FOOD BANK REQUEST**

During Advent, we will be collecting for the food bank in Ingol, Preston. If you could donate any food items – packets, tins and leave in the marked boxes at the back of church. Your support does help to make a difference.

### **From the Archives – The Advent Wreath**

The Advent Wreath is very symbolic and is part of our long-standing Catholic tradition. However, the actual origins are uncertain. There is evidence of pre-Christian Germanic peoples using wreathes with lit candles during the cold and dark December days as a sign of hope in the future warm and extended-sunlight days of Spring. By the Middle Ages, Christians adapted this tradition and used Advent wreathes as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas. Christ is “the Light that came into the world” to dispel the darkness of sin and to radiate the truth and love of God (cf. John 3:19-21).

The evergreens used for the wreath itself are a reminder of continuous life. The shaping of them into a circle reinforces that meaning. The circle is also a sign of everlasting life as well as the eternity of God. The four outer candles used, usually but not always, three purple and one pink, mark the Sundays of Advent before Christmas. The purple candles are reminders that this should be a time of prayer and sacrifice to prepare us for the second coming of Christ. On the third Sunday, the pink candle is lit to announce *Gaudete* Sunday, a Sunday of rejoicing for Christ is coming near.

Various meanings have been assigned to the four candles. One interpretation has each candle representing 4000 years, the Biblical time between Adam and Eve and the coming of Christ. In another interpretation, the first candle

represents the patriarchs, the second the prophets, the third reminds us of John the Baptist, and the fourth of Mary, the mother of Jesus. They have also been described as the prophets’ candle, the Bethlehem Candle, the shepherds’ candle, and the angels’ candle. A fifth white candle in the centre representing Christ can also be used. It is lit on Christmas Eve as a remembrance of Christ coming into the world. Sometimes, all the other candles of the wreath are removed and replaced with white candles on Christmas Eve. MB

### **Notices:**

**Facing Depression Together:** support group for those with mental health concerns, e.g. anxiety, depression. Central Methodist Church, Lune Street, Preston, PR1 2NL. Thursday evening, 7.30 – 9.00pm. Be heard, respected and accepted, and receive help to work through mental health concerns.

**Gentle Approach to Cancer Association:** Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month. Gerrard St., off Bow Lane, Preston. For more information contact Joan Moran on 865024 or [www.gentleapproach.org.uk](http://www.gentleapproach.org.uk)

**Sale of Religious Items: The Carmelite Convent** on St. Vincent’s Road, Fulwood, and the **Repository at Ladyewell, Fernyhalgh**, now have items for sale for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Rosary Beads, etc., as well as a large selection of cards for various occasions. Other items can be ordered on request.

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