

THIS WEEKEND	3rd Sunday of Advent		Year C
Sat 15th December	5.00pm	St O	William & Esther Rainford
	6.30pm	St T	Peter Jones, Thomas Clarkson Jim Breen
Sun 16th December	8:30am	St MM	Latin Extraordinary Form Mass
	8:30am	St O	Lancashire Deceased Secular Clergy
	9.30am	St T	Ann Allen
	11.00am	St MM	John McDonagh
Divine Office Week 3			
Mon 17th December	9.15am	St T	In thanksgiving for safe confinement and the birth of great granddaughter Eva Elizabeth
	9.30am	St O	Elsie Redmond
Tues 18th December	9.30am	St O	Margaret Galvin
Wed 19th December	9.30am	St MM	George William Howarth
	11.00am	St T	Requiem Mass: Brenda Sturrock
Thu 20th December St Lucy	9.30am 7.00pm	St O St T	John Fiddler Joe Holmes
Fri 21st December	9.15am	St T	John Wilson
	9.30am	St O	Deceased. Members of the Lloyd & Kelly Families
NEXT WEEKEND	4th Sunday of Advent		Year C
Sat 22nd December	5.00pm	St O	Deceased. Members of the Pooley & Mellows Family Frances Duignan & Roy Tilling
	6.30pm	St T	Mary Eland, Kathleen Hatsell Atheron, Coleman + Swarbrick Families RIP
Sun 23rd December	8:30am	St MM	Latin Extraordinary Form Mass
	8:30am	St O	Mary Curtis, Brian Miller
	9.30am	St T	Margaret + Don Goodwin Deceased of the Stuart Family
	11.00am	St MM	John Conlon, Martha Airey

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The CATHOLIC CHURCH in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON



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3rd Sunday of Advent 16th December 2018

The Lord is near!

This week, 'Gaudete Sunday', we are called to rejoice, for the coming of the Lord is near. At the same time, we are invited to live out our preparation in the details of our daily lives.

The **First Reading** from Zephaniah is a joyful exultation, because the Lord is bringing back Zion, his people. God is in our midst and he dances for joy in his love for us.

The **Responsorial Psalm** does not come from the Psalter, but is a Song of Joy from the Book of Isaiah. It is a joyful canticle of trust in the Lord and of thanksgiving for all that he has done for us.

St Paul, in the **Second Reading**, speaks of his desire of happiness for the Philippians. The Lord 'is very near', so we need not worry –but trust in God who will grant us the peace of his Son.

In the **Gospel** this Sunday we meet John the Baptist again. But this time we hear his direct teaching and advice to the different groups among his followers. He also tells them of the One who is to come, who will baptise us with the Holy Spirit and fire.

The Romero Room this week:

Sundays: At 9.30am Mass: Children's Liturgy. **After Mass** tea and coffee.
Mondays: Knit a Bit: 10.00am until 12 noon.
6.30pm SVP Meeting. New members welcome.
Tuesdays: 7.30pm All Hallows Community Choir
Fridays: 1.30pm to 3pm Exercise Class will be led by an expert, Julian Vescovi, followed by tea, biscuits and chat. All ages and abilities most welcome.

Please could all new notices and mass intentions covering dates up until Friday 4th January be handed in to the parish office by Wednesday 19th December. Thank you.

St Mary Magdalen: 'Frank Roberts and his family wish to thank everyone for their prayers, Mass offerings and condolences following the death of Yvonne and for the tremendous support they received on the day of her funeral, God bless you all'.

St Mary Magdalen Church & Hall Christmas Decorations Following the 16th December Sunday Mass and Coffee Morning, From 12.30 to 14.30pm we will be putting up the Christmas Decorations. If anyone would like to help, please turn up and join in.

St T + St MM: Readers rotas are now available for collection from the Sacristy.

St Teresa: No Knit-a-Bit or SVP meetings on Monday 24th and 31st December, recommence on Monday 7th January 2019 at usual times.

St Teresa: No Friday exercise classes on 21st Dec, 28th Dec, 4th Jan. Classes resume 11th Jan 2019.

SVP: The collection last week raised £272.11 . Thank you very much to all who contributed so generously.

The SVP have run a Christmas card competition in the two primary schools. Congratulations to Constance, Ethan, Mia and Oliver, and thank you to All Hallows Youth SVP for printing the cards. We support a baby feeding program in the Sudan, and there are some generous souls who donate to this throughout the year. We intend to sell some of these cards through the two gift shops, and to donate all of these profits to this program. We will be selling the cards – 30p each or two for 50p. Could the Christmas cards which you send help to feed a baby in the Sudan this Christmas? We look forward to your support.'

St. Oswald's: Sunday 16th December Refreshments will be available after the 8.30am Mass. All Welcome!

St Oswald's: Please bring in your Red Boxes to the side chapel for collection during December.

St. Oswald's Caritas Group collection came to £286-59p. We find the kindness and generosity of everyone who contributed both amazing and humbling. It will help enormously in enabling us to provide for the needs of members of our community. Thank you very much.

1. Don't forget that next THURSDAY 20th December is the Caritas Group Christmas Lunch starting at 12-00am. Apart from the usual food there will be mince pies and cakes and carols from the Primary School Choir. It will be a very enjoyable occasion. We look forward to seeing you there. We will provide additional refreshments for those wishing to stay a little longer so that they can attend the Christingle Service in Church at 2-30pm.

2. Advanced Notice - The St. Oswald Caritas Group are planning a visit to the Catholic Cathedral in Liverpool on Thursday 21st. March 2019 with a conducted tour and mid-day Mass. In the afternoon there will be a visit to the Anglican Cathedral. The visit is open to members of all three Parishes. Full details will be published in the New Year.

3. It has been a very successful two years for the St. Oswald's Caritas Group and we would like to thank everyone for your support. We have served over 750 meals at the Lunch Club and provided a total of over 350 individual lifts to Church. We have also used £600 of the money you have provided for the benefit of young people in the parish who needed help. We would also like to wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas. Thank you to everyone.

Food Bank: Boxes are located at the back of the churches for any items you are able to give. Thank you to all those who have already donated, it has really been needed.

Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve: St T 5.00pm, St MM 5.00pm, St O 7.00pm, St T 10.00pm
Christmas Day: St MM 8.30 am (Latin mass) St O 8.30am ,St T 10.00am