



# Our Lady and St Joseph RC Church Heywood

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Missionary

Society of St Paul

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**First Sunday of Advent Year A, 30th November 2025**

## THIS WEEK AT OUR LADY AND ST JOSEPH

**Monday 1st Dec.:** St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions (Mem).

9.30am Mass

**Tuesday 2nd Dec.:** Advent Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass

**Wednesday 3rd Dec.:** St Francis Xavier (Memorial).

**Please No Mass today**

**Thursday 4th Dec.:** Advent Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass

**Friday 5th Dec.:** Advent Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Saturday 6th Dec.:** Advent Weekday.

10am Morning Mass:

11am. First Holy Communion Children's First Confessions.

6pm: First Mass of Sunday:

**Sunday 7th Dec.:** 2nd Sunday of Advent Year A

9.30 am Mass:

11.00 am Mass:

12.30 pm:

### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

**29th/30th Nov.:** Readers: 6pm P. Sherry, 9.30am: S. Skinner, 11am: P. Greenall. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: B. Doyle 9.30am: D. Dodd, 11am S. Fitzsimons.

**6th/7th Dec.:** Readers: 6pm B. Brown, 9.30am: M. Schofield, 11am: G. DaSilva. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: B. Doyle, 9.30am: H. Sharrock, 11am D. Tierney.

**Thank you** for your generosity. **Last Weekend:** £481.60 (Gift Aid) £367.59 (Loose Change) & CAFOD £28.10.

**200 Club** If you would like to join it is only £5 a month which needs to be paid at the beginning of every month. The more members we have, the bigger the prize and more money going back into our church. Winners are on the Notice Boards.

**Children's Liturgy:** From the 1st Sunday of advent 30th Nov., we shall resume children's liturgy in the parish at the 11am Mass. We are asking for children's liturgy volunteers.

**Junior Choir:** There will be **Junior Choir** practice in the parish meeting room on Monday the 1st at 3.40pm, in preparation for the Carol Service.

**RCIA Class Sessions:** Every Friday in the parish meeting room at 7pm.



**Parish Christmas Fayre :** Next Saturday 6th December. We need donations for Chocolate/sweet, children's toy, please no soft toys. Bottles, fancy goods, ornaments, unwanted gifts, unopened toiletries, scarves, gloves, costume, jewellery etc. No books please. Any gifts or donations can be placed in the basket at the side door. Thank you.

**Baby Goods Stall:** Please pass on to prospective parents, grandparents, carers etc, that there will stall at the fayre for baby goods, all pre-loved; prams, highchairs, toys etc. A full pram set included.

**Still needed for the Fayre:** A few more people to help on the day at the fayre to help with stalls or games approx time 11.30am -3pm.

**Fayre Volunteers:** For all who volunteered to help on Friday 5th Dec., from 5pm-7pm at the nursery to set up for the fayre. For Sat. 6th Dec Volunteers, 11.30-3pm approx. to assist with fayre and clean up.

**MEGA Raffle now on sale:** 1st Prize : **Shark Classic Anti Hair Wrap Cordless Vacuum ICZ160UK**, courtesy of Kathleen Murray, 2nd Prize: **NINJA 3.8L Air Fryer AF100UK** courtesy of

**G. Housley** and some great Food Hampers for 3rd prize. Tickets, one pound per a strip .



**Christmas Carols** on Wednesday 10th Dec. at St Luke's Church at 7pm. Brass band accompaniment with visiting Choirs. There will be refreshments afterwards

**Our Lady & St Joseph's Blessings of Graves Heywood Cemetery:** This Sunday 30th November at 2pm

**This week we pray** for the people of the parish of St. Mary and St. John Fisher, Denton, with Fr Joseph Gee, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools and St. Thomas More College.

**Let us pray** for those who live and work on Royal Ave, Makin St, Lloyd St, Prospect St & Princess St.

**For** The sick of our Parish.

**For** Bob Shields, Paul Flower, Barry Fitzsimons, Alan Hayward, and all who have died recently.

**For** Frank & Clara Taylor, Kathleen Brown, Bernard Tattersall, Elizabeth Bridget Moylan, Kevin Stanley, Mark Coyle, Robert Plover, Edith Gaskill, Michael Logan, Eileen Logan, Rebecca Rochford, Ellen Holt, Handel Holt, forgotten Souls and all we remember at this time.

**December Carol Services: Diocese of Salford Schools' Singing Programme:** The Diocese of Salford Schools' Singing Programme will be hosting a series of free carol services in churches across the diocese this December. Each service begins at 6.30pm and includes traditional carols and readings as part of a one-hour programme. Find your nearest service at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/whats-on/>

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception:** Our diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage group invites you to a special Mass in preparation for the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop John, will take place at 3pm on Sunday 7 December at St Patrick's, Collyhurst (M4 5HF). Following Mass, information will be shared by the Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage group on plans for the 2026 pilgrimage.

**THE WORD OF THE WEEK:** Advent opens with a great promise: "In the days to come..." the hope of a people who need God. "...The master is coming" is also a promise, not a threat to breed fear, but to answer our cry. So Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to stay awake, and treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with mercy. Nevertheless we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today! ne who came to reunite all Creation, especially frail human creatures.

S	A	T	R	U	B	U	G	R	L
D	H	D	I	L	U	R	N	M	A
L	D	U	O	N	R	S	I	E	R
E	R	T	S	O	G	L	T	K	O
I	I	N	T	B	L	E	A	A	T
F	N	E	O	S	A	F	E	W	S
I	K	M	T	O	R	N	T	A	L
E	I	O	S	R	E	A	D	Y	L
L	N	W	I	V	E	S	R	S	I
E	G	Y	D	E	A	R	A	K	M

FLOOD	EATING	DRINKING
WIVES	HUSBANDS	ARK
FIELDS	WOMEN	MILLSTONE
AWAKE	BURGLAR	READY



Do not be afraid

30 NOVEMBER 2025

# SUNDAY *Plus*

1st Sunday of Advent **Divine Office Week I** Year A

## Accept me

Jesus, I dare to ask you one thing: speak to me about your mother...

"Do you want to become heaven? Do as my mother did: accept me to dwell with you.

Do you want to become God's tent? Accept me within you, as my mother did.

Here is the summary of the whole plan of salvation; here is God's secret; here is the sign of his infinite mercy; here is the greatness of the human vocation. To be God's dwelling place yourselves, to live in union with the eternal, to make heaven in man, to make the kingdom of the Creator out of a creature.

My mother is the origin of all this; she inaugurated this divine reality in her flesh.

Whoever wants to enter this divine reality must follow her. That is how my mother is your mother.

Accept her and you will be holy, because holiness is nothing more than God dwelling within you and the conscious acceptance of being the dwelling place of God. That is what my mother did fully...

Nothing will ever be able to make you afraid again, since you carry God himself and his omnipotence within yourselves. Nothing will ever be able to upset you again, since, being God's heaven, you already have the Kingdom within yourselves, unfailing and eternal, established since time began and forever by my father."

*Carlo Carretto, The God Who Comes*



The Church must face the challenges posed by the times...  
St Augustine reminds of this when he said, "Let us live well, and the times will be good. We are the times".

*Pope Leo*


## Jesus is coming

Look up, you whose gaze is fixed on this earth, who are spellbound by the little events and changes on the face of the earth. Look up to these words, you who have turned away from heaven disappointed. Look up, you whose eyes are heavy with tears and who are heavy and who are crying over the fact that the earth has gracelessly torn us away. Look up, you who, burdened with guilt, cannot lift your eyes. Look up,

your redemption is drawing near. something different from what you see daily will happen. Just be aware, be watchful, wait just another short moment. Wait and something quite new will break over you: God will come...

As long as there are people, Christ will walk the earth as your neighbour, as the one through whom God calls you, speaks to you, makes demands on you. That is the great seriousness and great blessedness of the Advent message.

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, God is in the Manger*

Loving Lord, sometimes I'm more afraid of the silly little things than the big ones which I can take in my stride. Why is that? Only you know the answer. Help me to feel confident, knowing because you are beside me, giving encouragement.  Amen.

## Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Sowers of hope

Hope is not an empty word, or a vague desire of ours that things may turn out for the best; hope is a certainty, because it is founded on God's fidelity to his promises... It is not a passive virtue, which merely waits for things to happen. It is a supremely active virtue that helps make them happen. Someone who fought for the liberation of the poor wrote these words: "The Holy Spirit is at the origin of the cry of the poor. He is the strength given to those who have no strength. He leads the struggle for the emancipation and full realisation of the people of the oppressed". The Christian cannot be satisfied with having hope; he or she must also radiate hope, be a sower of hope. It is the most beautiful gift that the Church can give to all of humanity, especially at times in which everything seems to be dragging down the sails.

*Pope Francis, General Audience, 11 December 2024*



## READINGS

Today:  
Isaiah 2:1-5  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:37-44

Monday:  
Romans 10:9-18  
Matthew 4:18-22  
  
Scotland (Solemnity)  
Wisdom 3:1-9  
Romans 10:9-18  
Matthew 4:18-22

Tuesday:  
Isaiah 11:1-10  
Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday:  
Isaiah 25:6-10  
Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday:  
Isaiah 26:1-6  
Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday:  
Isaiah 29:17-24  
Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday:  
Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26  
Matthew 9:35 - 10:1, 6-8

Next Sunday:  
Isaiah 11:1-10  
Romans 15:4-9  
Matthew 3:1-12