

Parish Newsletter

**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
HAIGH, ASPULL & BLACKROD
WITH THE PARISH OF HOLY FAMILY, NEW SPRINGS
S.R.C.D.T. REG. CHARITY No. 250037**

December 15th 2024

Third Sunday of Advent Year C

Prepare the way of the Lord



Parish Priest Rev. Kevin Foulkes
Presbytery 48 Haigh Road
Aspull
Wigan WN2 1YA
Telephone 01942 516732

www.aspullourlady.s.wigan.sch.uk
www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk

Sacrament of Reconciliation **Saturday** 11.30-12noon Our Lady's Church

MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00 pm	Our Lady's
Sunday	9.30 am	Our Lady's
	11.15 am	Holy Family
Monday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Tuesday	9.15 am	Holy Family
Wednesday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Thursday	9.15 am	Holy Family
Friday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Saturday	11.00 am	Our Lady's



SERVICES LIVE-STREAM & ONLINE

Sunday Masses from Our Lady's via the Parish Facebook page using this link www.facebook.com/ourladychurchaspull/ live from 9.30am. It is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group.

Response to the Psalm: Shout aloud and sing praise, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!
The spirit of the Lord is upon me, he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor.
Alleluia!

THOUGHTS

The Third Sunday of Advent, like the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is a day of joy in the midst of our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

This is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday, from the Latin of the Entrance Antiphon/ Verse for today, Gaudete in domino semper (Rejoice in the Lord always).

It captures the mood of the entire Liturgy as we move into the second part of Advent.

There is a sense of joyful expectation and awareness that the fulfilment of God's great plan for us is near. That sense is strong in the Mass Readings for this weekend.

We, in company with many places, have adopted the tradition of wearing lighter, rose-coloured vestments for Mass on this day.

Fr Kevin.

PARISH NOTICES

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December
6.00pm Mass at Our Lady's.

Christmas Day 9.30am Our Lady's and
11.15am Holy Family

PARISH DINNER

Many thanks to those who organised the lovely evening at Hindley Hall Golf Club last Friday. Thanks to the organisers and those who donated generously to the raffle prizes.

SCHOOL MASSES

In preparation for Christmas and the end of term.

Thursday 19th December 9.30am in Holy Family School, 11.00am in Our Lady's School.

BLESSING OF THE OUTDOOR CRIB

At Our Lady's, 6.00pm Monday 16th December followed by refreshments in the Parish Meeting Room.

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

1. To Mary Pike and family, of Holy Family Parish, on the death of Harold after a long illness. Funeral Mass, Friday 20th December, 1.00pm prior to interment at Gidlow Cemetery at 2.30pm. (no 9.15am Mass at Our Lady's).
2. To John Edmunds whose wife Sarah died on holiday in Mauritius. Her Funeral to be arranged.
R.I.P.

FUNERAL SERVICE

For the late Wilf Martin of Blackrod, husband of Shirley, Our Lady's Church, Monday 16th December 12 noon prior to interment in Blackrod Cemetery. R.I.P. (Mass at 9.15am as usual).

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

As of Wednesday 11th December include: Margaret Baybutt (lately dead), Wilf Martin (lately dead), Harold Pike (lately dead), Seweryn Frank (lately dead), Alice Duffy (anniversary), Sarah Edmunds (lately dead), Alan Phillips (lately dead), Frank Moran (anniversary) and Christmas Mass Intentions for Daniel Hulme, Frank Makinson, Walter Scott senior, Mr and Mrs Gilgannon and Mrs Kerry Cox

MASS INTENTIONS

It is impossible to celebrate all the Masses we receive in our parishes. Fr Kevin supports retired priests, priests in poor parishes and missionary priests with the Mass stipends we receive. In the last two years £2600 has been distributed and these Masses have been celebrated.

HOLY FAMILY SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

Due to unforeseen circumstances this will now take place on January 12th not 4th as previously indicated. The party will take place in Holy Family Parish Centre from 2 to 5 pm. Tickets available from both churches this weekend. Please see Margaret Adams or Pat McKay.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Our good wishes to Hunter Moran a Y10 pupil at Hope Academy (a joint RC and CofE Academy) in Newton-Le-Willows, who attends Mass with his mother and grandma at Holy Family, who will make his First Holy Communion this Sunday. He has been prepared by Fr Kevin and made his First Confession last week. We wish him well.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

To Will Tatlow who will become a full member of the Catholic Church at Mass next Sunday 22nd December at 9.30am at Our Lady's. After preparation he will proclaim his faith with us in the Creed and will be Baptised and Confirmed and join us for his First Holy Communion later in the Mass. Good wishes, also, to his wife Kat and son Sam.

We continue to remember in our prayers his dad, William, who died in Portsmouth recently.

200 CLUB - DECEMBER 2024 WINNERS

1st prize	£50	No 75	G. Unsworth
2nd prize	£30	No 3	Smithers
3rd prize	£20	No 28	Kitts

£100 Christmas Draw No 52 K. Adamson

Many thanks to everyone who has supported the 200 Club this year. Your help has raised £580 for Parish funds. This is much appreciated.

The 200 Club will recommence in March next year.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday 21st December 7.30pm in St Michael's Church, Duke Street, Wigan WN1 2BJ by the Wigan Choral Society. "The Manchester Carols", a musical retelling the Christmas Story with a sing-along of favourite Carols followed by mince pies. Tickets available at the door.

BELLRINGING

Would you like to learn more about lessons available and the commitment involved? Contact Mike Kay who has forty years experience. Lessons held at Horwich Parish Church and St Katherines, Blackrod. Contact Mike Kay mwkay@ntlworld.com

THE BRICK

As Christmas approaches let us not forget those who need our support through the Brick which continues to experience very high levels of demand, especially in the winter conditions. The Brick has requested the following food items: Breakfast Cereals, Pasta, Rice and Pasta Sauces.

Every good wish and blessing.

