

The Catholic Parish of

St. John Henry Newman

"Heart Speaks to Heart!"

COR AD COR LOQUITUR

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St John Henry Newman, Urmston

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish please scan the above QR code.

2nd Sunday of Advent (A) - 7th December - Psalter 2

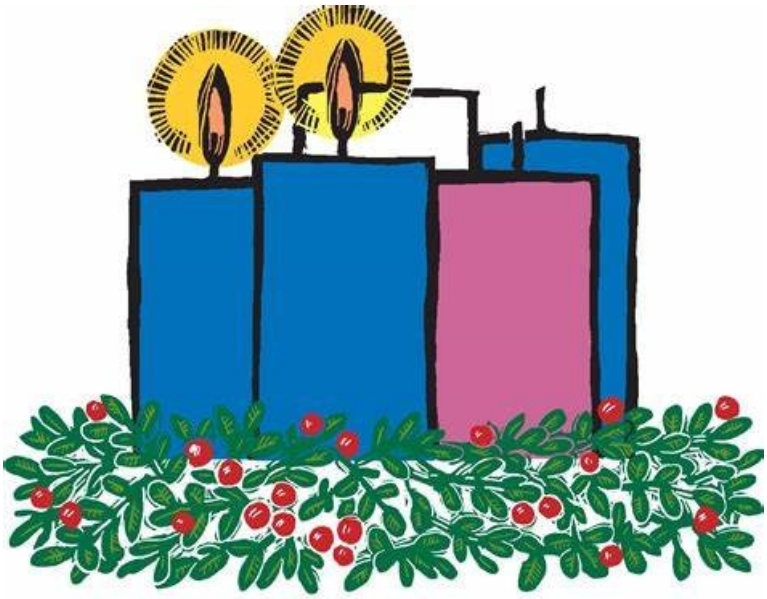
Dear Parishioners,

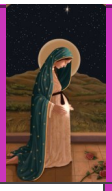
I hope St. Nicholos was kind to you all yesterday, and you didn't awake to shoes full of coal. I was thinking of the great saint last week as Pope Leo visited Türkiye to celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea in 325AD - which St (Bishop) Nicholas himself attended.

Through that Council the Church confirmed the Divinity of Jesus stating that He is "Light from Light, true God from true God", "begotten, not made", and "of one substance with the Father".

Of course this truth does not come from nowhere we find its origins in the words of the Prophet Isaiah, a book without irony that is often referred to as the 5th Gospel, and which are echoed by the last Prophet John Baptist who in today's Gospel cries out: *Prepare the way for the Lord!*

Well, it seems to me, that a good question to start with is to ask: who is this Lord, Isaiah and John speak of? And the obvious (correct) answer is Jesus, who if we understand the Council of Nicaea, is literally God coming again - in triumphant and glory - to us! Me and you!





PARISH WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Times may change due to Weddings & Funerals

Tue 9.30am	9 EM	Mass
Wed 10.00am 4.00pm	10 SM EM	Requiem Mass Kath Wright Advent Carol Service
Thu 9.30am	11 EM	Mass
Fri 9.30am	12 SM	Mass
Sat 10.00am 11.00am 5.00pm 5.30pm	13 EM EM SM SM	St Lucy Reconciliation & Adoration Mass Confession Vigil (Bambino) Mass
Sun 9.30am 11.30am 1,00pm	14 EM SM SM	3rd Sunday of Advent Bambino Mass Bambino Mass Baptism



Let us prepare ourselves to meet Jesus during this Advent season by being more like St Nicholas, living lives of generosity and faith, whilst recognising that the One we await, the One who has came and is yet coming to us is in fact God Himself.

There is a quote attributed to St Nicholas (he probably didn't say it!) and it isn't Ho! Ho! Ho! "

The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving, by grace, through faith ...

Fr. Kieren

FACEBOOK: St John Henry Newman **X:**@padrekieren **WEB:** www.stjohnhenrynewmanparish.org

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2025 - 2026

Dates for Catechesis & Celebrations

Catechesis/Celebrations
Parent meetings are marked in **GREEN**

13/14th December	**Bambino Mass**
22nd January 6.30pm	**Parish Centre**
24th January 9.30am	Parish Centre
25th January 9.45am	Jubilee Room
5th February 6.30pm	**Parish Centre**
7th February 9.30am	Parish Centre
8th February 9.45am	Jubilee Room

24th Feb 6.30pm 1st CONFESSION SM
25th Feb 6.30pm 1st CONFESSION SM

7th/8th March	**Lenten Mass**
19th March 6.30pm	**Parish Centre**
21st March 9.30am	Parish Centre
22nd March 9.45am	Jubilee Room
16th April 6.30pm	**Parish Centre**
18th April 9.30am	Parish Centre
19th April 9.45am	Jubilee Room

HOLY COMMUNION MASSES 2026

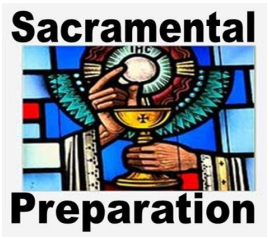
OLOR 1st HC Mass 25th April NOON (SM)

SM 1st HC Mass 9th May NOON (SM)

EM 1st HC Mass 16th May NOON (SM)

For children in non-Parochial Schools please choose either 9th or 16th May for 1st Holy Communion Mass.





O come, let us ADORE!

Christmas Masses in the Parish.

CHRISTMAS EVE
5.00pm (Bell) Mass St. Monica's
8.00pm Mass English Martyrs'

CHRISTMAS DAY
9.30am Mass English Martyrs'
11.00am Mass St. Monica's

St Stephen's Day
Noon Mass St. Monica's

St John the Evangelist
11.00am Mass English Martyrs'
5.30pm Vigil Mass (SM)

THE HOLY FAMILY
Sunday, 28th December
9.30am Mass (EM)
11.30am Mass (SM)



Mass Intentions

Lately Dead
Requiescat in pace
Patrick Lawlor, Norma Pester, Derek Evans

Intention
A special intention, in thanksgiving, a successful operation, speedy recovery, Marie Audsley, wedding anniversary - Mr & Mrs Roberts

Anniversaries Masses
Thomas Fitzgerald, Bridget Keenan, Margaret Stapleton

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK
John Gibbons, Maureen Boylan, Jenny Marks, Emma Coulson, Maureen Whalley, Marian Kerrigan, Mary Tunstall, Angela Considine, Andrew Roche, Anne Smyth, Little Rhia Brooke, Gerry Smyth, Bridie McLaughlin, Sian McManamon, Bernard Walker, Mark Daly, Leo Turnbull, Anne Turnbull, Jo Orford, Tom Parry, Mary Doolan, Michael Rice, Margaret Barker, Paul Hales, Josie Fitton, Alan Walsh, Krystyna Bzdega, Bron Bzdega

We begin the season of Advent that connotes not only an arrival but also that which is yet to come. The very word expresses a strange interpenetration of the present and the future, of what now exists and what is yet to come, of possession and expectation. In the liturgy, the present and the future of Christian salvation ate interwoven. The Incarnation of the Word of God took place in the past and continues in the present. Christ's return to judge all men and to complete His redeeming work is an event of the future, and yet He is constantly on the point of coming. The liturgy celebrates both His entrance into the world and the expectation of His return. **Karl Rahner SJ**

SYCAMORE with Deacon John (7:00pm - 9:00pm) in the Jubilee Room @ St Monica's.

Monday 15th December

The Angelus Prayer

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary ...
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done to me according to thy word.
Hail Mary. . .
V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary. . .
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Dates for Catechesis 2026

1. Thurs. 8th January** (6.30pm). 2. Thurs. 12th Feb (6.30pm)
3. Thurs. 26th March (6.30pm)
Please return completed forms to Fr K before Christmas.

The date for the celebration of Confirmation has now been confirmed as Sunday 28th June 2026 (2pm) at St Monica's Church

Please return completed registration Forms before Christmas
** note change of date.



BAMBINO MASSES during the Masses next Sunday the children on the Sacramental Programme will receive a small figurine of the Baby Jesus. Please bring your own bambinos to Mass to blessed so that HE may become the heart of your Christmas celebrations.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & TREES Every year our teams of Flower arrangers (aren't they wonderful) strive to make the churches beautiful during the season the Incarnation. If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of trees etc please enclose it in an envelope marked FLOWERS and place it in the offertory baskets or pass on to Fr. Kieren via the Presbytery.



ADVICE AS WEATHER GETS COLDER and energy bills rise If you or someone in your wider parish community is in need of support around rising energy bills, Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity, has a free energy advice service that can help. You can find details on their website on how to arrange a free session with their energy advice service team, and lots of other information: www.caritassalford.org.uk/energysupport

THURSDAY CLUB 60+ There will be no meetings in the Parish Centre until 18th December. The meeting on December 18th will be our Christmas Party and will be the last meeting until the New Year.

Advent Talks: Reflecting on Dilexi Te we are pleased to be joined once again by Sr Joan Kerley and Maria Kidd for a series of talks reflecting on Pope Leo's Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te. Join us every Tuesday upto16th December. The venue for this year's talks will be Our Lady and Lancashire Martyrs Church Hall, M38 0DL, and will take place from 10:30am - 12:30pm. joankfmsj@gmail.com or phone 07934 816796 to register your interest.



Christmas Eve Bell Mass This year we would like to once again have some of the children from our parish on the altar at the Christmas Eve Mass to celebrate the Nativity. If you think your child would like to take part, please type the URL below into your browser or scan the QR below and complete the form. Please complete the form by Monday 15th December. Children must be able to sit unattended on the altar, and due to the size of the costumes, we can only invite children up to Year 3 to take part. All other children are invited to come to Mass dressed in a Nativity costume and stay sat with their families. The Children's Church Team https://forms.office.com/r/Gq7Za0FYh3

A BIG THANK YOU to the Parish IMPACT Group who led a wonderful Youth Mass on the feast of Christ the King, Hopefully in the New Year we can arrange some more!

Relics of St Carlo Acutis to Visit Diocese of Salford In January, the relics of St Carlo Acutis will be hosted at two of our churches over five days, during which time the Diocese will welcome schools, parishioners and people from all over for veneration. The relics will be presented at St Mary's Church, Burnley from 28-29 January 2026 before they travel to St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst from 30 January to 1 February 2026. More information will be shared soon with parishes and on the Diocesan website and social media channels.



OLOR Primary School - PFA Christmas Markets You are warmly invited to join us for the PFA Christmas Markets at Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School on Friday 12th December, from 3:10pm to 5:00pm. Come along for a festive afternoon filled with stalls, handmade gifts, treats, raffles, tombola's and plenty of Christmas cheer. It's a lovely opportunity to support our school community and pick up some seasonal delights. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Advice as energy bills continue to rise If you or those in your wider parish community are in need of support with rising energy bills, Caritas Salford has put together some helpful advice on their website. Their energy advice service team can support with free sessions and drop-ins in your area. You can find out more by visiting www.caritassalford.org.uk/energysupport

GOOD NEWS Our Parish Prayer Group meeting is changing from Tuesday evening to Tuesday afternoon 1- 3pm. Everyone welcome.

APF Red Mission Boxes If you have a mission box that needs to be emptied, leave them in the boxes provided. St Monica's box will be in the entrance porch of the church. English Martyrs box will be in the porch of the **Presbytery**. Once your box has been emptied, they will be left in either church, ready for you to collect.

'Neurodiversity and Our Faith' Research The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into Neurodiversity and our Faith. Your experiences will help them to become more inclusive and responsive to your needs. To find out more and to complete the short surveys, please visit: www.godwhospeaks.uk/neurodivergent-catholic-surveys/

Caritas Salford Advent Appeal Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, has released its 2025 Advent appeal to shine the spotlight on the true meaning of Christmas. To watch their latest animation and to find out more about how to help local people who are facing acute crisis this Christmas, please visit: https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/bee-there-2025/

Laudato Si' Centre Volunteer Call-out: Retired Educators The Diocese of Salford's Environment Team is inviting retired education staff to volunteer at the Laudato Si' Centre to assist with their successful programme of school visits. Volunteers would be supporting sessions with children from nursery age to Year 11 with activities including arts and crafts, games, and foraging. email laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS - Starting primary school September 2026 If you live in the Parish of St John Henry Newman (and beyond) and your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, they are eligible to start school from 1st September 2026. Please check the website of each school and read the Admissions Policy and note the supplementary documentation that must be produced (Baptism Certificate). The closing date for primary school applications is 15th January 2026. www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/schools/school-admissions/Primary/primary-school-admissions.aspx

THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION
EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION



EUCHARIST (HOLY COMMUNION)

The Eucharist is the source and summit of all Christian life, the Eucharist is not a thing or a holy object, the Eucharist is the gift of God Himself given and shared with us.

All parent's of children who will be entering Yr 3 (in September 2025) will be invited to enrol their children on the Sacramental Programme.

All children must be baptised in the Catholic Church and families **WILL** be expected, to do what all Catholic families should already be doing, that is attend Sunday Mass.



CONFIRMATION All details will be published in the newsletter and a notice will be sent to our local Diocesan Catholic Secondary School (St. Antony's) and those schools that are in the Diocese of Shrewsbury (BTH, St. Ambrose & Loreto).

Registering an interest is **not** joining the programme, and as the child enters Yr8 (Sept 2025) they will have to make the commitment to participate on the programme and complete the sacraments of initiation. Please not that although information is sent to High Schools outside the Diocese of Salford and the non-Catholic schools in the area, distribution of information is *dependant upon the cooperation of the Head teacher and Head of RE*.

TRAFFORD NORTH FOOD BANK Please place any of the above items in the grey bin at the back of church (English Martyrs). To donate directly Co-op Bank a/c 65855834 Sort code: 089299.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

"Parents are obliged to see to it that infants are baptised within the first weeks after birth" (867)

As a Parish, we follow the Diocesan Baptism Policy

In order for your baby/child (under the age of 7) to be baptised, if you are not already practising your Catholic faith, then you must begin to **attend Sunday Mass for a minimum of at least 6 weeks** before a baptism date can be discussed.

- If you live outside the Parish, but this Parish is your place of *regular* worship, no permission is needed.
- If you live outside the Parish and don't regularly attend Mass, permission from your Parish Priest is needed.
- After a date for baptism has been set, a meeting with Fr. Kieren or Deacon John must be arranged (by you).
- If your child is aged 7 or over they are treated as an adult and must follow an adapted RCIA programme.

To read the full diocesan policy:
https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Forming-young-people-for-life-Policy-Nov-2016.pdf

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JOHN
PREACHED
WILDERNESS
MESSAGE
REPENT
VOICE
PREPARE
BELT
LOCUSTS
HONEY
SANDALS
RIVER



VOCATIONS - DIOCESE OF SALFORD



If you feel called to the Diocesan Priesthood please contact Fr. Kieren or contact the Diocesan Vocation Director directly Fr. Mark Paver: mark.paver@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Please scan the QR code to learn more.

GETTING MARRIED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

In order to get married in the Catholic Church 6 months notice must be given, please contact Fr. Kieren for further information.

"And that is what marriage is! Hand in hand, always and for the rest of your lives". Pope Francis

Please pray for Marie & Andrew, Rebecca & David, Shannon & Connor, Natalie & Jamie, Ella & Ben, Roisin & James, Rose & Martin, Natalie & Joseph, Lorna & Jonathan, Rebekah & Peter as they prepare to celebrate the sacrament together in 2025!

OUR CATHOLIC PARISH AND DIOCESAN SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

English Martyrs
Wycliffe Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs J Dunn (acting)
(0161) 748 7257

Our Lady of the Rosary
Davyhulme Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs Hannah Groves
(0161)748 4626

St. Monica's
Woodsend Road South, Flixton
Head teacher: Mr. Mark Doherty
(0161) 748 3353

SECONDARY SCHOOL

St. Antony's Catholic High School
Bradfield Road, Urmston
Head teacher: Mr. A. Campbell
(0161) 911 8001

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY CARE If you have a relative or friend who is an inpatient and would like a Catholic Chaplain to visit them for pastoral support please contact the Chaplaincy Office on 0161 276 8792. The Chaplains no longer have access to patient details - a chaplain must be requested by a member of the family to minister to a sick relative.