



The Parish of Saint Hugh & Saint John

314 Manchester Road, West Timperley, Altrincham WA14 5NB
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Parish Priest: Canon Christopher Matthews



Week commencing Sunday 30th November: Advent Week I

Sat 29th	BVM	11.00am 12 noon	Adoration & Confessions Ints of The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage
	First Mass of Sunday	6.30pm	Celina Ptak anniv, Marian Ptak RIP and Joanne Adams RIP
Sun 30th	First Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Holy Souls
		10.30am	Parishioners
Mon 1st	Ferial	9.30am 7.30pm	George (<i>School Mass</i>) <i>Living Water Prayers</i>
Tues 2nd	Ferial	7.00pm	Charles Commissioning RIP
Wed 3rd	Saint Francis Xavier	9.30am	John & Sheila Ridd RIP
Thurs 4th	Ferial	9.00am 10.15am 7.00pm	Pat Whitehead in remembrance Marguerite Goldsmith funeral <i>Holy Hour, rosary and Adoration</i>
Friday 5th	Ferial	12 noon	William Connery Birthday
Sat 6th	Saint Nicholas	11.00am 12.00 noon	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament For the persecuted Christians in Nigeria
	First Mass of Sunday	6.30pm	19 th Birthday intention
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION by Saturday 11am – 11.45am or by request			
Sun 7th	Second Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Daniel Cobbledick RIP Birthday
		10.30am	Parishioners

Canon Christopher writes:

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new liturgical year – so Happy New Year!

Advent is the season of hope, expectancy and preparation for the coming of the Christ Child. May this be a grace filled season for each of you. It is my favourite season, I love advent, and there are lots of things happening to aid us in our celebration of Advent and preparation for Christmas. Each Sunday there is a different focus for us, this Sunday it is supporting the food bank – giving something of ourselves. Next Sunday is Bible Sunday when we focus particularly on the Word of God and how the Lord speaks to us through His Word – make sure you bring your Bible to church for a blessing. The Third Sunday we will support the great work of Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury as they support families who are struggling. On the Fourth and final Sunday of Advent please bring the Christ Child from your crib at home, and we will bless those figures at the end of Mass.

Also, our traveling icon of the Holy Family will begin its journey around the parish – have you volunteered to host the Holy Family in your home for a night? If not, there are still a few spaces on the sign-up sheet in the porch.

Wishing you a blessed Advent week ahead. Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

Now that we are a one priest parish for any home communions, sick visits, Mass intentions, baptisms, funerals, RCIA, etc. please contact Canon Chris via the Parish Office.

LITURGY & PRAYER:

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: please pray for Chloe L., Irini H, ZiNing Joseph Lin, John R., William C., AE B., Amrut, Sue O'M., Anna B., Valentine M., Jozef and Anna M., Niall O'H., Gerard, Jim & Bernadette S., Gerry B., Hannah H., Denis C., Kitty D., Seema Mc., Lisa C., Sam H., A.P., Jo R., Timothy M., Margaret B., May & John H., Anne L., Brian T., John R., Bernadette B., and Margaret L.

MARIAN LAMP: This week the Marian Lamp burns for *Persecuted Christians around the world*.

SAINT HUGH & SAINT JOHN LAMP: This week the Saints Lamp burns for our *Volunteers and Benefactors of the Parish*.

If you would like one of the lamps to burn for a week for a particular intention, please contact the Parish Office. A donation of £5 per lamp per week is recommended.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: Marguerite Goldsmith whose funeral service will take place on Thursday 4 December at 10.15am and George McLaughlin whose Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 9 December at 12noon. May they, and all the faithful departed rest in peace in the arms of the Good Shepherd.

ADVENT: Please pick up a copy of the Advent leaflet from the back of church with more info about our celebration of Advent.

TRAVELING HOLY FAMILY ICON: This Advent, an icon of the Holy Family will be traveling around the parish. Would you host the Holy Family for a night in your home? Please sign up at the back of church. Invite your family, friends and neighbours for a time of prayer and a brew (or a glass of wine!) or a quiet evening on your own with the icon and prayer. Prayer resources are provided. Thank you to those who have signed up so far.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: please bring any dry good donations for the foodbank and leave them by the crib

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Bible Sunday – bring your Bible to church to be blessed

CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2025: “Your kindness brought hope when I had none.”

There will be a collection here on 13/14 December – the Third Sunday of Advent in support of the Caritas at Christmas Appeal. Thank you for your generosity. Every penny you give goes directly to help those most in need within our Diocese, providing crisis food vouchers, practical support, and the reassurance of care and compassion when it matters most. You can also donate online at: www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk.

CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL: We are excited to support Kangaroo Self Storage in their annual Christmas Toy Appeal this year again. Please help ‘Kangaroo’ spread joy this Christmas by donating new, boxed, and unwrapped toys or gifts to help brighten the smiles of local children in need. A donation box is available in our porch.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC REHEARSAL IN THE CHURCH IS BACK: our lovely tradition of rehearsing Christmas music continues this year as we prepare for the Christmas Eve 9pm Mass. Whether you sing every Sunday or just love to hum along at home, your voice will add to our joyful chorus. Come and be part of our community on Wednesday 19 November (and every Wednesday afterwards) from 7.15 – 8pm. We cannot wait to sing with you!

COME TO THE MANGER ADVENT SERVICE: Blessed Thomas Holford invite you to their family advent service on Tuesday 16 December at 6pm at Saint Vincent’s, WA14 2BP. Followed by refreshments and mince pies.

PARISH:

THE LAST SVP SOCIAL THIS YEAR: Come and share the laughter, enjoy the good company, join a team to win the quiz, enjoy the homemade soups, and spend time together — until next time, next year! There is always so much fun there!

SOUTH SUDAN ANNUAL APPEAL: This weekend the SVP will be holding its annual collection for South Sudan. The SVP in South Sudan is committed to its mission of alleviating poverty through several impactful projects focused on poverty relief, empowerment, and long-term community. All donations will be gratefully received.

COFFEE AND CAKE AFTER SUNDAY MASS: You are warmly invited to come for coffee and cake next week after Sunday Mass. Our lovely craft team will also be selling their handmade Christmas decorations — beautifully knitted angels and lovingly made cards, created with so much care and patience. All proceeds will go directly to support CAFOD. Please note: cash only.

GREETINGS CARDS FOR PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE: 6 & 7 December: The J&P Group are organising our annual sale of greetings cards to support prisoners of conscience, their families, others who are abused for their beliefs and organisations who support the oppressed. The cards will be on sale after all Masses on 6 & 7 Dec. The cost will be £3.50 per card including postage. Each envelope will also contain a brief description of the relevant case which should NOT be sent with the card. Any profit from the sale will go to Action by Christians against Torture who supply information about the cases. Thank you for your support over many years.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME: There is a possibility of a Parish Pilgrimage to Rome from Monday 25 May to Saturday 30 May 2026, which is in half term week in case any teachers, or families wish to join us. Organised by Tangney Tours and lead by Canon Chris: flights, transfers, hotel accommodation (bed and breakfast), dinner each evening, travel rep, travel insurance and visiting the major sights of Rome for approx. £1245 (plus single room supplement). We are looking for an indication of interest at this stage, so if you think you would like to join us, please sign up on the list at the back of church – no commitment needed yet.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - A DECEMBER JOURNEY: December 7th at 7pm. The Brixi Singers are visiting Saint Hugh and Saint John's to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season in music. Their programme will include excerpts from The Manchester Carols, a collection of poems written by previous Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy, with music written by local composer, Sacha Johnson Manning. There will also be familiar and less familiar seasonal music and opportunities to join the choir in favourite carols. Come along and enjoy a festive musical evening together with seasonal refreshments. Entrance fee £12 for adults and under 16s free. Refreshments included. A donation from monies raised will be made towards parish heating expenses.

CHRISTMAS PIETY STALL: Our Christmas piety stall is now open, offering a selection of lovely ornaments, candles, cards and nativity sets. All proceeds will be shared between Caritas and CAFOD this year, supporting those in need both locally and abroad. Contactless payment for the piety stall is available.

PARISH MEETING: Thank you to all those who attended the recent Parish Meeting. Canon Chris is bringing together a small team to help him look at the suggestions raised at the Parish Meeting and look at a way forward. Please keep these parish developments in your prayers.

SUNDAY READINGS: From this Sunday, rather than the A3 printed sheet wrapped around the newsletter, we are going to trial an A4 page with just the Mass readings, which will hopefully save some paper and some waste, and a few pennies. Let's see how it goes.

CATECHETICS:

CONFIRMATION: Thank you to those who have already enquired about the Sacrament of Confirmation for next year. Arrangements are beginning to be made. Please watch this space for more info – coming soon!

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE: For children under 7 years of age: the next evening course will be on Thursday 4 December at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Please note, this will be the last meeting for this year. The next preparation meeting will take place in February 2026. Book a place by emailing the Parish Office.

DIOCESAN:

SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY: There will be midday Mass Saint Mary's Crewe on 8th December to celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Refreshments will be available after Mass, everyone is welcome.

TUESDAY COFFEE & CHAT: A sociable, relaxed gathering each Tuesday, 2.00pm–4.00pm in Holy Angels parish hall. All welcome!

FINANCE:

HEATING: We received generous £303 towards heating. Thank you very much.

OFFERINGS: Offerings for last week were £752.28 plus standing orders and card donations. Thank you for your generous financial support of the parish.

WHAT'S ON:

Sunday 30 November – First Sunday of Advent

Bring donations for the food bank and leave them at the crib

10.30am Children's Liturgy of the Word during Mass

Monday 1 December:

9.30am School Mass for Advent

6pm Irish Dancers in the Parish Hall

7.30pm Living Waters Prayer Group in the church porch

Tuesday 2 December:

9.30am Exercise Class in the Parish Hall

1pm Craft Group in the Parish Hall

Wednesday 3 December:

9.30am Toddlers Group in the Parish Hall

10.30am Mother's Prayer Group in the church porch

6pm Guides/Brownies & Rainbows in the Parish Hall

6.30pm Choir Practise in church

7.15pm Christmas Music rehearsal – all welcome

Thursday 4 December:

7pm Adoration & Rosary in church

7pm Baptism Preparation session in the Parish Hall

7.30pm Neocatechumenal Way in the Parish Hall

Friday 5 December:

12.30pm SVP social in the Parish Hall

Saturday 6 December:

11am Adoration & Confessions in church

Sunday 7 December – Second Sunday of Advent – Bible Sunday

Bring your Bible to church to be blessed

10.30am Children's Liturgy of the Word during Mass

7pm Brixi Singers Christmas Concert in church

Could parish groups please keep the Parish Office informed of dates and times of meetings and events, so the diary is always accurate. Many thanks in anticipation.

PARISH OFFICE: ☎ 0161 973 1694 ✉ info@rcparishtimperley.org 💻 www.rcparishtimperley.org

Safeguarding officer: Mrs Pauline Powell 07764 247 165, **Health & Safety officer:** Martin Gallagher 07553 168 914

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If you haven't already done so, please subscribe to the parish email system through our website. You can unsubscribe at any time.
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