



18 December 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)

The maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us". (Isaiah 7:14/Matthew 1:23)

Faith in Focus

How many stopping days to go?

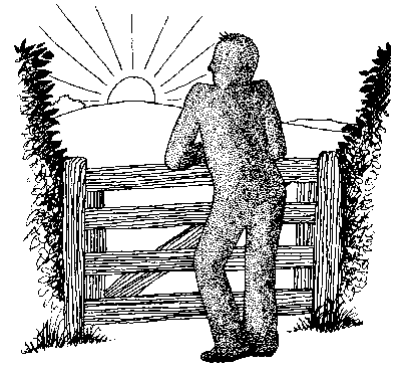
You can't turn on the television or radio this week without being reminded of how many "shopping" days are left before Christmas is upon us. You could be forgiven for thinking that the main purpose of Christmas is to buy things. And if you haven't gone out and spent your money on gifts and goodies then perhaps you haven't really celebrated Christmas.

For Christians nothing could be further from the truth, since Christmas is the celebration of God's becoming a child in the person of Jesus, and our prime aim is to recall that event so that it may have an effect on us here and now.

Because Christmas has been hijacked as a season of commercial bonanza, it can be hard for us to focus on its true meaning. It is essentially about simplicity rather than opulence. The second person of the Trinity humbled himself to share our human nature so that he could teach us how to live, how to love, how to learn and how to laugh. The birth of Jesus took place so that we could find out what it means to be truly human.

Amid the clatter of TV adverts offering super savings at our local stores, we remind ourselves that the

season of Advent is a time of spiritual preparation for the Christmas



event. The Church journeys along a four-week path of expectation, of yearning and longing for the coming of the Messiah, of self-examination, of rededication and commitment, of joyful preparation. It's tempting to jump the gun and celebrate a wonderful carol service weeks before the 25th, or to hold a Christmas party to end all Christmas parties when there's still ten days to go. But it really is worth the wait if we stop to ponder on the Advent journey.

So today we meet Mary and Joseph in our scripture readings. Both of them aware that something momentous is about to happen to them, both patiently pondering on the outcome. No rush. No fuss. Just active co-operation with God's will as announced by the angel.

If Advent has passed you by, don't worry. There are still some stopping days left before Christmas.

Archdiocese of Liverpool
Parishes of Holy Name and
Our Lady & Saint Philomena

Clergy: Father John Hindley
Based at: Holy Name Presbytery, Moss Pits
Lane, Fazakerley, L10 9LG
Telephone: 0151 476 0289
Email: holyname@rcaol.org.uk
www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com

Serving the Churches of:
Holy Name, Moss Pits Lane, Fazakerley,
L10 9LG
Our Lady & Saint Philomena, Sparrow Hall
Road, L9 6BU

Parish Office at Holy Name: Open Monday,
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.00 am
to 12.30 pm, and 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm.

Baptisms: By prior arrangement. Baptisms
take place on the 1st Saturday of the month at
11.00 am at St Philomena's, and 3rd Sunday
of the month at 12 noon at Holy Name. Please
see Fr John at a weekend Mass.

Confessions: Holy Name on Saturday from
5.30 pm, Our Lady & St Philomena on
Wednesday from 6.30 pm or by request.

Funerals and Marriages: By arrangement.

Visits to sick and housebound: Please
contact the parish office.

Hospital Visits: If you wish to see a priest
please let the hospital staff know.

Mass Requests: Please complete the pre-
printed envelopes and place in the weekly
collection. Please also specify the reason for
the intention, i.e. lately dead, anniversary etc.
For a particular day, please request early. To
enable more Mass intentions to be said in the
parish and not sent away, the Mass will be
shared unless you request otherwise.

Newsletter Notices: Please e-mail to
holyname@rcaol.org.uk or hand in to the
Parish Office by Thursday morning.

Repository: Open before and after Mass.

Covid19: Face coverings are optional.



Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan
Trustees Incorporated
Registered Charity Number 232709

Parish Social Media

Facebook: [HolyNameandStPhilomena](https://www.facebook.com/HolyNameandStPhilomena)
Twitter: [@holyphilomena](https://twitter.com/holyphilomena)
YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/yyto5d26>

QR code



Scan this QR code for access
to the Mass readings. If the QR
code does not work, download
a QR code reader from App Store or
Google Play store.

Readings at Mass

1st reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

2nd reading: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

Psalm Response: Let the Lord enter! He is
the king of glory.

Thank you

Your offerings this week total £766.51

Baptism

Congratulations to Heidi May
Griebowski, Mason Robert-James Brown,
Layla Melanie Jones and Amélie Elis
Ashton who receive the sacrament of
Baptism at Holy Name on Sunday 18
December.

Christmas Mass intentions

From Christmas Eve until the Epiphany
there will be no individual Mass
intentions. This is to allow everyone the
opportunity to have Mass intentions
offered during the Christmas period.

Please take a special envelope for this
purpose. All intentions will be placed on
the altar and remain there for the duration.

News from the Archdiocese

The latest newsletter from the
Archdiocese is on the parish website.

Numbers galore

Numbers are 10 and 22. Two winners.

Grace for Christmas lunch

For those who attend Mass on Christmas Eve or aren't able to attend church there may be nothing to mark that it's Christ's birthday we're celebrating on the actual day. So please as a parish can we all commit to saying this grace before our meal? Many thanks.

Heavenly Father,

Love came down on Christmas Day,
and love brings us together now
to share this Christmas meal.

We ask you to bless our food
and all of us here.

We remember those we love
who are not with us today,
but who remain with us in spirit.

With grateful hearts,
we thank you for all the blessings
you have given us this year
and we pray for peace in families
and nations around the world.

Amen.

LGBT+ Social Group

The Parish of Sts. Agnes and Aidan's LGBT+ social group are hosting a Christmas party with festive music, games, snacks and beverages on Sunday 18 December at 6 pm in the Sr Elizabeth Kelly room at St. Agnes Church, 82 Huyton Hey Road, L36 5SQ.

All members of the LGBT+ community, families and friends welcome.

Facebook: ['Parish of Sts. Agnes and Aidan's LGBT+ Social Group'](#)

Instagram: [st.agnes st.aidan lgbt](#)

Dates of future meetings are on the church noticeboard and parish website.

Woodlands hospice

To support the Light up a Life campaign go to <https://woodlandshospice.org/light-up-a-life>

Warm and cosy

The Archdiocese has created warm cosy spaces across the diocese, with free tea, coffee and biscuits, along with the opportunity to watch TV, read books and meet old and new friends. Our parish clubs are taking part.

- Holy Name - Wednesday from 1 pm to 3.30 pm

- Our Lady of Sorrows - Thursday from 1 pm to 3.30 pm

Warm winter coats

As part of the Archdiocese's warm and cosy initiative, you can pick up complimentary warm winter coats and clothes from the Holy Name parish club on a Wednesday afternoon.

Prison Mass and carol service

There will be no Advent exposition after Mass on Tuesday as Fr John is celebrating Mass in HMP Altcourse at 10.30 am. In the afternoon, Fr John will be attending a carol service at HMP Altcourse.

Nugent Shop: Stock appeal

The shop is in urgent need of clothing, shoes, accessories, handbags, books, jigsaws and bric-a-brac including CDs, LPs and DVDs.

Donations can be taken to the Nugent Charity Shop, 73 Allerton Road, L18 2DA

If you are unable to drop off donations, phone Gill Woodroffe or Naira Zakarian on 0151 737 2951 to arrange collection.

Advent calendar

This Advent, the Archdiocese is running an online Advent calendar featuring daily videos from people across the Archdiocese. The calendar can be seen on the Archdiocese's social media channels:

<https://facebook.com/liverpoolarchdiocese>

<https://instagram.com/liverpoolarchdiocese/>

<https://twitter.com/lpoolcatholic>

Day	Time	Church	Intention
Fourth Sunday of Advent			
Saturday 17th	5.30 pm	<i>Holy Name</i>	<i>Confessions until 5.50 pm</i>
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Maria and Raphael Lopez, 22 nd wedding anniversary
Sunday 18th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Tricia Gillbanks, lately dead
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Randall Lockett, 3 rd anniversary, RIP
Monday 19th			No service
Tuesday 20th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Tammy Bennett, lately dead Billy Cross, lately dead
	10.30 am	HMP Altcourse	Pat Grier
	1.30 pm	HMP Altcourse	Carol service
Wednesday 21st	10.00 am	Holy Name	Ann Dunn, lately dead Paula Redfern, lately dead
	11.00 am	Abbey Wood Nursing Home	Carols for the residents
	6.30 pm	<i>St Philomena</i>	<i>Confessions until 6.50 pm</i>
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Mary Fury, RIP, 90 th birthday remembrance Ann Higham, lately dead (Followed by Novena)
Thursday 22nd	10.00 am	Holy Name	Swarthi Rao, happy married life Joan Stephens, lately dead
Friday 23rd	10.00 am	St Philomena	Cathy & Lou, anniversary (Followed by Advent exposition)
Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord			
Saturday 24th Christmas Eve	2.00 pm	HMP Altcourse	Derek Hindley
	6.00 pm	St Philomena	Christmas intentions
	8.00 pm	Holy Name	Christmas intentions
Sunday 25th Christmas Day	9.30 am	St Philomena	Christmas intentions
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Theresa Stoneley
<p>We remember in our prayers those who have died recently Marie Hale, Francis Murray. May they rest in peace</p>			

Name of parish Holy Name 148

Name and address of your own bank **To** The Manager
Address

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Please pay to

Bank name HSBC plc
Address 99-101 Lord Street
LIVERPOOL
L2 6PG

Sort code 40-29-12

Parish bank account number **for the credit of**
Account name 148 Holy Name Presbytery
Account number 91543830

the sum of
(in words)
(in figures) £.....
commencing
and thereafter monthly/annually

Delete as applicable

until you receive further notice from me/us in writing

Please insert the title and number of
your own bank account **and debit my account accordingly**

Account name

Account number

Signature

Date



LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

Name of parish

Our Lady and St Philomena 168

Name and address of your own bank

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The Manager

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Please pay to

Bank name

HSBC plc

Address

99-101 Lord Street
LIVERPOOL
L2 6PG

Sort code

40-29-12

Parish bank account number

for the credit of

Account name

168 Archdiocese of Liverpool
St Philomena V M Presbytery

Account number

61544446

the sum of

(in words)

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(in figures)

£.....

commencing

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Delete as applicable

and thereafter

monthly/annually

until you receive further notice from me/us in writing

**Please insert the title and number of
your own bank account**

and debit my account accordingly

Account name

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Account number

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Signature

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Date

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LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

Croxteth Drive | Liverpool | L17 1AA | www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

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