

**Timetable and Intentions
for Sundays and
Weekdays Masses**



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	INTENTION	CHURCH
Sun 7 th Dec.	9 am	Second Sunday of Advent	May & Ronnie Morris (A)	Holy Family
Sun 7 th Dec.	11.15 am	Second Sunday of Advent	Parishioners	Our Lady V
Mon 8 th Dec.	9 am	Immaculate Conception	Ron Parker (LD)	Holy Family
Mon 8 th Dec.	7 pm	Immaculate Conception	S.I. Anna's Family	Our Lady V
Tue 9 th Dec.	9 am	Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin	Ron Parker LD	Our Lady V
Wed 10 th Dec.	9 am	Our Lady of Loreto		Our Lady V
Thu 11 th Dec.	9 am	St Damasus I		Our Lady V
Fri 12 th Dec.	9 am	Our Lady of Guadalupe		Our Lady V
Sat 13 th Dec.	12 noon	St Lucy Our Lady on Saturday		Our Lady V
Sun 14 th Dec.	9 am	Third Sun of Advent	Harry Jackson (A) Parishioners	Holy Family
Sun 14 th Dec.	11.15 am	Third Sun of Advent	Chris Cresswell RIP	Our Lady V
Sun 14 th Dec.	3 pm	Tercer Domingo de Adviento	<u>MISA EN ESPANOL</u>	Our Lady V

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions: Tue 9.30am to 10am; Sat 11am to 12

Holy Rosary & Divine Mercy Devotion: Tuesdays 9.30 am OLOV.

Baptisms, Weddings: by appointments. Wednesday Club: / Tuesday Nursery: You are welcome!

We pray for all who are sick and elderly:

Marie Tyrer, Ray Sherwood, Betty Maurey, John Evans-Freeke, Henry Henderson, Anne and Mike Quinn, Ronnie Baybut, Geoff Morrissey, Michael Hyland, Paul Blackford, Harry Caine, Sophie Caine, Christine Watts, Deacon John and Ann Crooks, Joan Callaghan, Natalie Kavanagh, Sue Swift, Hannalor Mainey, Betty Costello, Pauline Hayes, Irene Halsall, Mark Fieldsend.

We pray for those whose Anniversary occurs at this time: David Seddon, Edward M. Davis, John Roxburgh, May Morris, Isabella Caush, Fr Billy Mills, Norma Crouch, Harry Jackson, Margaret Ashton.

We pray for those who have died: Ron Parker R.I.P.

The Parishes of Holy Family Ince Blundell

Our Lady of Victories, Hightown

Email: olovfib@caol.org.uk / Tel.: 0151 936 1533

Website: <https://olovfib.org.uk/>

Presbytery: Sandy Lane, Hightown, L38 3RP

Parish Priest: Fr Sergio Haro

Archdiocese of Liverpool, Reg. Charity Number 1199714

OLOV, Hightown: Sort Code: 40-29-12, Account: 01544993

Holy Family: Sort Code: 40-29-12, Account: 71545094



Second Sunday of Advent(A): 7th December 2025



PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus'.

Today's readings help us to prepare ourselves and get ready to welcome Jesus into our lives.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah gives us a beautiful vision of what God wants the world to be like. The prophet tells us, "there will be peace in all of creation and the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord". At the centre of the prophet's glorious vision, as I'm sure that you noticed, is a Child. Isaiah promises: "A little Child will guide them!" So that is what we are preparing for in this holy season. We're getting ready to meet Jesus. In the Gospel reading we are introduced to the figure of St. John the Baptist, who was sent to prepare people for Jesus. He is really an interesting character, isn't he? He is living out in the desert by the Jordan River. His clothes are made of camel's hair; he is wearing a big leather belt around his waist. And he only eats locusts and wild honey. I think he would be kind of scary to meet. But the clothes he is wearing and what he is eating are meant to be symbols — they are signs that he is totally devoted to God and to doing God's will in his life. John's message is the beautiful message of God's mercy and forgiveness. He is calling all of us to change our lives. "Repent, Prepare the way of the Lord, Make straight his paths!"

That's what this holy season is all about: Advent is a time for conversion. Advent means making a new start in our personal lives. Real conversion means really changing the way we live. That's what the word "repent" means. To change our lives — so that we are ready to live as Jesus wants us to live.

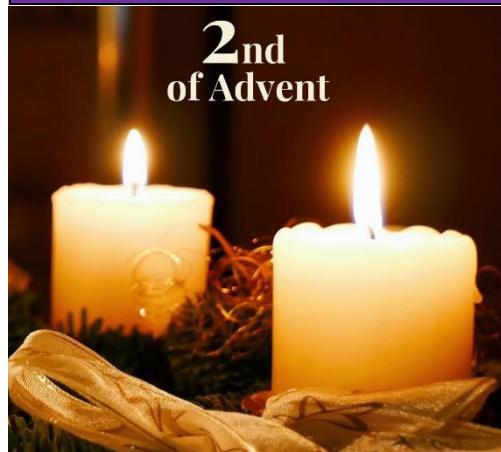
St. John the Baptist gives us some good advice in our Gospel today. He tells us, first of all, that we need to acknowledge our sins. Yes, we need to accept our weaknesses. We need to admit that we need God's help, that we need his forgiveness, his love, his strength.

As you know, all know, even Pope Francis, when they asked him to describe himself, he said very simply, "I am a sinner." But then he said right away, "and this is what I said when they asked me if I would accept my election as Pope: I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of our Lord Jesus Christ, and I accept in a spirit of penance." What a beautiful example! And that is exactly what St. John the Baptist is talking about today. We need to acknowledge our sins. We need to have a spirit of penance. And we need to trust that Jesus is always patient with us. He has infinite mercy. We need to trust that God's mercy is greater than any of our sins. That's why this holy season is a wonderful time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to go back to confession. Because in the Sacrament of Penance we find that Jesus is there — waiting to forgive us. Waiting to show us his infinite mercy and give us the strength of his grace. So, that's a good resolution during this season of Advent — to be able to prepare ourselves to receive Jesus on Christmas day.

But then, St. John the Baptist also tells us that we have to **produce good fruit as evidence of our repentance**. Real conversion and good deeds are a wonderful program for this Advent season, but it is demanding. It requires to deny ourselves and to let God act in our lives. And then believe me, we will feel a beautiful sense of spiritual freedom. We will find that we are working with God's strength, not with our own. We will find that we are doing all of this, not for ourselves, but for the love of God and the love of others. In our busy lives, because we all are very busy especially at this time as we prepare for Christmas: there are so many things that we are supposed to do. And four weeks is not enough time to be really well-prepared for this season of holiness. Let's find more time for prayer. To be with our Lord. To spend time before the Blessed Sacrament. And that's what conversion is all about! That's what repentance should mean for us. So, this week, let's try to keep saying the words of Jesus: "Not my will but Yours will be done".

Father Sergio, Parish Priest

**2nd
of Advent**



VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

Matthew 3:1-6 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT CYCLE A

First reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fatted calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord

Second reading: Romans 15:4-9

Brothers and Sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 72(71)

R:/ In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice, and your poor in right judgement. R:/

In his days justice shall flourish, and great peace till the moon is no more. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the River to the bounds of the earth. R:/

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry, the poor who have no one to help. He will have pity on the weak and the needy, and save the lives of the needy. R:/

May his name endure for ever, his name continue like the sun. Every tribe shall be blest in him, all nations shall call him blessed. R:/

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.