

# THE PARISH OF ST CHARLES AND ST THOMAS MORE

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**PARISH PRIEST**

**& Vocations Director** Fr James Preston

**Deacons**

Rev Paul McNicholl  
 Rev Jeremy Mitchinson

**Office Admin**

Mrs Val Hogg

**Primary School**

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 Liverpool L17 7JA.  
 Tel. 0151 727 5830

**Headteacher**

Mrs A Roberts

Newsletter items to [mart.wood52@gmail.com](mailto:mart.wood52@gmail.com) by 8pm on **Wednesday**

## 4rd Sunday of Advent (A) - 18th December 2016

DAY	FEAST	TIMES	MASS INTENTION
Sat 17th Sun 18th	<b>Vigil</b>	5.00 pm 9.30 am 11.00 am 3.00 pm	Parishioners David Roberts (A) Thomas Power (A) <b>Children's Nativity with Carols</b>
Mon 19th		10.00 am	Sick & Retired Priests
Tue 20th		7.00 pm	Fr James Essandho (A)
Wed 21st	<b>Requiem</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Katie Fagan</b>
Wed 21st	<b>Children's Advent Service</b>	<b>2.00 pm</b>	
Thu 22nd	<b>Requiem</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Veronica Pemberton</b>
Fri 23rd		No Mass	
Sat 24th	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	10.00am	Keith Byrne (sick)
	<b>Family Mass</b>	5.00 pm	Novena of Masses
	<b>Midnight Mass</b>	12 midnight	Novena of Masses
Sun 25th	<b>Christmas Day</b>	9.30 am 11.00 am	Novena of Masses Novena of Masses



*The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us.'*

*Matthew 1:23*

**Confessions:**

Tue. 6.15pm—6.45pm  
 Sat. 4.30 pm - 4.50 pm

**PLEASE PRAY** for all who are sick and housebound or in hospital, for all those who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

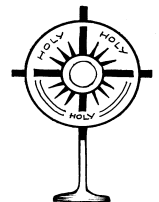


**ANNIVERSARIES:** Thomas Power, David Roberts, Fr James Essandho, Christopher Duffy, Catherine Hughes, Alison Mary Hughes, Margaret Rita Cooney, Francis Gerrard, Kevin William Norris, James O'Hare, Constance Veronica Costello, Arthur Gordon Fryer, Sheila Anne Calvey, Josephine Fagan.

**LATELY DEAD:** Veronica Pemberton, Katie Fagan, Victor Waterman, Brian Brookes, Christopher Woolfall.

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Tuesday in Advent 6pm - 7pm with the opportunity for Confession during this time.



### SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE

**Mass: 10.00am**

**Confessions: 10.30—11.00am**

The **Sanctuary Candle** is lit this week for **Alexander Rey** and the **Marian Candle** is lit for **Mary Rey**.



## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Congratulations on wanting your child to receive the gift of Baptism. Please see Fr James after Mass to discuss it. A date can be arranged, for a Sunday, after completion of a three-week course.

**Courses are held in:**

**January** for baptisms in **Feb, March and April**

**April** for baptisms in **May, June and July**

**July** for baptisms in **Aug Sept and Oct**

**October** for baptisms in **Nov, Dec and Jan.**

## LOURDES FUNDRAISING

Many thanks to you all for your incredible generosity. The chocolate raffle has raised £478 towards the cost of the Youth Group going to Lourdes in 2017. We really appreciate your kindness.

Blessings from the Youth Group .

## MUSIC ON 25 DECEMBER

9.30 am MUSIC GROUP

11.00am ORGAN



## OFFERTORY 10/11 December

Plate: £504.18 Envelopes: £724.67 S/O: £398.25

**Total: £1627.10**

Lourdes Tea Money £22.92

Ghana £62.08

**Thank you for your generosity.**

## MASS ATTENDANCE 10/11 December

5.00pm: 141 9.30am: 164 11.00am: 187

**TEA AND COFFEE** will be served after all Masses today. All proceeds to the Lourdes Fund.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2016

**Christmas Eve:** 5.00pm and Midnight

**Christmas Day:** 9.30am and 11am

**Boxing Day:** 12noon



## Children's Nativity with Carols



This will be held **THIS AFTERNOON** at 3:00pm. This is a service for children, and by children, to help them celebrate the message of Christmas.

We need volunteers to read and take part in the tableau. Please put your child's/children's names on the two separate sheets at the back of church indicating their preference.

## MEMORIAL CANDLES FOR CHRISTMAS

On Christmas Eve, and during Christmas week, oil candles will be lit and left burning for 7 days around our church in remembrance of our loved ones. Each candle will have the name of the person in whose memory it is dedicated written on it.

If you would like a candle to burn in memory of one of your loved ones please place £5 in an envelope along with their name. Write 'Memorial Candle' on the front and post it through the letterbox at the Presbytery or leave it in the sacristy.



## Christmas Day Mass Intentions.

Many parishioners ask for a Mass to be said on Christmas Day. To try to accommodate everyone, as in previous years, we will have a Novena of Masses. If you wish someone to be remembered please put their name and a donation in an envelope and hand it in to the parish office.

## ASSIN FOSO, GHANA FUNDRAISING

**TWIDDLEMUFFS AND KNITTED HATS** will be on sale at the back of church throughout Advent.

A **Twiddlemuff** is a double thickness hand muff with bits and bobs attached inside and out. It is designed to provide warmth and stimulation for restless hands particularly for people suffering from dementia.



### First Communion Parents Meeting

If you haven't already done so please contact the parish office and make an appointment for the next parents meeting with Fr James.



### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to God's family **Niamh Catherine Fearon** who will be baptised today.

Please remember her and her family in your prayers.



### Cuppa and Chat

We have now closed for the Christmas break. We re-open on Monday, 9th January, 2017. Happy Christmas to all.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS** are at the back of the church, in street order per area. If anyone can take a set or two and deliver them it would be very much appreciated. Please return any spares to the church or the Parish Office. Thank you.

### MARRIAGE ENQUIRERS

For all enquirers about weddings please see Fr. Preston after one of the weekend Masses. Wedding bookings and preparation cannot be arranged by email. If you are getting married at St. Charles and St. Thomas More, or abroad, six months notice is required for the necessary paperwork to be completed.

### CAFOD FUN RUN

Join the annual CAFOD Fun Run on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December for a fun post-Christmas day out for a great cause. Run, walk or toddle the 3k or 7k routes. For event details visit [cafod.org.uk/Events/Liverpool-Fun-Run2](http://cafod.org.uk/Events/Liverpool-Fun-Run2)

**Children's Nativity** - there will be a gathering after the service. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

**PIETY SHOP** Christmas Cards and gifts for sale in the Piety Shop, open before and after all week-end Masses.

### Annual Parish Carol Service

Our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Carol Service takes place at 6pm on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at St Anne's church located next to St Margaret's school on Aigburth Road. We are pleased to team up with the parishioners and choir of St Anne's in a joint celebration of Christmas and our choir has been practising each Tuesday with St Anne's. Please do come along to support the combined choir and this joint initiative with St Anne's parish.

### IF SOMEONE IS ILL

If you, or someone you know of, becomes ill, goes into hospital, or is no longer able to get to Mass, please contact the parish office 0151 727 2493.

**PRESENTS for PRISONERS' CHILDREN** - as last year, gifts of stationary, jigsaws, games & toys would be appreciated. Please leave unwrapped.

### PRAYER INTENTION BOOK

A book will be placed near St. Anthony's statue to write your prayer requests which will be offered to God at the week-end Masses.

### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE AND THE MARIAN CANDLE

can be requested for many reasons. A dedication to a member of your family, young or old, living or dead. For a friend who is in need of prayer. An anniversary, or for yourself for a private intention. Choose a particular week throughout the year, put the name and date on an envelope together with a donation and give it to Fr James or bring it to the parish office.

### THE ART OF DYING WELL prayer cards.

**The Art of Dying Well** is a new website that offers a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying. Based in the Catholic tradition but open to all, it features real-life stories dealing with the journey through death to eternal life. [www.artofdyingwell.org](http://www.artofdyingwell.org).

## ADVENT SERVICE on

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 2.00 pm in St Charles Church led by the school children. All are welcome.



## SAFEGUARDING

The Archdiocese requires all volunteers to be DBS checked before assuming roles. If you would like to be involved in any of the Parish ministries please contact Ann Firkins or Christina Reilly (the Safeguarding representatives). Information is also available from the Parish Office on Monday to Friday between 9:00am and 2:00 pm. Thank you.

## Retreat Weekend Away for Parish Young People

(of secondary school age 11-18)

**17- 19 March 2017 in Keswick.**

Transport to Keswick by parish minibus leaving the parish Friday, 17 March to arrive in time for supper in Keswick. Minibus returns to the parish in the afternoon of Sunday, 19 March. Cost is £45 per young person or £80 for two siblings.

*All details will be confirmed closer to the date. Any questions? Please contact the parish office.*

## ANNUAL APPEAL FOR THE HOMELESS

Many thanks to all those people who answered our appeal for the homeless. The Missionaries of Charity will distribute these items to the poor and homeless in Liverpool. Thank you once again for your kindness.

## Justice and Peace Group St Charles and St Thomas More



**A plea from the Holy Land this Christmas time**, from the Kairos movement of Christian Palestinians “We, a group of Christian Palestinians, after prayer, reflection and an exchange of opinion, cry out from within the suffering in our country under Israeli occupation, with a cry of hope in the absence of all hope. The reality on the ground is one of Israeli occupation: the dehumanising effects of the Separation Wall, of Israeli settlements that ravage our land, humiliation at checkpoints, restrictions on religious liberty, and the suffering of Jerusalem where homes are being expropriated and demolished.” Our plea to the world: “We declare that the occupation is a sin against God and humanity because it deprives Palestinians of their basic human rights. The mission of the church is prophetic, to speak the word of God courageously, honestly and lovingly in the local context and in the midst of daily events. Our option in the face of Israeli occupation is to resist. But it is resistance with love as its logic. Our message is to the Muslim and the Jew. Our question to the churches is: “Are you able to help us get our freedom back?” Have you realised that this is the only way you can help two peoples attain justice, peace, security and love? We call on you to take a position of truth with regard to Israel’s occupation of Palestinian land. We see boycott (of Israeli goods) and divestment (from Israeli companies or companies that do business with Israel) as nonviolent tools for justice, peace and security for all. Our word to the international community is to stop the double standards and insist on international resolutions regarding the Palestinian problem.” We pray not for Arab or Jew, for Palestinian or Israeli, but we pray for ourselves that we may not divide them in our prayers but keep them together in our hearts. For more information about Kairos Palestine email: [info@kairospalestine.ps](mailto:info@kairospalestine.ps) about Kairos in the UK: [www.friendsofsabeel.org.uk](http://www.friendsofsabeel.org.uk) or [www.kairosbritain.org.uk](http://www.kairosbritain.org.uk) about local campaigning: <http://liverpoolfriendsofpalestine.co.uk>

Come and join us here at 6.00pm on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2017 for our first monthly meeting of the New Year. Thank you for all your support