

CHRISTMAS MASSES: Christmas Masses at St Chad's this year will be as follows: Thursday 24th December: 8pm (Midnight Mass)
Friday 25th December: 9am (Morning Mass)
Saturday 26th December: 7pm (Feast of the Holy Family- Vigil Mass)
Sunday 27th December: 9am (Feast of the Holy Family)

As with all our Masses, places will need to be booked in advance on a first come first served basis. The Bishops have reminded us that with the lifting of the Holy Day of obligation at this time, attending Mass at any time during the Christmas Octave (which runs until January 1st) might be an option to consider, since each day is another 'little Christmas'. You will be able to book in person for one of the above 4 services when you are here for Mass starting from Thursday 3rd December. Just let the stewards know when you sign in which Christmas Mass you would like to attend and how many will be in your household/bubble. Bookings by email will then be possible from Wednesday 9th December. (The idea is to ensure that those who come to Mass regularly have sufficient opportunity to book their place.)

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

1. Next weekend (Dec. 12th/13th) there will be a collection for the SVP. If you wish to make an offering, please use one of the SVP envelopes and put it into the normal collection boxes. If you do not pay sufficient UK income tax, please do not fill in the gift-aid slip.
2. Any parishioner who requires information about possibly joining the SVP group in St. Chad's parish should ring Henry McDaid on 07966 784138.

We are also having the following two collections at the moment please:

- 1) 2nd hand clothes, books and DVDs (with a guidance of age 15 or under) for the men of HM Prison Manchester and for the Young Offenders at Forest Bank Prison.
- 2) Donations of Lego / Duplo for the local charity Pure Innovations to do projects with people with learning disabilities.

Please place any contributions in a (labelled) bag, place it in under the table as you come into church.

Parish Safeguarding Reps: Noel Russell and Bernadette McCrory. If you have any concerns about safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, please speak to them or contact them via the presbytery, in the strictest confidence.

Address: Stockport Road, Cheadle, SK8 2AF

Tel: / Email: 0161 428 2480 / **NEW EMAIL:** stchadsheadle@gmail.com

Office Hours: Thursday 11am-1pm

The Catholic Parish of St Chad, Cheadle
Priest: Fr. Sean Davidson

Sunday 6th December 2020 – 2nd Sunday Advent Year B

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Welcome back! Hopefully that's the last time you will be deprived of the Bread of Life. You're back just in time to celebrate the great solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Tuesday. Her conception is celebrated on December 8th and then her birth is celebrated nine months later on September 8th, just as Christ's conception is celebrated on March 25th and His birth nine months later on December 25th. The Church would not normally celebrate the conception of a saint, but Mary is no ordinary saint and it is fitting that her unique conception be honoured since it is inextricably linked to the conception of Jesus.

Because Christ is the all-holy Son of God it was necessary that He be born of a holy mother, herself conceived without original sin and who grew up full of grace. God never gives a person a mission without providing a superabundance of the means necessary to carry out that mission. Since Mary's life's mission consisted of giving God a human face, she had to have a suitable human character and psychology for that task. The flesh and blood of the Lord would be taken from her flesh and blood, His heart from her heart, and so she had to be immaculate. Because of her elevated dignity the "God-bearer" would have to be a spotless masterpiece of every form of human beauty.

The ancient belief about Mary having been conceived without original sin was only put into the form of a dogma by the Church in 1854. By expressing it in the form of a dogma the Church wanted to make clear that this is a truth already implicitly contained within the Christian faith from the beginning and so it should not be the subject of debate among theologians. As though to show the Church that she was pleased by this clarification of what we must believe, the Mother of our Saviour chose to

visit humanity just three years later in the grotto of Lourdes. When asked by the uneducated little visionary, St Bernadette, her name, the beautiful lady replied, “I am the Immaculate Conception...” We can picture Our Lady smiling as she saw that the young girl had no idea what those big words meant, but those words were a clear confirmation that the promise of Jesus that the Holy Spirit would guide the Church into “all truth” has not failed. (John 16:13)

May God bless you all!
Fr Sean

New Parish Email: Please note that we have a new parish email address: stchadsheadle@gmail.com and this will be used from now on – please can you add this to your contact lists so you receive emails as we know a few have gone into the spam folder . The emails will be checked on a daily basis. The old email account will remain active for a few months and will be checked regularly, so don’t worry if you send something there.

***Please pray** for all those who are sick and all those who have died recently. We remember Herbert Thackray, Frances Dowling, Margaret Allen, Frances Crosby, Hilda Cronin, Arnold Hagan, Mary Quirk, Stephen King, Wilfred Connor, Margaret Adamson, Kevin Hardy, Barbara O’Loughlin, William McGuire, Janet Wren, Alex Curtis, Peter Gregory, Florence Lees, Florence Bentley, Dorothy Pickles, Alan Martin and all those who anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.*

Mass bookings: Please remember to book your places for the weekend Masses at St Chad’s by emailing stchadsheadle@gmail.com Monday-Friday of the week you wish to attend. You do not need to book for the weekday Masses or for any Masses at St Ann’s. You will not receive a reply unless there is a problem with your booking.

Confessions: Available on on request. Please telephone the presbytery a minimum of 24 hours in advance to arrange.

Mass Times & Intentions

Sat 5 th	Vigil	St Ann’s	5pm	Joseph Ruine
		St Chad’s	7pm	People of the Parish
Sun 6 th	2 nd Sunday Advent Year B	St Chad’s	9am	Aina & PJ Wims
		St Ann’s	11am	For Dominic Miskelly
Mon 7 th	St Ambrose	St Ann’s	10am	Patrick Higgins
Tues 8 th	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	St Ann’s	10am	Julia Lohan
		St Chad’s	7.30pm	Mary Mellor RIP
Wed 9 th	St Juan Diego Cuatlatatzin	No Mass		
Thurs 10 th	Our Lady of Loreto	St Chad’s	9.30am	Margaret Clayton RIP
Fri 11 th	St Damasus	St Ann’s	10am	In thanksgiving (AMB)
Sat 12 th	Vigil	St Ann’s	5pm	Paddy Bergin
		St Chad’s	7pm	Florence McCarron
Sun 13 th	3 rd Sunday Advent Year B	St Chad’s	9am	People of the Parish
		St Ann’s	11am	John Rodgers

Advent Prayer Service: Every Thursday during Advent at 7.15pm. The Church will be open beforehand from 6.30pm for private prayer.

Mass Intentions: Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Mass will be celebrated privately on days where there are no public Masses, for your intentions. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note that we are now into February with Mass intentions.