

Hymn Numbers: 256 (verses 1,2 & 3), 398, 430 (verses 1-4)

Please pray for all those who are sick and for all those who have died recently. We remember: James Coyle, Alice Doane, Edmund Salter, Norman Roles, Frank Magrath, John Keegan, 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, John Hampson, Peter Gregory those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

Piety Stall: There are now Christmas cards available on the piety stall in the Hall foyer, along with cards for other occasions, books of children's bible stories and rosary beads. All items are priced and there is a box on the wall for your money.

Knit and Knatter: The knitters will be selling knitted Christmas Decorations for £1 and knitted chocolate orange covers (including chocolate orange) for £2.50. Cash only. Raising funds for The Little Sisters of the Poor.

Christmas Raffle: Tickets will be on sale after Masses on 4/5 and 18/19 December and is in aid of Parish Funds. The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 19th December after the 9am Mass. If you have offered to donate a prize, please can you start bringing them in and leaving them in the cupboard at the back of church. Thank you.

Thursday Coffee Morning: Last week raised £48 for Parish funds. This Thursday (9th December) will be in aid of Corner Stones.

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new on line newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order **your Digital** copy by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call us on 0743661 7650 and ask for Michelle. Special offer: Only £20 for 3 months.

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.

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The Catholic Parish of St Chad, Cheadle

Priest: Fr. Sean Davidson

Sunday 5th December 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Advent Year C



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is great to see people already beginning to make their Advent confessions. There is nothing more encouraging for a priest than to know that the sanctifying grace of the sacraments is flowing in people's lives. Receiving Holy Communion after having made a good confession is truly a sanctifying experience. I came across an article on the *Aleteia* website the other day which gave several reasons why it is helpful to start Advent with confession rather than try to squeeze it in just before Christmas. Here is an excerpt from it:

1. New Year, New Start

Advent opens the Church's liturgical calendar. The First Sunday of Advent sets the cycle in motion, beginning a new year. Every confession is a fresh beginning, a new start. As the prophet Isaiah puts it, "Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow." In confession Christ wipes away our sins, opening the door to new life with him.

2. Preparing for the Joy of Christmas

Preparing ourselves to receive him requires first and foremost an attitude of intense and trusting prayer. The sacrament of penance is a powerful prayer, a very great prayer which drives out sin. Casting out the shadows of darkness, we give our hearts over to Christ's light and love.

3. Awaiting the Second Coming

For Christians thinking of Jesus "coming" has a double meaning, a double perspective. We think of Christ's first coming in Bethlehem. Traditionally, too, we also think of his "coming again in glory" as we say in the Creed. Confession readies us to meet Christ, who will come again as our Judge. Will we be ready to stand before Jesus and make an account of our lives?

4. Don't Wait

Last-minute Advent confessions are like last-minute Christmas shopping. The best reason to begin Advent with a confession is that you won't be scrambling in the mad rush before Christmas! You can avoid long lines by taking the time to confess today.

May God bless you all. Fr Sean

Parish Forum: We will hold a Parish Forum Meeting on Monday 13th December at 7pm in the Church Hall. This meeting will provide feedback from the Synod questionnaire and will also give an update on Parish matters. As space in the hall is limited (to allow for social distancing) you will need to book a space if you would like to attend. Please email stchadsheadle@gmail.com or phone Victoria on 07905 519322 to book your space.

Christmas Services:

This year our Christmas services will be as follows:

Friday 24th December: 8pm Midnight Mass

Saturday 25th December: 9am Christmas Day ***Please note there is no Saturday evening Mass this day***

Sunday 26th December: 9am Feast of the Holy Family

We are now taking bookings for all of these Masses. You will only be able to book for ONE of the Christmas Masses (24th OR 25th). The Mass on Sunday 26th can be booked in addition to a Christmas Mass. Please note you will only be able to book for yourselves. Please email if you would like to book a space.

Advent Prayer and Reconciliation service: 7pm-8pm on Friday 17th December. A time of prayer, reflection and music during which Fr Sean will be available to hear confession.

Book Club: The Book Club will meet 7pm-8pm this Thursday (9th December) to discuss St Paul's letter to the Galatians. Please note we will take a break over Christmas and there will not be a meeting in January. We will announce the next book at the beginning of January and will then meet on the 10th February.

300 Club Winners: The November winners were: 114 – Susan Knaggs, 93 – Michael Kenyon, 199 – Bernard Crichton

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Next weekend (December 11th/12th) 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.

Ladies Groups – will meet this Monday (6th December) at 7pm in the Church Hall for Coffee and Mince Pies.

Diaries: St Chad's Diaries are now at the back of church, please take one.

Mass Times & Intentions

Sat 4 th		St Ann's St Chad's	5pm 7pm	Deceased Relatives & Friends of the Bradley Family Ellen O'Shea RIP
Sun 5 th	2 nd Sunday Advent Year C	St Chad's St Ann's	9am 11am	For the parishioners of St Chad's & St Ann's Pat Bowles RIP
Mon 6 th		St Ann's	10am	David Telford RIP
Tues 7 th	St Ambrose	St Ann's St Chad's	10am 6.30pm	Special Intention (AMB) Michael Maguire RIP
Wed 8 th	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	St Ann's St Chad's	10am 6.30pm	David & Mavis Bellwood RIP
Thurs 9 th		St Chad's	9.30am	Sheilagh Tynan RIP
Fri 10 th		St Ann's	10am	James McMenamin RIP
Sat 11 th		St Ann's St Chad's	5pm 7pm	Paddy Bergin RIP Julie Malone RIP
Sun 12 th	3 rd Sunday Advent Year C	St Chad's St Ann's	9am 11am	Anthony Feely RIP For the parishioners of St Ann's and St Chad's

Mass Intentions: Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note that we are now well into the New Year with Mass Intentions. Thank you.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place before Sunday and Tuesday Masses and from 9am-9pm on Thursday.

Confessions: Available 5.30pm – 6.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the sacristy. Available at other times on request by phoning the presbytery a minimum of 24 hours in advance to arrange.

Perpetual Adoration: Every Thursday 9am-9pm. There is a sign up sheet at the back of church. You are welcome to come along at any time during the day.