

The Catholic Parish of St Chad, Cheadle

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R.C. Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity 234025

Priest: Fr. Louis Charuvila Pappy

Parish Secretary – Victoria Holmes: 07905 519322

Office Hours: Thursdays 11am – 1pm - St Chad's and Mondays 10.30am-1pm – St Ann's

Sunday 24th December 2023 – 4th Sunday of Advent Year B

Prayerful Christmas and New Year Greetings. “Behold, I bring you news of great Joy. This day a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord”. That is indeed the wonder and magic of Christmas. For us the city of Bethlehem brings God down. It is easier for us to see God in the form of a little child, though the discovery of God in little Child of Bethlehem needs God's assistance, particularly in the background of pride with which humans envelop themselves.

There was no room in the inn. (LK. 2:7). Christmas is about rooms and roominess, recognition and reception. No room, no time, bursting, people are busy. So, Jesus remains out. That is Christmas rejection. Still this rejection is constant in this world through the form of war, terrorism, intolerance and other forms. We hear the Angel sing, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven; and on earth peace to those whom he favours’. These words connect two disconnected worlds –that is, God's world is connected with the human being's world on the occasion of the birth of the Child Jesus. The song expresses the role of Jesus will play later on in his life on earth. Jesus is to glorify God by his act of saving the world from the bondage of sin and to bring about peace on earth to human beings. It is a moment of hope for humanity because a saviour, who is Messiah, the Lord, is born. It is a moment of reconciliation between God and humanity because a mediator is born. It is a moment of Joy because the transcendent God has become immanent. What does the birth of Jesus signify for me? Fr. Louis.

Mass Times & Intentions

Sun 24 th 4 th Sunday of Advent	St Chad's St Ann's	9.30am 11am	Olive O'Rourke RIP Barbara Milns RIP
Christmas Vigil Mass	St Ann's	5.30pm	Brendan Loftus RIP
Midnight Mass beginning with Carols	St Chad's	8.30pm	Tony Moores RIP
Midnight Mass beginning with Carols	St Ann's	9.30pm	Angie RIP
Mon 25 th The Nativity of the Lord	St Chad's St Ann's	9.30am 11am	Sheilagh Tynan RIP For the parishioners of St Ann's & St Chad's
Tues 26 th <i>St Stephen</i>	St Ann's St Chad's	10am 6.30pm	Bea Bermingham RIP Margaret Bell RIP
Wed 27 th	No Mass		
Thurs 28 th	No Mass		
Fri 29 th	No Mass		
Sat 30 th <i>Vigil</i>	St Ann's	5pm	Frank O'Sullivan
Sun 31 st <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>	St Chad's St Ann's	9.30am 11am	Michael Walsh RIP For the parishioners of St Ann's and St Chad's

SVP: If you are lonely and would like to receive regular visits from members of St. Chad's SVP, and/or you know of other people in this position, please speak to any member of St. Chad's SVP.

Christmas Flowers: if you would like to make a donation towards Church flowers for Christmas, please place your contribution in one of the envelopes at the back of church and place in the offertory basket or post through the presbytery door. Thank you.

Mass Intentions: Envelopes available at the back of the church. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note that we do have quite a backlog of intentions as we only have 3 Masses per week. We will try to list intentions asap, and as near as possible to the dates required. Thank you.

Please pray for all those who are sick. We pray for all those who have died recently. We also remember: Bernard Haynes, John O'Shea, Joan Gannon, Marcella Johnson, Brian De Vince, Elizabeth Wood, Patrick Williams, William Lacking, Monica Furnace, Margaret Broadhurst, Emma Gannon, Bishop Eric Grasar, Neville Coupe, Oliver Kirk, Margaret Frith, Mary Burke, Martin Fury, Winifred Richardson, Peggy Ast, Catherine Connor, Frances Minshall, James Ollerenshaw, William Dixon, Kevin Bancroft, Marjorie Slattery, James Abberton, Doreen West, Desmond Ward, Mary Nicholls, Jack Calderbank, Edith Curran and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

Confessions: every Tuesday 6pm-6.25pm. At other times on request.

Adoration: has now paused and will resume in February 2024.

Thursday Coffee Morning: raised £53 for CAFOD, thank you very much. The Coffee Mornings will resume on Thursday 11th January 2024

St Chad's Players The 2024 pantomime will be Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs and will be performed Fri 26th Jan at 7.30, Sat 27th Jan at 7.30 and Sun 28th Jan at 2.30- Please note that Sunday is now sold out. Tickets (Adults £5 and Concessions £4) will be on sale after the Sunday masses from this weekend or can be reserved by ringing John Murray on 282-5567 or 07836-355182.

Wellspring: Next Sunday (December 31st) is the last Sunday of the month and so there will be the monthly collection for Wellspring. The items particularly needed are bread, chocolates, multi-packs of chocolate biscuits and crisps, tins of custard, rice pudding and mixed fruit, tinned, fresh or frozen meat and vegetables, cooked meats for sandwich-fillings, cheese, long-life milk, sugar, coffee, cordial, baked beans, ketchup, mayonnaise, brown sauce, gravy, cooking oil, butter, pepper and eggs. Thank you.

Knit and Knatter: have raised £543 for The Little Sisters of the Poor. Thank you to all our knitters and knatters and to all those who donated and bought our items.

Retrouvaille – Do you need in your marriage? Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or there is a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Lourdes Hospitality Update Further to the recent AGM, the officers have been meeting monthly to discuss the issues raised and future plans. A face-to-face meeting for all members will be held on Saturday 20th January 2024 (venue and time to be confirmed). In the meantime, if you have any questions for us, please send an email to : secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

Used Christmas Cards: the SVP will collect used Christmas Cards for remaking by Mini Vinnies into new Christmas Cards to go to families of prisoners next December. Please put your used cards into the black bag at the back of church. Thank you

Baptisms: Please note there will be NO COURSE in January. The next course will be Thursday 1st February 2024 at 7pm at St Ann's. You can book a place by emailing stannscheadlehulme@gmail.com. Please bring the completed Baptism Request Form (download on our website) with you to the course and only then will the date for the baptism be confirmed.

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.

We will pray the Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood at the end of Sunday Mass: Eternal Father, We thank you for every priest who has faithfully given his life for the salvation of his brothers and sisters. We give thanks to those priests who have brought us your Word of truth, the grace of the Sacraments and, above all, the supreme gift of the Holy Eucharist. Father through your Son Jesus Christ, who called the Apostles to follow him, we ask you to raise up new and generous vocations to the priesthood in our time. Send forth the Holy Spirit to open the hearts of a new generation to your call and enable them not to be afraid, but to recognise the joy of giving their whole lives in love. Through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen