

The First Sunday of Advent, (C)
2nd December 2018

FIRST READING (Jeremiah 33.14-16)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 24)

R/. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

2. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.

3. His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.

SECOND READING (I Thessalonians 3.12-4.2)

A reading from the First Letter of S Paul to the Thessalonians

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL (Luke 21.25-28,34-36)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and

great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

LARGE PRINT Would magnifying sheets and large-print hymn books be of help to you? Just ask one of the sidespeople.

Services this week

Sun	2nd	ADVENT SUNDAY
Mon	3rd	S Francis Xavier no mass
Tue	4th	6.15pm mass
Wed	5th	10.30am mass (St Aidan's)
Thu	6th	6.15pm mass
Fri	7th	S Ambrose: 10.00am mass
Sat	8th	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM 10.30am Sung Mass
Sun	9th	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8.00am mass 9.15am Sung Mass (St Aidan's) 10.30am Sung Mass 6.30pm Evensong & BenedictioN

Advent Candles

*Before the Peace at Sung Mass, the response to the prayer is: **Blessed be God for ever.***

After the Candle has been lit, we say together:

Lord Jesus, Light of the world, born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a king: Be born in our hearts this Christmastide, be king of our lives today.

Mass Booklets If you wish to kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer, please do so as soon as the Benedictus has ended, rather than after the Priest as resumed saying the Prayer.

We are excited that four of the younger members of our congregation are being Admitted to Communion Before Confirmation at this morning's 10.30am Sung Mass. Please pray for Dorcas, Mervin, Nikki and Zara as they begin this new stage in their pilgrimage. In answer to the question: "Will you help them to grow in faith and love?" we answer: **We will.**

Please take this Mass Sheet home with you.

WELCOME to our worship today, whether at St Augustine's or St Aidan's. Join us singing and speaking praise to God: join us also in keeping silence, in listening to the voice of the Lord. Hymn numbers are not normally announced but are listed on the hymn boards. Please stay behind after the 10.30am mass for tea, coffee and toast in the Parish Hall.

Love and respect of the Eucharist
Come to Mass on time, and participate actively.
On receiving the Eucharist frequently and mass attendance during the week:
The Church invites us to receive the Eucharist frequently. Consequently we should go to Mass not only on Sundays but also during the week if our schedule permits.

Immaculate Conception of the BVM This Solemnity is celebrated on Saturday, with a Sung Mass at 10.30a,

Christmas Fair Including after-sales, our Christmas Fair raised £2,662. A very big "Thank you" to everyone.

Christmas Flowers Contributions towards our flowers at Christmas can be given to Joyce Harwood at St Aidan's, or placed in the box provided at the back of St Augustine's. Thank you.

Christian Nurture

"The Lord's Prayer" - Exploring the richness of the prayer that Jesus gave us. Continues this Wednesday at 7.30pm.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Fr Tony will be available to hear confessions in preparation for Christmas as follows: Today: until 12.30pm; Thursday 20th 5.15-6.00pm; Saturday 22nd 10.30-11.30am; and Christmas Eve, 10-11pm. If none of these times is convenient, please see him to arrange one that is.

Toy Service Next Sunday's Family Service will also be our annual Toy Service. Please bring new and unwrapped toys, games etc which will be donated to the Bolton Lions for distribution to needy Bolton families for Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

Christingle Our Christingle Service is also next Sunday, at 2.00pm. There are collection candles and envelopes to support the work of the Children's Society at the back of church. Before the service there will be a Children's Party in the Parish Hall, following on from the Family Service: any child wishing to attend **must** have let Ruth know already, or let Fr Tony know today.

Supporting our Brothers and Sisters **St Mark, Chadderton** (OL9 0HR) Feast of Dedication, Saturday 15th December, 12.00pm, followed by a buffet lunch. Everybody welcome.

Churches Together Joint Advent Service This evening St Andrew's Methodist Church, Tonge Moor Road, 6.00pm. Everyone is invited and welcome.

Fusion Film Club are showing "It's A Wonderful Life" at the **Eldon Street Extra Care Unit** on Lansdowne Road, on Monday 17th December at 1.00pm. No booking needed, just turn up.

Advent Tea The Church at the Centre have invited us to join them for food, fellowship and Carol/Christmas singing on Saturday - the 7th December, 4.30pm till 7.00pm at the Tonge Children's centre. Please let Fr Tony or Pam know if you'd like to go (for catering purposes).

Volunteers As part of our Health & Safety review, would anyone (suitably qualified) like to offer their services as First Aiders or Emergency First Responders? Please see Fr Tony or one of the wardens. Thank you.

Grub Tubs Please remember the word of Urban Outreach when you do your regular shopping. If each of us brought just one item each Sunday, their work could be transformed. Of course, you can still bring more! Thank you.

Church 2019 Filofax-style diaries Fr Tony now has only **1** of next year's diaries available, at just £5.

The Sick: Emma Davidson, Hamish Beattie, Kate Lamb, Fr Patrick Davies, Eileen Hobson, Natalie Hill, Nancy Shannon, Neil Teixeira, Sidney Strong Jr, Maureen Holroyd, Sid Strong, Doris Willan, Rose Pollitt, Victor Riley, Ashley Schofield, Christopher Hickey, Theresa Stott, Sandra Anderson, Dawn Randle

Departed: Agnes Gregory

Anniversaries:

Sun 2nd	Albert Tong, Harriet Bennett, Robert Dewar, Emily Mather, Denniss Pauley (Pr).
Mon 3rd	William Mason, Helen Smith, George Ashworth, Michael Moss, Emma Darke, Doris Kendall.
Tue 4th	Charlotte Porter, Hubert Medd Hall (pr), Ralph Rawlings, Clara Weaver, Joseph Greenhalgh.
Wed 5th	Harry Jessop, Nellie Gorman, James Fletcher.
Thu 6th	Sarah Ramsden, Sarah Greenhalgh, Nancy Rudd, Tony Hogan, Len Morris, Karen Vail.
Fri 7th	Joyce Fairclough, Esther Thorpe, Winifred Halliday, Geoffrey Settle.
Sat 8th	Joseph Hall, Mabel Stansfield, Louis Woodcock, William Marcroft, Alec Dawson.