

**READINGS AT MASS,  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C**

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Ps 24: 1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

**First reading** Jeremiah 33:14-16

**‘I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David.’**

Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 25(24):4-5b. 8-9. 10, 14. R 1b

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

O Lord, make me know your ways.

Teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth, and teach me;

for you are the God of my salvation.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

Good and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he shows the way to sinners.

He guides the humble in right judgement;

to the humble he teaches his way.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

All the Lord’s paths are mercy and faithfulness,

for those who keep his covenant and commands.

The Lord’s secret is for those who fear him;

to them he reveals his covenant.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

**Second reading** 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

**‘May the Lord establish your hearts for the coming of Christ’**

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Finally, then, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

**Gospel Acclamation** Psalm 85(84):8

Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy,

and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia.

**Gospel** Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

**‘Your redemption is drawing near.’**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

‘But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

**The Gospel of The Lord,**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

**Communion Antiphon** Ps 84: 13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase

*Newsletter for the Parishes of*  
**Our Lady and the Apostles, St. Ambrose and St. Vincent de Paul**

Telephone: 0161 480 2489 Email: stockport3parishes@gmail.com

Websites: [ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/](http://ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/) [stambrosechurch.org.uk/](http://stambrosechurch.org.uk/) [stvincentbramhall.org/](http://stvincentbramhall.org/)

Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Onuoha Email: [frifeanyimom@yahoo.com](mailto:frifeanyimom@yahoo.com)



**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 1st December 2024**

You can join us via this Live Stream link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/ourladystockport> (for Our Lady’s church) or [Stockport Parishes - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) (for both St. Vincent’s and St. Ambrose’s)  
The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity 234025



Date	Feast	Time	Church	Mass Intention
<b>Sunday 1st December</b>   	<b>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	9.30am	<b>St Vincent's</b>	George Carroll RIP, Ann
		11am	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Maurice Higgins RIP
		2pm	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Igbo Holy Mass
			<b>Our Lady's Baptism</b>	Baptism, Ikem Micah Offor, at 2pm Mass
<b>Monday 2nd December</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	9.30am	<b>St. Ambrose</b>	World Peace and End to all Wars
<b>Tuesday 3rd December</b>	<b>St Francis Xavier, P, R</b>	9.30am	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Natalya’s Father
<b>Wednesday 4th December</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	9.30am	<b>St Vincent's</b>	Owen Lee RIP
		1.45pm	<b>Aquinas College</b>	Holy Souls
<b>Thursday 5th December</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	9.30am	<b>St. Ambrose</b>	Mr A Bailey RIP <i>St Ambrose Primary School Advent Mass followed by Reconciliation</i>
		7pm	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Souls in Purgatory
<b>Friday 6th December</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	9.30am	<b>St Vincent's</b>	Ian Charles RIP, Ann,
		10.45am	<b>Our Lady's Primary School</b>	<i>Our Lady's Primary School, Advent Mass in School</i>
<b>Saturday 7th December</b>	<b>St Ambrose, B, D</b>	9.30am	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Pete Ormisher RIP
		5pm	<b>St Ambrose</b>	Our Parish Family <i>St Ambrose Feast Day Celebration after Mass</i>
		6.30pm	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Andrew Campbell
<b>Sunday 8th December</b>	<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	9.30am	<b>St Vincent's</b>	Aleen Boor RIP
		11am	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Rita George RIP

There is **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Holy Hour** before every weekday morning Mass from 8:30am—0930hrs and before every Sunday Mass.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available after 9.30am Mass on Saturday morning.

*Please pray for those preparing to receive the sacraments*

**Baptisms:** New Baptism classes will start in October. Contact the parish office.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults):** Are you or anyone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church or wish to know more about the Catholic faith? Please join us after the 11am Mass every Sunday at Our Lady’s. Start date to be announced soon.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION:** Please register with the parish office as soon as possible.

**WEDDINGS:** Please speak to Fr Martin after Mass or contact the parish office.

**SAFEGUARDING LEADS FOR THE THREE PARISHES :-** St Vincent’s-Judy Carey [carey.judith@yahoo.com](mailto:carey.judith@yahoo.com) OLATA Ged Murtagh

**Sick List**

**IN ST. VINCENT’S:** We remember in our prayers all the intentions on the St. Vincent’s Prayer Board. Please add your intentions to the Prayer Board in church and you can see who is in need of our prayers on our website under "Thoughts for the week".

**IN OUR LADY’S:** CATHERINE GIBBONS, Teresa Greenhalgh, Jane Coupes, Michael Philbin, Mary Metcalfe, Taya, Hayden Longworth, Peter Stanway, McKenzie Kiely, Pauline Hinson, Eileen McGahan, Barbara Murphy, Michelle Philips, Kelly Brosnahan, Zach Tierney, Irene Cox, Lee Abernathy, Janice Cook, Annie Topping, Marie Kennefik, Nora Reade.

**IN ST. AMBROSE’S:** Walt Tomlin, Roy Porter, Adeel, Vera Gallagher, Michael Gallagher, Molly Lane, Michael Nealon, Colin Burns, Cerys Jones, June Campbell, Mavis Doggett, Khia Whitehead, Mary Sein, Paul Thuoc, Mary Young, Imelda Judge, Veronica Lane, Joanna Winter, Paul McClure, Helen Jenkins, Helen Leasor, Terry Glynn, Leaf Matthieson, Susan Claffey.

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** May the souls of Michael David Smith, Jack Birch, Veronica Norbury, Elizabeth West, Veronica Knowles, Margaret Forester, Anne Sheridan, Raymond John Burke, Stuart Thorneycroft, Bernadette Marsh, Maureen Brosnahan, Brian Thorpe, Michael Thomas Keeley, Teresa Burrows, Graham Kingston, Denise Corlett, Joan Constable, Anthony Way, Richard Laurens, Stefanie Goodfellow, and all the souls of our recently departed rest in peace

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Vincent Gough, John Durkin, Joseph Thorley, Joan Kelly, Bill Matthews, Paula Kiely, Allan Jenkinson, John Shields, Ethel Maguire, Katie Collier, David Williams, Mary Ann Carroll, William Hope, Carole Ann Armes, Brenda Brett, Hilda Satterthwaite, Andrew Callaghan, Arthur Bailey, Teresa Greenwood, Brenda Collier, Leslie Whelan, Raymond (Ray) McNulty, Clive Parsons

**FIRST FORGIVENESS/FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES** Please let the office know immediately if you would like to register your child for these Sacraments in 2025. Please register for the programmes by contacting the parish office - stockport3parishes@gmail.com and completing the required form. Mass attendance cards are at the back of church and needs to be signed by the priest after each Mass.

**BAPTISM CLASSES**—The next course will be in January 2025. Book early via the parish email or phone. If you desperately need the baptism course before January, please talk to Fr Martin.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** are held before every morning Mass in our three parishes. Please join us.

**OLATA CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** - Adjourned till next spring.

**CAROL SERVICE AT OUR LADY AND THE APOSTLES, FRI 13TH DECEMBER.** from 6:45pm. Carols 7:30-8:30pm. Entry for Adults £5, children free. **HELPERS ARE NEEDED!** - see Claire or Tecla after Mass or contact parish office. Donations for the tombola are also needed.

**SERIES OF ADVENT TALKS**—You are invited to a series of talks in Advent to coincide with the launch of the New Lectionary at the Parish Hall, Holy Angels, Hale Barns, Altrincham, WA15 0HG. At 7pm on Wednesday 4th December Fr Paul Denney will speak to us about the new translation of the Lectionary that we will be using at Mass.

On Wednesday 11th December Fr Marco Egawhary will talk on why it is important to pray with the scriptures and how to pray with them. Wednesday 18th December Fr David Irwin will present Dei Verbum on Divine Revelation from the Second Vatican Council. After each talk we will go into the parish church for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and Compline. All are welcome to attend. For further information please contact Natalie Orefice by email Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or telephone 07730526826.

**ST JAMES CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, PARISHIONER CHRISTMAS PARTY:** St James’ school are delighted to invite parishioners to the annual Parishioner Christmas Party at St James Catholic High School in Cheadle Hulme. Friday, 13th December, starting at 11:15am. To help them to prepare, kindly RSVP by 1st December to the Parish Secretary.

**A CHAPLAINCY VACANCY** at HMP Stoke Heath has arisen For a job description and application information: Quote Vacancy Ref: [92268 - Roman Catholic Ordained Priest/Deacon, Religious Brother, Sister - MoJ](https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/2024/12/02/vacancy-ref-92268-roman-catholic-ordained-priest-deacon-religious-brother-sister-moj/) and please contact:

Mohammed Rahman Imam & Managing Chaplain, HMP & YOI Stoke Heath, Market Drayton, TF9 2JL. Tel : 01630 636175 **Closing date: 13/12/2024 - 23:55**

**OUR LADY’S SCHOOL NEWS:** Year 3 and Year 4 have both enjoyed their school trips this week. Year 3 visited Redrock Cinema to see 'Migration' as part of the Into Film Festival. Year 4 had a wonderful school trip to Manchester Museum where they learnt lots of information about historical artefacts including a life-sized tyrannosaurus!

**BISHOP BARRON’S EVANGELISATION AND CULTURE CONFERENCE IN LONDON ON 21ST AND 22ND FEBRUARY.** Join him in London this February for a conference for people who are seeking to gain a deeper appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures and the beauty of the Catholic faith. Go to: [wordonfire.org/the-bible-event](http://wordonfire.org/the-bible-event) for further details and bookings. Venue: The Excel Centre in London.

**MEN’S RETREAT AT THE CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CENTRE STONYHURST, 31ST MARCH TO 5TH APRIL** - A 5-day version of the Ignatian Exercises offered specifically for men (whether lay or ordained), this retreat will be preached by the Benedictine Monks of St Joseph’s Abbey, France. Founded in 1988, this community has retained its charism of a specific apostolate to men and of engaging them through a shortened version of the Ignatian Exercises. One-to-one direction will be offered alongside the talks. More information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-spiritual-exercises/>

**OLD LECTIONARIES AND BOOKS** - The New Lectionary commences to be used from today so the Mass books we have been using will no longer be in use during the Mass. If you would like to take one of the old Mass books home with you, you are welcome to help yourself. If you or the Eucharistic Ministers wish to take them to the sick and housebound and those unable to attend Mass then please do so. We have years ABC available.



**Christmas 2024 Mass Times**

Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Christmas Eve</b> <i>Vigil Masses for Christmas</i>	<b>4.00 pm</b> <b>4.30 pm</b> <b>5pm (4.45 pm carols)</b> <b>Midnight Mass</b>	<b>St Ambrose (Children’s Mass)</b> <b>St. Vincent’s (Children’s Mass)</b> <b>Our Lady’s (Children’s Mass)</b> <b>Our Lady’s</b>
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>9.30am (9.15am Carols)</b> <b>10.00 am (9.45am Carols)</b> <b>11am (10.45am Carols)</b>	<b>Our Lady’s</b> <b>St. Vincent’s</b> <b>St. Ambrose</b> <b>Our Lady’s</b>

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS TO OUR PARISHES.** Please introduce yourselves to Fr. Martin and let the parish office have your email address so that we can send you the weekly newsletter and Sunday reflections every Friday afternoon. Contact us at stockport3parishes@gmail.com.

**11TH JANUARY 2025 MEDICAL OUTREACH MISSION**—A date has been set for Fr Martin’s next Free Medical Outreach in Nigeria - 11th January 2025. A GoFundMe page is now live for donations. For details, please click on this link <https://gofund.me/181ecc20> or scan the QR code. Thank you all, once again, for your invaluable support, without which this crucial annual humanitarian project would not have thrived for the past five years. Please keep the programme in your prayers, as so many depend on it. God bless you.



**THE SVP IN STOCKPORT** has purchased 300 Vinnie Packs defined as “Cold Winter Essentials” and made available to Well-spring, the Men and Women of St Joseph, Food banks and other charities. Packs contain 2 thermal socks, a thermal hat, soap, tooth paste and tooth brush, information and other items.

**MISSIO CALENDARS** are being delivered now. We will be making our final collections of the year at the same time. Thank you for your generosity towards the missions.

**CHRISTMAS POSTERS AND KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS STICKERS** (for your Christmas cards) are in the church, for your taking. Take as many as you wish.

**OUR LADY’S NEWS**

**WELCOMERS NEEDED** for all the Christmas Masses at Our Lady's. The main task is to greet people with a smile and say hello. Please sign up today at the back of church.

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY** -every Sunday in the Guild Room during 11am Mass.

**THE PIETY STALL** - at the back of church has a great selection of Christmas cards, advent calendars, also rosary beads and medals. Open after Mass on Tuesday morning, and before and after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning.



**DONA ONLINE CARD DONATION STAND** - give it a try or continue to use the QR code, or the weekly envelopes & standing order.

**TEA AND COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS** - Come to Our Lady’s Guild Room after 11am Mass this Sunday for tea/coffee and chats.

**ST AMBROSE NEWS**

**DONATIONS ARE REQUESTED FOR CAKES, BISCUITS & MINCE PIES**—for St Ambrose Feast day celebrations, 7<sup>th</sup> December, after the 5.00pm Mass. A box is available at the back of church for items for the Tombola. Refreshments will be available and all are welcome.



**COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE** - There will be a Community Carol Service at St George’s on Sunday 8th December at 4pm followed by drinks and mince pies

**MASS IN SACRISTY** - Weekday Masses will be held in the Sacristy to save on heating costs.

**QR CODE** Please use this QR for online donations for St Ambrose.

**ST VINCENT’S NEWS**

**THE TOY MASS** will be a Children's Mass this Sunday. Please bring your gifts wrapped and labelled, they will be collected by Caritas on Wednesday this week.



**THE TRAVELLING NATIVITY** starts its journey today. Please fill your name in to take it home for a day. Everything you need is in the basket.

**SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER** - 3pm Christingle and Carols with tea and biscuits. Bring your children dressed up as Nativity figures and volunteer for a reading

**PRAYER BOARD** At the start of the Church's New Year we will be refreshing the Prayer Board intentions. Please rewrite the name of the person if they still need prayers and pin it on the board. The Prayer Group pray for all these intentions during their sessions

Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to the Parish Office by 12 midday on Thursday. Kindly indicate parish of choice for your Mass intentions. Bear in mind that dates might not be available.

*Our Lady and the Apostles, Shaw Heath, Stockport SK3 8BQ; St. Ambrose, Adswold Road, Stockport, SK3 3QA; St. Vincent de Paul, 29 Handley Road, Bramhall, Stockport.* The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity 234025 [Data Protection Privacy Notice](#). The parish of Our Lady and the Apostles sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese