

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

Sunday 8 December 2024,

**Entrance Antiphon**

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**Cf. Is 30: 19, 30**

**First reading**

**‘God will show your splendour.’**

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness from God; put on your head the crown of the glory of the Everlasting. For God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven. For your name will for ever be called by God: ‘Peace of righteousness and glory of godliness’. Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height and look towards the east and see your children gathered from west and east, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went forth from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God’s command. For God will lead Israel with joy in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

**Baruch 5:1-9 ·**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. R3**

*Response: What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.*

**Second reading**

**‘Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.’**

Brothers and sisters: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all, making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

**Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 ·**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia.

**Luke 3:4, 6**

**Gospel**

**‘All flesh shall see the salvation of God.’**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ’

**Luke 3:1-6**

**Communion Antiphon**

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**Bar 5: 5; 4: 36**

*Newsletter for the Parishes of*

**Our Lady and the Apostles, St. Ambrose and St. Vincent de Paul**

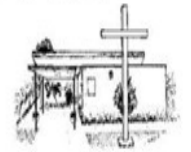
Telephone: 0161 480 2489 Email: stockport3parishes@gmail.com  
Websites: [ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/](http://ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/) [stambrosechurch.org.uk/](http://stambrosechurch.org.uk/) [stvincentbramhall.org/](http://stvincentbramhall.org/)  
Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Onuoha Email: [frifeanyimom@yahoo.com](mailto:frifeanyimom@yahoo.com)



**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 8 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’)

Happy Feast Day to all St Ambrose Parishioners!



Date	Feast	Time	Church	Mass Intention
<b>Sunday 8th December</b> 	<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>Bible Sunday</b> 	5pm <i>(Vigil)</i>	<b>St Ambrose</b>	Celestina Onuoha RIP, 6th Ann, Our Parish Family <i>St Ambrose Feast Day Celebration after Mass</i> Andrew Campbell
		6.30pm <i>(Vigil)</i>	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
		9.30am	<b>St Vincent’s</b>	
		11am	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
<b>Monday 9th December</b>	<b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>	9.30am	<b>St. Ambrose</b>	End to all wars—World Peace
<b>Tuesday 10th December</b>	<i>Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto</i>	9.30am 10.30am	<b>Our Lady’s</b> School Advent Reconciliation Service	Natalya’s Father Our Lady’s Primary School (after Mass)
<b>Wednesday 11th December</b>	<i>Optional Memorial of St Damasus I, Pp</i>	9.30am	<b>St Vincent’s</b>	Souls in Purgatory
<b>Thursday 12th December</b>	<i>Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	9.30am	<b>St. Ambrose</b>	Morrell Family Private Intention. All Schools Carol Service Michael McGlynn RIP
		1.45pm	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
		7pm	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
<b>Friday 13th December</b>	<b>St Lucy, V, M</b>	9.30am	<b>St Vincent’s</b>	Peter D’Souza & Timothy Rodrigues Our Lady’s Carol Service
		6.45pm <i>(carols start at 7.30pm)</i>	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
<b>Saturday 14th December</b>	<b>St John of the Cross, P, D</b>  <b>Vigil Masses</b>	9.30am	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	Elizabeth Ann West RIP Charles Edwards, RIP 1st Ann, Our Parish Family
		5pm	<b>St Ambrose</b>	
		6.30pm	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
<b>Sunday 15th December</b>	<b>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	9.30am	<b>St Vincent’s</b>	Warren Walton RIP Aiden John Egginton—Celebration of Life. Baptism of Olivia Adanna Abah St Vincent’s Christingle Service
		11am	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
		1pm	<b>Our Lady’s</b>	
		3pm	<b>St Vincent’s</b>	

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 -[geraldmurtagh@outlook.com](mailto:geraldmurtagh@outlook.com)  
St Ambrose — Marie Byrne [ma.byrne1@ntlworld.com](mailto:ma.byrne1@ntlworld.com)



### 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 Kenefik, Nora Reade.

**IN ST. AMBROSE'S:** Emma Prior, 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 Christopher Hung Kan-Hai, Warren Walton, Michael Gallagher, Michael David Smith, Jack Birch, Veronica Norbury, Elizabeth West, Veronica Knowles, Margaret Forester, Anne Sheridan, Raymond John Burke, Stuart Thorneycroft, Bernadette Marsh, Maureen Brosnahan, and all the souls of our recently departed rest in peace.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Dominic Fitzmaurice, Joan Matthews, Mary Fox, Patrick Curran, Bill Welch, Barry Herron, Hugh Coyle, Ian Waldron, Joan Kemball, Donal Crowley, Andrew Jansen Moore, Margaret Marshall, Francis Moore

**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.

**ALL SCHOOLS CAROL SERVICE** at Our Lady's on 12th December at 1.45pm. All are welcome!

**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. Fundraising is for Our Lady's Parish.

**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. 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.

**OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWS:** Year 5 led a beautifully reflective Assembly on the theme of Advent and preparing for Jesus' birth - well done everyone for all your hard work. Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair last week.. Our School Choir participated in the annual Festival of Carols at St George's Church this week. It was a wonderful celebration and a lovely start to Advent. Did you know? We now offer Wraparound Care from 8:00am -6:00pm. Please contact the School Office for further information.

**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 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 is now being used, so the old Mass will no longer be in use. If you would like to take one of the old Mass books home with you, you are welcome to help yourself.

**CHRISTMAS FUN RUN** Friday 27th December in Bollington Join CAFOD for the annual Christmas Fun Run in Bollington! Wear your festive fancy dress and take on this joyful run to support communities around the world to lift themselves out of poverty. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors over the Christmas period, whilst also contributing to a good cause. Adult, child and family entrance fees are available. Whether you walk, run or jog, every step makes a difference. We also need of volunteers to help on the day. please contact events@cafod.org.uk or kkeenan@cafod.org.uk for more information.



Christmas Carol Service  
Friday 13th December  
Our Lady And The Apostles Church  
39 Shaw Heath Stockport, SK3 8BQ  
Adults £5 children free  
Mulled wine & Gaelic coffee from 6:45pm  
Carols 7:30pm-8:30pm

### Christmas 2024 Mass Times

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

**FR MARTIN IS AWAY IN ROME** from Sunday 8th December in the evening until the following Thursday morning. He will be representing Maryvale at an international congress and meeting with Pope Francis. The congress is for university professors of catholic theology. Please pray that he has a fruitful and safe trip.

**CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT** will be after Mass on Saturday Mornings at Our Lady's. After Wednesday morning Mass at St Vincent's and Thursday morning Mass at St Ambrose.

**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.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD.** Our Parish Christmas Card is available to buy at the back of church 3for £1. The card is from recycled paper and gives details of our 3 Churches activities on it over the Christmas season. Please consider purchasing this lovely card for your friends, neighbours and family, spreading the Christmas message and events to celebrate such a wonderful occasion.

**11TH JANUARY 2025 MEDICAL OUTREACH MISSION** - 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.



**PARISH DIARIES 2025** are now available in all three churches. Please ensure that our housebound receive their copies.

**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.

**FILM NIGHT CANCELLED ON 12TH DECEMBER** - there will not be a film night this Thursday. Sorry for the inconvenience. See you all in the New Year

**COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** - Next Sunday, 15th December, there will be a retiring collection for Christmas Flowers after all Masses.

**THE PARISH CHRISTMAS LETTER** is available at the back of all our churches. Please take a copy for yourself and also for your friends and family.

#### 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. Please note that there will **not** be a coffee morning on Sunday 22nd December.

#### ST AMBROSE NEWS

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** please put your donations for Christmas flowers in the box, located in the porch.

**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

**WARREN WALTON RIP** - Warren was a parishioner of St Vincent's who sang *May the Choirs of Angels* at many parish funerals. Warren died unexpectedly and his Requiem Mass will be at St Peters Hazel Grove on 11th December at midday.

**DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS** - we will be collecting over the coming weeks so the Flower Group can create a fitting display

**MONDAY 9TH 10AM** - Service of Word and Communion followed by Advent Prayer Group

**WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER** 7 to 9pm LAMB's Christmas Party. Thank you for your donations last week. Help with moving the chairs after Mass and after the event would be appreciated.

**SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER** - Christingle and Carol Event 3pm followed by tea and biscuits. Dress up as a Nativity figure, volunteers to read still being sought! Please contact Sheila Jeffers if you have a small crib set we could borrow as we are hoping to do a display in the porch for the Christingle service and Crib afternoon .

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, Adwood 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 for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).

