



From Sunday's Gospel

When the crowds asked John the Baptist, "What must we do?" He answered, "If anyone has two coats they should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and they said to him, "Master, what must we do?" He said to them, "Don't collect any more than you should." Then he said to some soldiers, "Don't force people to pay money to make you leave them alone, but be satisfied with your pay." By now, a feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John the Baptist might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandal strap."

Adapted from 3rd Sunday of Advent Luke 3:10-18



Pope Francis writes, "My dear young people, "Read the gospels! This way we will learn what is most essential in our lives: love and mercy" Today's word is Mercy. Who did the people think that

John the Baptist might be? In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist prepares the people for the coming of Jesus. He tells them to share with others and to show mercy – to put people (not money or power) first; to feel for those who suffer and to do something to help. Within the Catholic Church, these actions, attending to people's basic needs, are known as Corporal (or physical) Works of Mercy. Pope Francis also writes: **"God is merciful towards us. We too should learn to be merciful."** Merciful people do things out of their love and care for others and this helps make the world a better place. Each time we show 'mercy', we open ourselves to receive mercy from God.

Offertory Collections and Shop Income October 10th

First Collection: £314.46 Second: £58.35 Shop: £289.91 Thank You
Saddleworth Carers' Group: £500.00 Thank You



Sacred Heart & St William

31 High Street
 Uppermill OL3 6HS
www.sacredheartparish.org.uk
 Please visit the website above.

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12th 2021 (Luke's Gospel)

The intentions are as follows:

Saturday:	6.00pm	Doreen Slusar
Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
(People welcome to attend this Mass)		
	10.30am	Jay Barrett
Monday:	9.30am	The Gray Family
Tuesday:	9.30am	Joan Lally
Wednesday:	12.00pm	November Dead List
Thursday:	9.30am	Speedy Recovery (A.McM)
Friday	9.30am	Ian Farrington
Saturday:	10.00am	Lorraine Ackerley
	6.00pm	Anne Jones
Sunday:	9.00am	People of the Parish
(People welcome to attend this Mass)		
	10.30am	Ann McCarthy

Confessions after the Saturday 10.00am Mass and by appointment
Exposition 40 minutes before each weekday Mass

Contact Details: Parish Priest: Fr Bernard Bickers Tel: 01457 872603

Permanent Deacon: Revd Peter Rudd Tel: 01457 876559

Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Tessa Spalding Tel: 01457 873515

Mrs Michelle Moore

3rd Sunday of Advent



John the Baptist is again the central figure in today's gospel passage, responding to the question 'What must we do' to recognise the presence of Christ in our midst. His answer is disarmingly simple—we are to live good and faithful lives, by sharing what we have with those who have nothing, fulfilling whatever roles we have with integrity and not using or abusing other people. Today is 'REJOICE/GAUDETE' Sunday, and **"Joy begins when kindness and love are shared."** Happy Advent.



As in previous years there will be the opportunity of singing THE ONE CARD FOR ALL which is now at the back of the Church. All the proceeds, which can be left in the box with the Card, will be used to buy some CAFOD's World Gifts which will benefit people in the developing world.

There are still a few World Gift catalogues available at the back of the church should anyone wish to take one home. Thank You.

2022 Parish Diaries

These are available for collection at the back of the Church. They are pocket size and have all the, Liturgical Seasons, Holy Days Solemnities, Feasts and Memorials throughout the year. Please feel free to take one home.

Postage Stamps



At this time of the year many of us will be receiving Christmas cards through the post. Rather than disposing of the stamps could we save them and bring them to church to raise much needed funds for the Willow Wood Hospice in Ashton Under Lyne. Thank you, Susan Gibson.

Advent Service of Reconciliation



Advent Service of reconciliation on **TUESDAY 21st DECEMBER** at **7.00pm**. As in the past we will gather together to pray, to listen to God's word of Forgiveness and Healing, acknowledge our need of Forgiveness from God and each other, and celebrate that Forgiveness together.

Please put this date in the diary.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Please make a note of the following Mass Times for Christmas:

Friday 24th December: 9.30am Mass

8.00pm First Mass of Christmas

Saturday 25th: 9.00am Dawn Mass—Live Streamed

10.30am Mass during the Day

Please note there will NOT be a 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 26th: Feast of the Holy Family 9.00am Live streamed Mass

10.30am Mass

Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th Mass at 10.00am (Public Holidays)

Parish Synod Meeting



Our thanks as a parish to Sarah, Elaine and Marie for facilitating the parish meeting a week last Thursday. There was a good turn out and after opening prayers we were split into three groups to comment on the 10 Questions we had received from the diocese. We will receive the outcome of our comments when they have been collated. Watch this space.

Christmas can be a very difficult time for people with

dementia, their families and carers. Changes in routine and extra activities can make people feel unsettled and anxious.

Decisions about how to celebrate Christmas with someone in a Care Home can cause stress for family members. Let us remember all those who are affected in our prayers in these last days of Advent. Thank You

