



**St John Southworth's RC Parish**  
at Holy Saviour's Church, Vulcan St, BB9 8HE  
and Christ Church, Carr Road, BB9 7JS  
**Nelson**

**Parish House:** 5 Park Drive,  
Nelson, BB9 0JY

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**If you would like to receive this  
newsletter electronically, then  
please email the parish.**

**2nd Sunday in Advent  
Year A**



**7th December 2025**



Click on the moneybox to make a  
secure online donation to the parish!

[St John Southworth's YouTube Channel](#)   
Click link for live-streamed and recorded Masses.

## **Advent Reflection**

*During the Season of Advent, we reflect on the three comings of Christ. The first coming was the birth of Jesus as the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy—Jesus born of the Virgin and heralded by shepherds and angels.*

*The 'second coming' refers to the return of Christ at the end of time when he will come again, not in the weakness of human flesh but as the risen and glorified Christ—the Lord of heaven and of earth.*

*The third coming of Christ refers to the appearance of Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, in the lives of those who welcome him into their hearts.*

*The first coming of Christ we remember as an event in human history. The second coming of Christ we look forward to as the fulfilment of a promise. The third coming of Christ we celebrate as a personal, spiritual, and lived reality.*

*The first coming of Christ provides a solid basis for our faith; the second coming is the focus of our hope, and the third coming is the source of our power to overcome our human limitations, and to experience the love of God himself at work within our personal lives and in all our relationships.*

*It's this third coming of Christ that ignites our spiritual lives as we allow Jesus to take up his place at the centre of our hearts, in such a way, that we can experience his intimate presence within us. As St Augustine wrote, all those years go, "Our hearts are restless, Lord, until they find their rest in you."*

*The first coming of Christ was according to the will and timing of God; the second coming is promised, but "at an hour we do not expect!" The third coming of Christ is the only coming in which we have our part to play; the Lord is always knocking at the doors of our hearts, but we can be hesitant in responding to his insistent request to be allowed to enter in.*

*During this time of Advent we are invited to turn down some of the 'noise' in our lives. We don't have the luxury of being able to step out of our daily routines, but we can use every quiet moment to ask Jesus to come closer to us; to make his home with us, and to make all that we do a prayer.*

*Let's not be afraid to carve out some time and space in our busy schedules in order to invite Jesus to come and take up residence within us. Just think how the first coming of Christ changed the world forever! And then just ponder on how Christ can change our own personal world in new and surprising ways.*

*May we who enter seriously into the preparation Season of Advent be rewarded with a 'seriously joyful' Christmas celebration!*

*With Advent love and prayers,*

*Fr Gerard*

## Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 8th December 2025

Monday 8th Dec	Tuesday 9th Dec	Wednesday 10th Dec	Thursday 11th Dec	Friday 12th Dec	Saturday 13th Dec	3rd Sunday in Advent 14th Dec
Mass 10.00am C.C	Mass 10.00am C.C	7.00pm Mass H.S	Mass & Exposition 10.00am C.C.	Mass 12.00 noon C.C. CAFOD SOUP	Embodied Prayer C.C 10.00am	C.C. 9.30am H.S. 11.15am

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
This Sunday: 7th December	Zechariah Javed	Jeremiah Javed
Next Sunday: 14th December	Dawid Zycinski	Luc Mendoza

**Children's Church:** C.C. Mary M & Amanda

H.S. Suzanne, Sarah and the GIFT Team

### Eucharistic Ministry 1st Sunday (C.C. and H.S.)

Francis Ryan	Sarah Kelly
Ewa Zycinska	Joanne Thompson
Khuram Javed	Sheila Cooper
Dawid Zycinski	Venus Ghulam
Margaret Morgan	Dawid Zycinski

### The Immaculate Conception of Mary

This Monday morning, there will be Mass at 10.00am at C.C. to celebrate this great solemnity

### Scripture Reflection for Advent Monday Evenings 7.00pm Holy Saviour's Presbytery

Those who attended the first session last week found it to be an enjoyable and fruitful experience. It's not too late to join this particular Advent journey!

### POUND DRAW WINNERS

£10.00 Fr Gerard  
£10.00 Anne Spain  
£10.00 Sheila Hargreaves  
£10.00 Stephen Fiorentini



£63.00 raised for parish funds. Many thanks!

### CHURCH COLLECTION

Standing Orders: approx: £685 p/w.  
30th Nov: £348.30 Thank you!

### MASS INTENTIONS

Thomas Quirke, b'day anniv, 2nd Dec

### CAFOD

For the Fridays in Advent, Mass at Christ Church will be at 12.00 noon followed by our soup lunch.

### Embodied Prayer at Christ Church

The next session of Embodied Prayer will take place at Christ Church next Saturday (13th Dec) beginning at 10.00am

### Favordale Petition

One of our local care homes is under threat of closure by the local Council. Although all public services are always under pressure for funding, we would like to make our voices heard in the support of care for the elderly which should be one of the priorities of a truly loving society. If you would like to add your name to the petition which is found at the back of our churches, then those who are more actively campaigning would be very grateful for your support.

### BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Dec 7th Jack Brady (2009)  
Dec 8th Chris Paul Needham (1977)  
Dec 9th Charlotte Jones (1999)  
Dec 11th Charles Stockton (1994)  
Darcy Williams (1991)  
Bashir Variyam (2015)  
Dec 12th Florrie Wilson (1987)  
Thomas O'Donnell (1985)  
Thomas T Howarth (1975)  
Dec 13th Joseph Heseltine (1959)



*May the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

### GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW

1<sup>st</sup> prize £100; 2<sup>nd</sup> £75; 3<sup>rd</sup> £50; 4<sup>th</sup> £25

Only two more chances to enter Christmas Draw. As usual all ten week members will be entered into the DRAW ON THE 19TH DECEMBER. There is no weekly pound draw on that Sunday. Thanks, Ian