

WORSHIPPING AT

SACRED HEART CHURCH.

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Saturday 6th December Sunday 7th

6.00pm. Vigil Mass 9.30am. Sunday Mass

The Second Sunday of Advent

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Monday 8th	10.00am Mass The Immaculate Conception of th	e BVM	
Tuesday 9th	10.00am Mass St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin		
Thursday 11th	10 00am Paguiam Mass for Sylvia Hartley PID	Key: Ap. Ab Bp D M	Apostle Abbott Bishop Doctor Martyr Priest
Friday 12th	10.00am Mass Our Lady of Guadalupe	R V	Religious Virgin
Saturday 13th	11.00am - 11.30am Confessions during Exposition ¹		J

St Lucy V M



Saturday 13th 6.00pm. Vigil Mass Sunday 14th 9.30am. Sunday Mass

The Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday

Carol Services at Sacred Heart Church this December.

Our second Carol Service will be on Wednesday 17th December at 6.30pm. It has been organised by the Salford Diocese Music for Schools Programme. Sacred Heart and other local schools will be singing at this event. All welcome to attend.

Christmas Fair

Due to your generous donations and support on the day we made £900! We have also received an individual donation of £1,000. The total will be divided between CAFOD and the Parish Community Group.

Many thanks. Additional thanks to everyone who helped before, during and after the fair.

Church Christmas Decorations -

As in previous years all parishioners are invited to play their part in preparing the Church for Christmas Day. The main focus will be on Christmas Eve from 10.00am onwards, however if this isn't possible you can put your display together after the morning Mass on Tuesday 23rd. You can help by offering to decorate window bottoms either with your own work or on Christmas Eve with provided decorations. Also we will need help with other decorations on Wednesday morning. If you would like to put up your own window display please ring Margaret on 862798 so I have an idea of how many are planned.

Parish Community Support Group

Winter is a most vulnerable time for the homeless. We are collecting clean, warm second hand clothing. This includes trousers, jumpers, socks, hats, gloves, boots, sleeping bags, waterproofs. Please bring items to Mass and leave at the back of the Church. Thank you so much for your generosity and support so far. It is very much appreciated.

We would like to thank you most sincerely for all the support you have given to the Parish Community Support Group especially over the last few weeks with our year end appeals. Thank you also for your support at the Christmas Fair. Our share of the proceeds has given us much needed funds for our many ways of supporting local people who struggle.

Embodied Prayer, Saturday 13th December, Christ Church, 10am - 12noon

Monica will be leading a time of embodied prayer at Christ Church on Saturday 13th December from 10am—12 noon. Everyone is welcome to come along to enter into the experience of embodied prayer which is understood more through experience than by description and explanation! As there is a certain amount of physical movement involved, comfortable clothing is recommended! This gives an opportunity to experience a different concept of prayer, although gestures in prayer are familiar to us all: standing, kneeling, genuflecting, bowing, making the sign of the Cross etc. All are welcome.

Rota for refreshments after Sunday Mass

A new rota for those serving refreshments after Sunday Mass is on the sacristy noticeboard and the website. Please check when you are on and make arrangements for someone else to cover for you if you cannot do a particular week.

B&B STAYS AT CASTLERIGG MANOR

Castlerigg Manor is a Catholic retreat centre near Keswick in the Lake District owned and operated by the Diocese of Lancaster. They work with more than 3,000 young people a year from around the north and beyond. When the building is empty, they offer B&B stays to individuals, families and small private groups and the money this raises supports their mission with young people.

Some B&B dates have opened up this January and February. Specifically, January 5-7th, February 9-11th, and February 16-18th. It's very affordable to book and a nice chance to spend a few days in the Lakes - head to https://castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us/

Sacramental Programme reminder.

The dates for the next programme of preparation for the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation (Confession) are on the Sacramental Programme page on the website. click here
The meetings start on Wednesday the 14th of January with a meeting for parents when the programme will be explained and children's information will be recorded. It will be necessary at this meeting for parents to know where and when their child was Baptised. This is not a meeting for children, it is just for parents to receive information and register their children for the Programme.

The following Sunday children whose names were recorded on the previous Wednesday, will be Initiated into the Programme. This will include them professing their Faith and accepting their Baptism and promising to take part in the Programme. Information about this will have been given to parents the previous Wednesday.

Although the Programme starts mid January, the most important, indeed essential, preparation for receiving Our Blessed Lord in Holy Communion is regular attendance at Holy Mass and a strong familiarity with the Mass. Therefore the invitation to join the programme is extended to children who regularly attend Sunday Mass and who will be seven years of age at the end of the programme.



Our Vision for the Next Decade and the beginning of an Implementation Plan

In March 2025, Synod Members voted on 40 recommendations for our diocese's Pastoral Plan, following a two-year consultation with nearly 30,000 responses.

Since the vote, implementation groups have been formed to further explore some of the key themes identified through the process so far. Together we have been exploring what our diocese should look like in 5 - 10 years and how we might achieve that.

We are building a diocese transformed by the Holy Spirit. That is rooted in prayer, scripture, and a deep sense of community.

We will be...

A Church of Prayer, Listening, and Renewal

We are a community where the encounter with the Jesus we meet in the Gospels and the Eucharist is the very heart of our being, and where scripture and prayer become the foundation of all we do. We are convinced that the synodal way, walking together, listening, and discerning is the path God calls us to follow. This journey may bring challenge, but through change comes hope, growth, and renewal.

Initial Actions building on our Recommendations:

- Develop and share synodal prayers and resources for parish use, focusing on scripture and communal discernment
- Undertake a review of adult formation, looking at our diocese and learning from others

A Welcoming, Inclusive, and Accessible Church

We commit to building a Church that is welcoming and accessible to all, celebrating diversity and inclusion. Our parishes will be places where everyone finds a home. We will nurture our relationships, sharing in each other's joys and sorrows, and celebrating life together as one diocesan family.

Initial Actions building on our Recommendations:

- Review and share parish-specific resources supporting inclusivity
- Support parishes to establish welcome teams
- Encourage synodal listening across the diocese, ensuring that those who feel excluded are heard and supported

A Community of Participation and Representation

Our vision is for a participatory Church, where all people and communities are represented in parish life and decision-making. Leadership at every level parish and diocesan should reflect the diversity of our people. We will foster new forms of formation for clergy and laity alike, empowering everyone to contribute their gifts and talents.

Initial Actions building on our Recommendations:

- Pilot new models of parish leadership teams and councils, ensuring lay involvement and representation of women and diverse groups
- Hold commissioning services for lay leadership teams, affirming and celebrating their roles
- Encourage parishes to share best practices and resources

A Church for Young People and Families

We recognise that today's young people will be tomorrow's leaders. We will work with parents, schools and young people to shape the future, ensuring that youth are fully engaged in parish life, leadership, and service.

Our Church will be family-focused, understanding that family takes many forms, and supporting all in their journey of faith.

Initial Actions building on our Recommendations:

- Continue and expand gatherings for young people and young adults, ensuring their voices shape parish and diocesan life
- Address key concerns such as peer pressure, bullying, and lack of belonging by creating safe spaces and supportive communities for youth
- Make pilgrimages and retreats more accessible by addressing cost and scheduling barriers

A Collaborative and Resourced Community

We will strengthen collaboration among clergy, curia, parishioners, and volunteers, sharing ownership and responsibility for our parishes. Together, we will celebrate our relationships and the unique strengths each person brings.

Initial Actions building on our Recommendations:

- Strengthen collaboration between clergy, curia, parishioners, and volunteers through regular meetings and shared projects
- Identify and address resource needs, including administrative support, training materials, and budgetary support for key initiatives

A Church in Action: Outreach, Dialogue, and Healing

We want our diocese to be known for its outreach and dialogue, both within the Church and with the wider community. We will renew our sense of community, respond to changing demographics, and building our interfaith relationships.

We are committed to healing and changing the narrative with survivors of abuse, ensuring our Church is a place of safety and compassion.

Initial Actions building on our Recommendations:

- Promote the ministry of charity as a core expression of our baptismal calling to love our neighbour, through practical engagement, volunteering, and partnership with Caritas and other diocesan and Catholic organisations.
- Promote interfaith relationships and community cohesion through joint events and dialogue
- Address the needs of those affected by abuse with compassion and transparency, changing the narrative through listening and support

More information at: https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/