

CHURCH BELLS: Unfortunately, the bells will not be fully operational by Christmas due to a vital part from Belgium held up by Customs due to Brexit regulations!

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SILENT VIGIL: Amnesty International, Manchester invites you to join us in our eighth weekly silent vigil calling for a ceasefire and the protection of all civilians in Palestine and Israel. St Peters Square, Manchester, Friday 8th December, 5pm to 6pm. Meet from 4.50pm in front of Central Library next to Father Christmas. Please wear black or dark colours (and please dress warmly!) No placards / No banners / No flags / No chants

REMINDER OF CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

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| Sunday 24 th December | 1000 | Mass of 4 th Sunday of Advent |
| | 1900 | Vigil Mass of Christmas Eve |
| Monday 25 th December | 0930 | Christmas day Mass |

PS FROM BRIAN WOOD: Some time ago, Judith and I went shopping in Cleveleys. We went into one of the charity shops and I took up my usual position, standing near the door whilst Judith examined the contents of the shop. After a while, a lady came and stood next to me. A few minutes later, my nose started to itch so I scratched it. The lady next to me screamed loudly and the whole shop stopped what it was doing and stared at me. The lady then said "I'm so sorry.... I thought you were a dummy!" The whole shop then burst out laughing. Story of my life really. Dear Jesus, let us make good use of Advent as we approach Christmastide.

REPEAT NOTICES

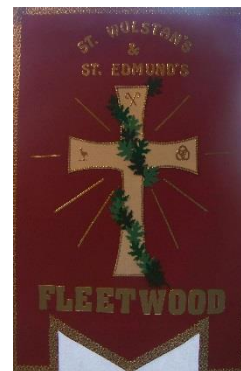
ADVENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION: Will take place on Thursday 21st at 1830 in St Wulstan's Church in spiritual preparation for the wonderful feast of our Saviour's birth. St John Vianney's is also having a service on Friday 15th at 7pm.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEANING: The Church bells are being renovated at the beginning of December, so the original plan of cleaning on the first Monday of December will not now be possible, so, to clean the Church for Christmas, could anyone who can spare a little time to clean on Monday 18th of December come along at 9.30am, entry through the choir door and anyone who can help decorate the Church for Christmas, can they come on Friday 22nd of December at 9.30am Thanks so much!

THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM: After a long interval during and following COVID we are now delighted to be able to renew the lovely custom of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem to give our children the spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ which can so easily get lost in chocolate Advent calendars and visits to Santa. Some of our gifted ladies have crafted two sets of figures which are being given hospitality by different house each day and then brought to church for our Christmas Mass.



Had they been there at the time, I'm sure our children would have made room for them at the inn! This is the message that went out to parents from our school. "In class, we have been learning about Mary and Joseph's long journey to Bethlehem. Children will each have the opportunity to take these beautiful figures home for a night. When it is your child's turn, we would like you to share the story and information at home and then bring them back the next morning. Mary, Joseph and the donkey will begin their journey tomorrow!"



Catholic Parish of St Wulstan's & St Edmund's

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B ~ 10/12/23

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|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Sunday 10 th | 1000 | Agnes Witton (LD) |
| Monday 11 th | No Mass | |
| Tuesday 12 th | 1800 | Kieron Sullivan (RIP) |
| Wednesday 13 th | 0930 1000 | Anne Monaghan (Birthday Anniversary) Holy Half Hour |
| Thursday 14 th | 1800 | People of the Parish |
| Friday 15 th | 0930 | Nicky Callighan (LD) |
| Saturday 16 th | 0900 | Marge Church (LD) |
| Sunday 17 th | 0930 - 0945 1000 | 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B Confessions John Lynch (RIP) |

SUNDAY MASS IS NOW LIVESTREAMED ON YOUTUBE VIA OUR PARISH WEBSITE

The Lady Chapel is open every day from 0800-1700 for private prayer.

Confessions : Sunday 9.30 - 9.45

Collection

3rd December £587.10

Attendance

157

Website - 73 Households

Keeping in Touch:

X (formerly Twitter) <https://twitter.com/ssWulstanEdmund>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.wulstansfleetwood/>

Instagram: St Wulstan & St Edmund



Please pray for: All the sick and housebound of our parish family and also those in care or in hospital.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Brenda Stott, Theresa Hull, Ann Swales, Joan Kilbane, Maria Murray, Helen Spittle, Joan O'Leary, Maureen Robinson, Teresa Hampton.

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES:
Nathaniel Charles Currey 13th December 2015

CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER CALENDAR: This week we are praying for St Paul's Free Church and the people of Broadway, Fairfield Court, Jameson Road, Mariners Close, Rhyl Street and The Ridgeway with the prayer: *May the peace of Christ be in their hearts and their homes.*

NEW NOTICES

BONUS BALL:
Winning numbers for 25th Nov. and 2nd Dec. were 49 and 40 respectively. No-one has these numbers.

HELPING HANDS: Thank you to all who volunteered last Sunday to join the new group formed from our parish SVP Conference, which has now gone into obedience. This group will be a far looser arrangement than the previous formal one but is designed to continue the fabulous work our SVP has done over so many years, for those in need in our parish and the general community. Rather than being tied to a set time and way of doing things, people joining this group will be able to do what they can and when they can. If you feel you'd like to be part of 'Helping Hands', please talk to Sue Gow, Co-ordinator of the group. Thank you.

A PRAYER FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:
Merciful God, you sent John the Baptist to preach repentance.
Forgive us for the times when we have done wrong,
when we have hurt other people and damaged our earth.
Lead us to make a change, to live differently,
preparing away and making your paths straight.
Amen



THE HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND: Do you need help this winter?
Are you struggling to buy food or to pay for household bills?
The Household Support Fund can provide short-term financial help for people struggling to pay for essentials such as food, heating and water.
Please click here [Support for low income households – Wyre Council](#) to view the criteria and make an application now. The scheme closes on 31st March 2024 or before if the funding is spent. You can also visit [GOV.UK - Cost of living support page](#) to find other support available.

FREE HOLIDAY CLUB PROGRAMME – WYRE BOROUGH COUNCIL: Bookings for the Christmas Holiday Activity and Food clubs are now open for children on free school meals. This is Funded by the Department for Education, holiday club places in Wyre are available free to children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals. There are also paid for places available for families that are not eligible to attend for free.
We want children to have fun over the holidays and encourage parents/guardians to book places on their chosen club as soon as they can. To register, a unique HAF booking code is required. This can be obtained from your child's school. Parents can book their children onto a maximum of four sessions.

We're really looking forward to welcoming children once again and have got a great programme of clubs that we will share soon!

RETRouvaille – A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGE: Do you need in your marriage?
Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes.
There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or there is a Face-to-Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

SCRIPTURE ADVENT CALENDAR: If you would like a short reflection or podcast based on the daily Advent readings, please contact martinbennett.substack.com
It's up and running with a new door to open each day. The short articles or the audio version (a 10 minute listen) allow people to know what the readings at Mass are about each day, and how they help us understand and celebrate Christmas more fully. If people would like to have the calendar, and to 'catch up', they simply go to martinbennett.substack.com and click 'subscribe' - it's free, but subscribing means you can open the door each day (from 7:00 am) and can read previous articles. Also, friendly group meet each Thursday, 7:30p.m online to gain a better understanding of the Sunday readings and how they apply to daily life today. If you would like more details, please contact Martin, martwinben@gmail.com

YOUNG AT HEART: There's a new group starting next week for local residents in the prime of their lives. Young@Heart! is for people aged 65 and over and is all about meeting up for good times in good company. The group will get together at Fleetwood Library on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12 noon for a cuppa, conversation and activities. They will also be planning day trips and social events in the future. The group has been set up with support from the **Fleetwood Social Prescribers**, the members of Young@Heart! will be hosting the gatherings each week and taking the lead in the months ahead.
There's no need to pre-book, just pop in, say hello and start making new friends!

A VIEW FROM THE PEW: (Eza Ouseph, 13)
Eza was recently involved in an RTA and is recovering so has not been able to serve mass recently, but we are lucky to have her 'View from the Pew', written a couple of weeks ago about her joy of serving Mass at St. Wulstan's.
What do I feel like being an altar server? I feel proud of myself for being on the altar, as this is my seventh week of being an altar girl. I've experienced a nice group of altar servers and I feel like, being on the altar, I'm doing one of the most important tasks of being a Catholic. I've worked with people who are kind and caring for each other and I've noticed that whoever is doing the candles is asked what candles they prefer (big or small ones) as the older ones care about us and our comfort. For now and always, I would like to serve on the altar.

ALTAR SERVERS' RETREAT: Our annual Altar Servers Retreat is coming up this January. It's just £35 and it's open to anyone in Year 6+. A chance to make some friends and reflect on your awesome ministry in the Church. [More Info/ Book](#)