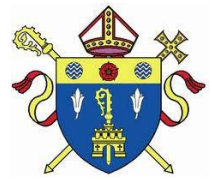




# Third Sunday of Advent (Year B)

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Live Streaming: mcnmedia.tv Find us on Instagram & Facebook  
Priests of the Parish: Fr Philip Conner P.P. & Canon John Watson.  
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## Parish News & Events

Key: SM = St Mary, SG = St Gregory, OLSM = Our Lady & St Michael,  
**Sat 16 Dec 2023 Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent**

17.45 SM Confessions  
18.00 SM Mass (Paul Pearson)  
**Sun 17 Dec 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)**

09.15 SG Confessions  
09.30 SG Mass (Bert & Eva Fagan)  
10.30 OLSM Mass (Margaret Younghusband)  
18.00 OLSM Mass (People of the Parish)

**Mon 18 Dec Week 3 of Advent**  
10.00 OLSM Mass (Adrian Tognarelli)  
18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer

**Tues 19 Dec Week 3 of Advent**  
09.30 SM Adoration  
10.00 SM Mass (Deceased Members of the Sloan/Wilson Families)  
18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer

**Wed 20 Dec Week 3 of Advent**  
12.00 SG Mass (Rafferty & McDonald Families)  
13.15 OLSM Funeral - Barbara Tomlinson  
18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer

18.15 OLSM Mass (Gilbert Fletcher)  
**Thur 21 Dec Week 3 of Advent**  
10.00 SM Mass (Bernard Hanratty)  
18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer

**Fri 22 Dec Week 3 of Advent**  
11.30 SG Adoration  
12.00 SG Mass (Denis McDonald)  
18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer

**Sat 23 Dec Week 3 of Advent**  
07.30 OLSM Dawn Rorate Caeli Mass  
10.00 OLSM Mass (Winnie Lewis)  
10.30 OLSM Confession, Adoration & Rosary

**Sat 23 Dec 2023 Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent**  
17.45 SM Confessions  
18.00 SM Mass (People of the Parish)

**Sun 24 Dec 4th Sunday of Advent**  
09.15 SG Confessions  
09.30 SG Mass (Ted Brown)  
10.30 OLSM Mass (Annie Armstrong & Deceased Family)

**Sun 24 Dec Vigil: Christmas Eve**  
16.00 SG Mass (Mary Graham)  
18.00 SM Mass (People of the Parish)  
18.30 OLSM Mass (Smith & Devlin Families)

**Mon 25 Dec Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ**  
10.30 OLSM Annie & Lawrence Murray  
**Sanctuary Lamps (week beginning 17.12.2023)**  
OLSM: In Loving Memory Rose Moss

**Lady Altar:** Birthday Memories Bessie Cunningham  
SG: Forgotten Souls  
**SM:** Deceased Members of the Hodgson & Forsyth Families  
**Sacred Heart Altar:** 90th Birthday Wishes to Maureen from Leonora

**Please remember in your prayers those who died recently.** Barbara Tomlinson, Funeral Service Wednesday 20 December 1.15pm, Our Lady & St Michael's church. **The sick & housebound:** Catherine Wilson, Mabel Tognarelli, Doreen Doran, Fletcher Ditchburn, Anne Braniff, Dennis & Susan Castleton, Jack Gullen, Veronica Tubman, Joan Rodgers, Margaret McAleavy, Ibrahim Toby Shsha, Maureen Dolan, Brendan McManus, Donald Pettitt, Linda Tallentire, Mary Cronolly, Gilbert Carruthers, Marie Blair, Mary Murphy, Jim Cunningham, Geoff Williamson and Helen Bailey. **And those whose anniversaries occur around this time:** Teresa & Tony Grisedale, James Messenger, Peggy Young, Joseph McCartney, Rose Farrell, Tanya Robinson, Helen Sowerby, Winifred Thompson, Raymond Mandale, Mary Macbeth and Kathleen Murdock. **Thank you** for last week's Offering £707.25, Diocesan Poor Missions £172.59. Details for online banking: Account - LRCDTR Christ the Good Shepherd. Sort Code: 40-27-02. Account No. 91752146.

**Spreading the Joy.** Last weekend we celebrated our Candlelit Carol Service which was very well attended by children from all three of our Catholic primary schools. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the occasion. Most of all the children seemed to enjoy themselves and it was great to see them front stage and giving us all a glimpse of the Christmas mysteries that we are about to celebrate. Last week, our household parishioners received special gifts of Christmas cake, rum butter, mince pies, and other such things to enjoy. Thank you to all our volunteers who are helping to bring something of Christmas to each other's homes.

**Film Night.** A showing of 'The Nativity Story', a film on the first Christmas in the Stella Maris Room on Thursday 21 December at 7pm. Bring your own popcorn and Christmas jumper.

**Rorate Caeli** early morning Latin Mass at 7.30am on 23 December in Our Lady & St Michael's church.

**Thinking of becoming Catholic, or maybe you know someone who is interested?** We will be beginning our journey of faith programme in the early New Year for those who want to find out more about the Catholic faith and would like to become full members of the Church. Please see one of the priests or contact the parish office.

**Christmas Flowers:** Donations for Christmas flowers will be gratefully received. Please mark envelope 'Christmas Flowers' and place in with the collection. Thank you.

**Poinsettia** - If you would like to donate a poinsettia, in memory of a loved one, please bring to church 23/24 December (**4th Sunday of Advent**). We need a volunteer from each church to water the plants, (contact Sharon in the parish office or inform one of our priests). **On Sunday 7 January you are invited to take them home.**

**Crib Offerings.** This year Bishop Paul would like the Crib Offerings to be used for the Friends of the Holy Land. The story of Christmas takes place in Bethlehem and should beg the question what has happened to those first Christian communities founded in the place where our Hope was born. Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) help the most deprived Christian families, especially those living around Bethlehem, in Gaza, Israel and Jordan. FHL is committed to helping these families, it remains the only registered UK Charity with its own office, staff and volunteers in the City of Christ's birth. Further information on FHL is available on their website [www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk)

**Memory Tree in Our Lady's & St Michael's.** An opportunity to write down the names of loved ones who have died and place them on the Christmas tree in Our Lady's side chapel. If you would like to make a donation, we are raising money for the charity, *Mary's Meals*. *Mary's Meals* feed 2.4 million children across the world in their place of education, enabling them to escape the poverty trap and build a better future. It costs just £19.15 to feed one child for a whole year, and the Government is match-funding all donations to this charity before 22 January; all donations will be doubled.

**Christ the Good Shepherd - Christmas card delivery.** Thank you to all involved, whether delivering or someone who has entrusted your cards with us. Cards will be out for delivery this Sunday. £235.80 was raised for the Stella Maris Restoration fund.

**Open Door.** St. Gregory's church-postponed until the new year. St Mary's church hall, Harrington, Thursdays, 10.30am. Our Lady & St Michael's (Stella Maris Room) Fridays, 10.00am. The parish is grateful to Cumbria Community Foundation who are supporting this initiative as part of their Warm Spaces Scheme.

**St Gregory's whole school, Nativity Tableau** in St Gregory's church, Monday 18 December 9.30am - parishioners welcome.

**2024 Lancaster Diocesan Directories** are now available from our Piety stalls - £6.00  
**Altar Servers Retreat** at Castlerigg Manor, Keswick, from 5pm on Friday 12 January - 2pm on Saturday 13 January. Please contact Paul Briers if you would like to go.

### Please take careful note of the Christmas Mass Times.

#### Christmas Eve - Sunday 24 December

16.00 - Vigil Mass of the Nativity at St Gregory's church, Westfield.  
18.00 - Vigil Mass of the Nativity St Mary's church, Harrington.  
18.30 - Vigil Mass of the Nativity Our Lady & St Michael's church, Workington.

#### Christmas Day - Monday 25 December

10.30 - Morning Mass Our Lady & St Michael's (No evening Mass).

#### Other News and Events

**Diocese of Lancaster Lourdes Pilgrimage**, 23-30 July, led by Bishop Swarbrick. Please contact info@joewalshtours.co.uk or 0808 189 0468 for details. There is also a coach for youth which will include a day of sightseeing in Paris, for more information go to: youth@lancasterlourdes.co.uk

*Come, Holy Spirit!  
Give us the grace today to rise up,  
to open wide the doors,  
to go out of ourselves so as to  
draw others to Christ,  
to be disciples and to make  
disciples, that we may walk in your  
ways joyfully and build up Your  
Church across West Cumbria.  
We make this prayer through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*