



# NEWSLETTER

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
CLIFTON STREET, LYTHAM, FY8 5EP  
Parish Website [www.stpeterslytham.co.uk](http://www.stpeterslytham.co.uk)



Sunday 3rd December 2023, 1st Sunday of Advent - Year 'B'  
Parish Priest: Rev Peter D. Clarke - 01253 737037  
Deacons: Rev Michael Harrison - 01253 730508, Rev David Pope 07950844747  
& Rev William Riley (Retired)

## Weekend 2nd / 3rd December - 1st Sunday of Advent

Sat 2nd Dec 6pm St. Joseph's Speedy recovery of Rose Bickerstaffe

Sun 3rd Dec 9:15am St. Joseph's People of the Parishes

### **Sun 3rd Dec 10:30am St. Peter's Gwen Spedding**

**Monday 4th 9am St. Peter's Maria Carlotta D'Cruz** followed by *Exposition & Confessions*

Tues 5th Dec 10am St. Joseph's Josephine Dunne & Tony Crean followed by *Exposition & Confessions*

### **Wed 6th Dec 10am Mass at Saltcotes Cemetery Chapel Johnny Matthews**

Thurs 7th Dec 10am St. Joseph's Holy Souls

## Weekend 9th / 10th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Sat 9th Dec 6pm St. Joseph's People of the Parishes

Sun 10th Dec 9:15am St. Joseph's Intentions of Nolan Family

### **Sun 10th Dec 10:30am St. Peter's Martin Francis Gannon**

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation with Exposition:**

**Monday 9:30-10am at St. Peter's.** Tues: 10:30 - 11am at St. Joseph's

Confession is also available by arrangement with Fr. Peter. Tel: 737037.

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**This week's readings:** During this time of Advent, the Church invites us to focus on Jesus Christ our Redeemer. As we prepare to commemorate his birth we commit ourselves to opening our hearts and minds and renewing our hope.

**1st Reading Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:3-8** - God is the potter and we are the clay, moulded into life with tenderness and care so that God's plan is fulfilled.

**2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9** - Paul recognises and thanks God for the gifts of the Spirit that are present in the church in Corinth.

**Gospel Mark 13:33-37** - Jesus Christ is the Good News. The hopes of the prophets are fulfilled in him.

**Message from Fr. Peter:** And a very Happy New Year, as we begin a new year in the life of the Church - Year 'B' in the Sunday Cycle of Readings which means when we start the Ordinary Sundays of the Year we will be reading St. Mark's Gospel. But before we get there we will have Christmastide and before that Advent, our 4 weeks (actually this year 3 weeks and half a day) to spiritually prepare for our celebrations of the first coming of Christ. Everyone acknowledges that the weeks leading up to Christmas, both inside and outside the Church are some of the busiest of all, and that's true. But Advent is a time when we are asked to take a little time out to remember what we are truly preparing for - a celebration of the birth of a baby in Bethlehem two thousand years ago, would grow up to change the world, and, individually, to change our lives. The Advent Readings in Church focus on the Old Testament Prophecies about the coming of Jesus, most particularly in the book of Isaiah. Do make some time for Christ in your Christmas preparations, and let's look forward to being able to properly celebrate His Birthday here at SJ's & SP's in 3 weeks' time. Or rather, 3 weeks and a half-day (and that half-day might be the extra time we all desperately need!) *Lord Jesus Christ; Give good news to the poor. Bind up the brokenhearted. Comfort those who mourn. Give hope to those who despair. Bring peace to our communities still divided by race and class and politics. Let our cities, towns and villages all be places of joy and beauty, so that all might give praise to you, and always be found watching and praying, and waiting...*

**TODAY is St Peter's Family Christmas Fair** after the Children's 1030 Mass with coffee, tea, cakes, decorations and a children's Treasure Hunt, plus Tombola and Raffle. **DO COME ALONG AND JOIN US!**

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**TODAY - Poor Missions Collection**  
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#### **'Thank You'**

Collection - Sunday 26th November:- **£448.60.**

Diocesan Youth Service:- **£153.90.**

*Many thanks to all who contributed.*

#### **Advance Notice of our Christmas Mass Times:**

Sunday 24th Dec: Christmas Eve. SJ's 6pm Children's Mass of Christmas, SP's 8pm Candlelit Christmas Mass with Carols and Readings from 7.30pm.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec: 9.15am at SJ's and 10.30am at SP's Christmas Morning Mass.

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**DURING ADVENT** (and hopefully once again beyond), St. Peter's will be open for private prayer after masses, or from mid morning, to 3pm in the afternoon, for private prayer and devotion, and a little time for silence and respite in this busiest of busy times. Please take the opportunity for a time of prayer.

Message from Andy Cross  
**MISSIO RED BOXES**

Please could any **RED BOXES** that need emptying for the end of year collection be brought into church and passed to Andy over the next 2/3 weeks. **Thank you in advance.**

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**Message from Betty Quinlan**

*Thank you for all the Masses, cards, good wishes and Sanctuary lamp booking for my birthday.  
Novena of Masses at The Cenacle to be said for everyone.*

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**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** - reminder to members that the next meeting will take place on Thursday 7th December, 2pm in the Parish Hall.

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**FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Please continue to pray for: Jennie Antoine, Anne Jones, Graham Bentley, Fred & Mary Wylie, Anne Smith, Kath Hywel-Buckley, John Lavelle, Jean Bolton, Tony Bolton, Patrick Gilligan, Michael Golowicz, Brian Craig, Greta Turner, Anne Hayes, Deacon William Riley and Dorothy Riley, Winefred Byrnes, Judith Cross, Red Wood Fargo, and all those in the Hospice, Hospital, Rest Homes & Convents. **May God give them His healing grace.**

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**Children's Christmas Present Appeal:** As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us remember the true spirit of Christmas - the spirit of giving love, and compassion. We are humbly asking for you to participate in our **Children's Christmas Present Appeal.** We are collecting **new** toys and gifts for children to be given to Amazing Graze in Blackpool who are well-positioned to identify families in need during the festive season. **Donations can be left at the back of church, in SJ's hall, and in the Presbytery, or brought to The Ansdell Institute** (please drop with Emma Cox at Lytham Candles). We kindly ask that you consider gifts for all age groups, especially teenagers who are often overlooked (and, from previous experience, teenage boys in particular, Fr P). Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you abundantly. Emma Cox. (If anyone wants to leave money or gift vouchers with me, I can sort them out and pass them on. Fr P)

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**THE MONTH OF DECEMBER -**

is dedicated to the *Immaculate Conception* which is **celebrated on Friday 8th December.** The best person we can turn to for help during Advent is Mary, Christ's and our Mother. She awaited the day of His birth with more eagerness than any other human being. Let's crown our preparation and borrow something of Mary's prayfulness, her purity and whole-hearted submission to God's will.

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**SJSP Ukulele Orchestra in St. Peter's Hall at 7pm** this week. All Welcome, practising for the quiz night and for Christmas Eve.

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**2024 Diocesan Directories** are available at the back of Church priced £7. Buy one and see where the Bishop has moved all your favourite priests to!

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**Mass at Saltcotes Cemetery:** This Wednesday 6th December at 10am. This will hopefully be a monthly service, if there is enough continued enthusiasm! All Welcome!

**FOOD BANK UPDATE FOR NOVEMBER**

St. Cuthbert's 59.5kg food stuffs.

Streetlife 42kg. food stuffs.

Dock Road 4.75kg toiletries.

Cash donations £200.

Thanks to Food Sunday, we are now hopefully making a real difference to people's lives with these donations - what a great result and massive thanks to our parish - it should make us feel proud.

*Pete & Ellen Rickards.*

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**Christmas Quiz & SingAlong. Saturday 16th December 7pm in SJ's Church Hall. All tickets have been sold!** Get in early for our next social event!

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**Sanctuary Lamp Bookings -**

**Red Lamp:** *"Special Intention - B" & "In loving memory of all past Rickards Family Members"*

**Blue Lamp:** *"Tina - B"*

Sue has room in her diary for new bookings. To book, email Sue on info@stpeterslytham.co.uk (or speak to her). Suggested **minimum** donation - £5 each lamp.

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**Please pray** for all who have died *recently* -

*Joy Warwick, Father Billy Bootle,*

and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Rt. Rev. Thomas Wulstan Pearson (1st Bishop of Lancaster), David Harrison, Joseph Threlfall, Sheila Gooden, Marion Milligan, Adeline M. Wheatley, Johnny Matthews, Fr. Edward Collins, Hilda Wilkes, Kathleen Horton, Pauline Pavely, Harry Rigby, Richard Ingham, Edith Birtwistle, Brian Clarke, Maria Carlota D'Cruz, Ursula Almond, Deacon Bill Wright, Stuart Ridgway, Irene Brierley. **May they rest in peace. Amen**

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**Next Week** we will be privileged to celebrate the Requiem mass of dear Joy Warwick on Tues 12th at 11am at SJs, and on Thurs 14th at 11.30am the Requiem of much loved Fr. Billy Bootle, preceded by a Reception Mass on Wednesday evening at Stella Matutina. May they rest in the peace and love of Christ, and may their reward be great in Heaven.

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**Advent & Christmas at SJ's & SP's**

**Sun 17/12 4pm at SJ's:** Short Advent Meditation & Carols followed by a Carol Around Calvary with a drink in the Presbytery afterwards.

**Sun 24/12**

**6pm at SJ's:** Children's Christmas Mass - All children are asked to come dressed as a character from the Christmas Story: Mary, Joseph, an Angel, a Shepherd, a King, or an Ox, Donkey, or sheep, to create a 'living crib'. All Welcome!

**8pm at SP's: CandleLit Christmas Mass with Carols and Readings from 7.30pm.**

**Mon 25/12: 9:15am at SJ's and 10.30am at SP's: Christmas Morning Mass.**

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**Responsorial Psalm for**

**1st Sunday of Advent**

*and the response is:*

**"GOD OF HOSTS, BRING US BACK;  
LET YOUR FACE SHINE ON US  
AND WE SHALL BE SAVED"**