

# ST. TERESA'S CHURCH, 23, College Rd., Upholland, WN8 0PY

e-mail: [stteresas.upholland@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:stteresas.upholland@rcaolp.co.uk)

Website: [www.stteresas-upholland.org.uk](http://www.stteresas-upholland.org.uk)

<b>St. Teresa's School</b> Tel 01695 623842	<b>Parish House &amp; Office:</b> Tel 01695 622001	<b>The Parish Focus Team</b> Holding our course with the Parish Vision:
Headteacher: Mrs Cecilia Rigby Chair of Governors: Philip Holland PTFA Chair: Emma Stretton	Parish Priest: Fr. Philip Kehoe Parish Administrator: Eleanor Williams Parish Club: (622609) Janette McNamara	John Hartill, Bernard Keyworth, Cecilia Rigby, Andrew Southworth, Jennifer Brave, Ann-Marie Sandelands, Noreen Clayton

## Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

### LITURGY AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

### COMMUNITY LIFE AND SERVICE

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### THE WEDNESDAY WORD

**Preparing next Sunday's Mass:**

First Reading:	Micah 5:1-4	<i>The Ruler from Bethlehem</i>
Second Reading:	Hebrews 10:5-10	<i>I am coming to do your will</i>
Gospel:	Luke 1:39-44	<i>The Visitation</i>

**After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.**

Luke's account of the birth and infancy of Jesus is built on the comparison and contrast between the two stories of John the Baptist and Jesus: the annunciation to the parents, the birth of each child, the joy on earth and in heaven, the circumcision, the growth of the child. In each incident John is shown to be great, but Jesus greater still. Only in the incident narrated in today's gospel do the two families meet, the two stories cross. We see the two mothers together, marvelling at the destiny of their children. The journey from Nazareth to even the nearest of the towns in the hill country of Judah (traditionally Elizabeth's home is located at Ain Karim, now on the outskirts of Jerusalem) would have been arduous, a week's walk for a fit young woman. This special exertion and generosity shows Mary's love and care for her elderly relative, as well as the natural excitement of the two in sharing their motherhood. Luke has already told us that Mary was filled with the Holy Spirit. Now Elizabeth too is filled with the Holy Spirit as they participate in and exchange the praise of God for the gift of their children.

**Is there anyone I know to whom a visit would bring special joy during Christmastide?**

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

This reflection is taken from "The Wednesday Word", download more at: [www.wednesdayword.org/parish](http://www.wednesdayword.org/parish)  
and also try: [www.sundaygospel.co.uk](http://www.sundaygospel.co.uk)

## PARISH VISION

**Illuminated by the light of Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, we St Teresa's Parish strive always to be a loving and welcoming community where all people are included and valued, and strangers are treated as friends. Fed and nurtured by scripture, prayer and the Sacraments, we journey together, seeking always to come closer to God, so that we can proclaim His love in our thoughts and words and by our actions in the world.**

### FR. PHILIP'S REFLECTION

**The crowds ... tax collectors ... soldiers ... asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?"**

What should we do to ready our hearts O Lord, for your coming? Your Baptist says, we must give away our coat, share our food, make justice for all. **We** need to change not think about changing others.

Lord, baptise us in the fire of the Holy Spirit, burn the chaff from our wheat, gather us into your kind and loving arms. Warm our hearts to share your love with everyone. Let us be your "Gaudete".

### POPE FRANCIS'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS 2018 **December: Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith**

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time. Further information can be found at: [www.apostleshipofprayer.org](http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org)

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY ADVENT COLLECTION:** The children will be collecting after **10am** Mass for the next 2 Sundays to support the work of CAFOD. The money will be used to buy CAFOD World gifts.

**SUNDAY, 23RD DECEMBER:** The **10am Mass** on the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent** will be led by the children. We hope that you can join us.

### YOUTH NEWS

**Youth Group** Christmas Party is **Saturday, 22nd December**, in the Club Lounge (more details to follow).

**UP OR DOWN?** Some parishioners have complained about the Stations of the Cross being covered, since we did spend a lot of money refurbishing them. Do you want them covered or as they traditionally are? I will ask you this at Masses this weekend.

**SHALOM FAMILY GROUP** will be having a Christmas Party on **Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> December** straight after morning mass in the meeting room. This will be a Jacob's table, tea and coffee provided. As always, everyone is welcome.

**RCIA (ASK Group):** The next meeting will take place this **Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm** in the meeting room. The group supports and encourages those who want to learn about the Catholic faith. All welcome. Please contact Pam Ashcroft or leave a message in the office if you would like to attend.

**NUGENT CARE:** To all our knitters in the parish, if you are able to knit anything for a baby, e.g. hats, coats, blankets etc. Nugent Care would be extremely grateful for your offers. Please pass anything you have knitted into Eleanor in the office. Thank you for your support.

**WORKFORCE DATE:** There is no workforce date in December. The next date for the workforce to meet up is **Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> January, 9-12 noon**. Anyone who can help with clearing out, sorting and targeted cleaning, please turn up at Church. Thank you.

**CAFOD CAROL CONCERT:** Thank you for all the support for CAFOD and the CAFOD Carol service on Tuesday. A grand total of £2,837 was raised. This included the Church collection, World Gifts, our group stall and donations. A lot of hard work was put into preparing for the evening and a wonderful and joyous night was had by all.

**35<sup>th</sup> CAFOD FUN RUN** will take place on **Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> December** at Wavertree Athletics Centre and Park, Liverpool, L15 4LE. Registration will be from 12pm and the runners and walkers start at 1pm on the 4km or 8km run and 2km walk. It's a great way to support people overseas through CAFOD (and get out after Christmas!) and a chance to start some light training now. Last year we had a fantastic turnout and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon together which raised £11,200 for CAFOD's vital life-saving work overseas! So come along and let's beat last year's total! For further details contact 0151 228 4027 or [liverpool@cafod.org.uk](mailto:liverpool@cafod.org.uk)

**MASS BOOKINGS:** If you would like to book any Masses for 2019 please see Eleanor in the office between 9am and 12 midday Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday. Envelopes are also available at the back of Church if you cannot come between these times.

**A PILGRIMAGE to the HOLY LAND 13-23 May 2019** with Fr. John Gorman and Fr. Tony Reynolds. 11 days based in Jerusalem and Galilee. For further details contact 01942 727271 or email [j.gorman@rcaolp.couk](mailto:j.gorman@rcaolp.couk) See poster at back of church.

**DONATED ITEMS:** We often get asked in the office where people can donate items.

If you have any good quality used babies, children's or adults clothing or shoes, please pass them on to Eleanor in the office or take them directly to **Evermoor Hub** (Digmoor Community Centre), 1 Birleywood, Skelmersdale, WN8 9HR.

**Rainbow Shop** in Pemberton accept household items, toys, bric a brac and small items of furniture, 723 Ormskirk Road, Pemberton, WN5 8AT.

**Hope House Projects**, Skelmersdale, accept all items of furniture and electrical equipment that are in good reusable condition. 35 Acregate, Skelmersdale, WN8 9LX. They also offer a collection service. Tel: 0782 825 9750.

**Archdiocese Financial Reports** – copies are available at the back of church.

**DON ORIONE:** Please see posters at the back of Church for Christmas and New Year Mass times at Don Orione.

### MONEY MATTERS

**Thank you** for last week's offertory of £650.41 ( which included envelopes that had been given in at other Churches)+ S/O £270

**Thank you** for the 1st week's Children's Advent collection for CAFOD of £61.48