



ST FAITH'S
GREAT CROSBY

Second Sunday of Advent / Toy Service

Sunday 7th December 2025

Hymns

142 Hail to the Lords anointed
27 On Jordan's bank
49 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
143 Jesus shall reign

Notices

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp burns this week in loving memory of Alma Burns, special and dearly loved Mum of Denise, and beloved Gran and Great-Gran to all the family. **R.I.P.**

100 Club: The December draw for the 100 Club will take place after this morning's service. If you are not already a member and wish to join, please ask David Jones for details or email him at david.jones@stfaithsgc.org.uk.

Giving to St Faith's: If you do not give regularly to St Faith's and wish to join our Parish Giving Scheme (subscribing through your bank on a monthly basis), please ask David Jones for details or use this link - <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/great-crosby-st-faith-liverpool/>. All enquiries are confidential.

Contactless donations: We now have a contactless device for donations at the back of church. Just select your donation and tap your debit card or phone on the top. All donations gratefully received!

Movement for Good: Nominate St Faith's Church on Benefact Group Movement for Good for a chance for us to win £1,000 towards church funds. Closing date is 15th December.

Events

Advent Course: St Mary's will again be holding an Advent Course this year. Details below:-

- Upcoming dates: Monday 8th and 15th December
- Place: St Mary's meeting room, Brooklands Avenue
- Time: 2:30pm until 3:45pm (approx.) to be followed by a short service of Evening Prayer

The course will explore prayer through the lens of some of the big themes from the season of Advent and will allow us to practise writing some prayers for ourselves.

December 8th : Who? Where? How? What? - thinking around intercessions and a chance to write our own.

- December 15th : The Incarnation - what does it mean to us? How does it influence our prayer life?

We look forward to welcoming all who wish to join us for a prayerful and hopefully stimulating Advent!

St Faith's and St Mary's Advent Prayer Walk: Our Advent Prayer Walk will take place at 2:00pm on Saturday 13th December around Waterloo. We will meet at the bus stop outside St Faith's. The walk will take in St John's Road, Waterloo Primary School, Hicks Road and Park Road, St Mary's and the edge of Rimrose Valley Country Park. The Prayer Walk should last between 1 hour and 1 hour 30 minutes. All are welcome!

This Week's Services

This Sunday 11:00am, Eucharist Second Sunday of Advent / Toy Service	Fr. Peter Cowley
Monday 8th December, 9:30am Morning Prayer	Fr. Louis Johnson
Wednesday 10th December, 10:30am Eucharist at St Mary's	Fr. Peter Cowley
Thursday 11th December, 12:00pm Low Mass	Fr. Dennis Smith
Thursday 11th December, 6:00pm St John's Church of England Primary School Christmas Performance	Fr. Louis Johnson to welcome
Saturday 13th December, 2:00pm Benefice Advent Walk	Judith Aveling
Next Sunday 10:00am, Eucharist The Third Sunday of Advent	Fr. Louis Johnson <i>Readings: Isaiah 35.1-10, Canticle: Magnificat, James 5.7-10, Matthew 11.2-11</i>

Contacts

Vicar: Fr. Louis Johnson 07947 752 399 / louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Assistant Clergy: Fr. Dennis Smith 0151 928 5065; Fr. Bill Matthews 0151 281 4879; Fr. Peter Cowley CA Tel. 0151 426 5441, Fr. Steve Hall steve.hall@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Parish Reader: Mrs Paula Lampard

Church Wardens: Mr Rick Walker 0151 924 6267 / 07710 226 300; Mrs Maureen Madden 0151 924 2154 / 07704 004 670

Administrator: Mrs Carolanne Leary 07913 873 697 / carolanne.leary@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mari Griffiths 07811591922 / mari.griffiths@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Please keep in your prayers

The Diocese: All Saints, Our Lady and St Nicholas, Liverpool, St Margarets Primary, Christ Church, Holy Trinity, Walton Breck, St Aidan, St Mary, St Nathanael, Walton On The Hill, St John, St Luke, Walton, Litherland & Orrell Hey Team: St Philips, St Pauls Hatton Hill, St John & St James Orrell Hey, Christ Church, Bootle, Christ Church Youth and Community Centre, Christ Church Primary, Bedford Primary.

Parish: Winstanley Road, Glenwyllin Road, Knightway, Kingswood Avenue, Parkfield Road, Royton Road, Middleton Road, Queensway, Kingsway.

The World: For peace in all areas of conflict in the world. For those affected by fires, floods, famines and earthquakes. For emergency workers working in disaster areas. For refugees, asylum seekers and agencies that help them. For good stewardship of the earth and its resources. For all victims of cruelty, injustice and exploitation.

The Church: The unity of all Christians everywhere. Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Ruth, Ven Pete Spiers, our Archdeacon, Area Dean Rev. Alex Peach, Churches in the South Sefton Deanery, and local ecumenical partners.

Those who are sick: Joan McKortel, Sheila Roberts, Alistair Byron, Peter Smith, Fr. Michael Brinkworth, Angie Price, Susie Greenwood, Jill Deepprose, Holly Keira Barnes, Ken Welsby, Martin Goodwin, Evie Dunne.

Those who are to be remembered at this time: John Hamilton, Elsie Bell, Colette Thornborough (Priest), Ernest Ryan, Edward Ashcroft, Mary Threlfall, Gordon Wolfenden, Sandra Garry, Rosamund Lace, Annie Beatrice Armstrong, Joyce James, Thomas Quiggin, Eleanor Jones, Basil Fletcher-Jones (Priest), Ivy Blackmore, Bill Webster, Ernest Whitaker. Karl Barth, Ian Stuart Reay Mackay, Gerald Shaw.

The Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

First Reading, Isaiah 11.1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Psalm 72, v.1-7, 18-19

Response (congregation):-

May all nations be blest in him.

Give the king your judgements, O God,
and your righteousness to the son of a king.
Then shall he judge your people righteously and your poor with justice.
May the mountains bring forth peace,
and the little hills righteousness for the people.

May all nations be blest in him.

May he defend the poor among the people,
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.
May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

May all nations be blest in him.

May he come down like rain upon the mown grass,
like the showers that water the earth.
In his time shall righteousness flourish,
and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

May all nations be blest in him.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wonderful things.
And blessed be his glorious Name for ever.
May all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

May all nations be blest in him.

Second Reading, Romans 15.4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

I am the light of the world, says the Lord.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness
but will have the light of life.

Alleluia.

Gospel, Matthew 3.1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but

one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Post Communion

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.