



**ST FAITH'S**  
GREAT CROSBY

**The Third Sunday of Advent**  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025

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### *Hymns*

24 Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding  
26 O come, O come, Emmanuel  
31 Come, thou long-expected Jesus  
28 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

### *Notices*

**The Blessed Sacrament Lamp** burns this week in loving memory of Maureen Johnson, treasured grandmother of Fr. Louis. **R.I.P.**

**100 Club Draw for December:** Unfortunately, the draw could not be made last Sunday but will be drawn after this morning's service. There is still time to join if you are not already a member! Please ask David Jones for details or email him at [david.jones@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto:david.jones@stfaithsgc.org.uk).

**Donations and Giving:** We rely on generous individual giving for much of our income at St Faith's. If you are a UK taxpayer donations can be Gift Aided to provide additional benefit to the church. If you worship here regularly then please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme by using this link - <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/great-crosby-st-faith-liverpool/> . There is a contactless donation point at the back of church for phone or card use.

**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 tomorrow, 15<sup>th</sup> December.

**St Faith's "Going for Bronze" to be an Eco Church:** Have you calculated your carbon footprint yet? Why not do it now and see what changes you can make in 2026. It's free, quick, easy and fun to do! Check out the following website:- [WWF Footprint Calculator](#). Eco Tips for Christmas gifts:- What do you buy for that person who has everything?

- Consumable presents are a good idea such as chocolates, biscuits or chutneys – make your own if you are feeling creative!
- You could buy someone an experience or a ticket to the cinema or theatre.
- Or treat someone to a date night on you – you could do this at home or in a coffee shop, wine bar or restaurant.

## Events

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

- Upcoming date: 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>: 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!

## This Week's Services

<b>This Sunday 11:00am, Eucharist The Third Sunday of Advent</b>	Fr. Louis Johnson
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 9:30am Morning Prayer</b>	Fr. Louis Johnson
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December Merchant Taylors' School Christmas Services: Carol Service, 10am; Nine Lessons and Carols, 2pm</b>	Fr. Louis Johnson
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 10:30am Eucharist at St Mary's</b>	Fr. Peter Walker
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 12:00pm Low Mass</b>	Fr. Louis Johnson
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 9:00am Waterloo Primary School Christmas Service</b>	Fr. Louis Johnson to welcome
<b>Next Sunday 11:00am, Eucharist The Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	Fr. Dennis Smith

	<i>Readings: Isaiah 7.10-16, Psalm 80.1-8, Romans 1.1-7, Matthew 1.18-end</i>
<b>Next Sunday, 3:00pm Nine Lessons and Carols</b>	Fr. Louis Johnson

## Contacts

**Vicar:** Fr. Louis Johnson 07947 752 399 / [louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:carolanne.leary@stfaithsgc.org.uk)

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Mari Griffiths 07811591922 / [mari.griffiths@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto:mari.griffiths@stfaithsgc.org.uk)

## Please keep in your prayers

**The Diocese:** St Matthew & St Leonard Bootle, St Leonards Youth & Community Centre, Rimrose Hope Primary, St Faith Great Crosby, St Mary Waterloo, Netherton with Sefton Team, St Oswald Netherton and St Helen Sefton, St Oswald Primary, Christ Church with St John Waterloo, St Johns Primary, St Nicholas Blundellsands, St Nicholas Primary, St Michael Blundellsands, Valewood Primary, St Michaels High School.

**Parish:** Galloway Road, Molyneux Road, Milton Road, Stuart Road.

**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, Alistair Byron, Fr. Michael Brinkworth, Angie Price, Susie Greenwood, Jill Deeprose, Holly Keira Barnes, Ken Welsby, Martin Goodwin, Evie Dunne.

**The recently departed:** Peter Smith, Sheila Roberts.

**Those who are to be remembered at this time:** Elizabeth Armstrong, Arthur Sydney Turner, Edgar Foizey (Priest), Bessie Lowe, Rachel Waghorn, Eric Beaumont, William Carter, Kathleen Ware, Edwin Shaw, Edith Walker, Henry Stoddard (Snr),

Michael McDonnell, John Alexander Stone, Chris Dawson, Mary Clarke, John Francis Cardew Taylor, Margaret Joyce Fawcett, Charles Billington (Priest).

## *The Collect*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## *First Reading, Isaiah 35.1-10*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

## *Canticle: Mary's Magnificat*

Response (congregation):-

**The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed;

**The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.**

The Almighty has done great things for me  
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him,  
from generation to generation.

**The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.**

He has shown strength with his arm  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,  
casting down the mighty from their thrones  
and lifting up the lowly.

**The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.**

He has filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,  
to remember his promise of mercy.  
The promise made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

**The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.**

### *Second Reading, James 5.7-10*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord.  
I know them, and they follow me.

**Alleluia.**

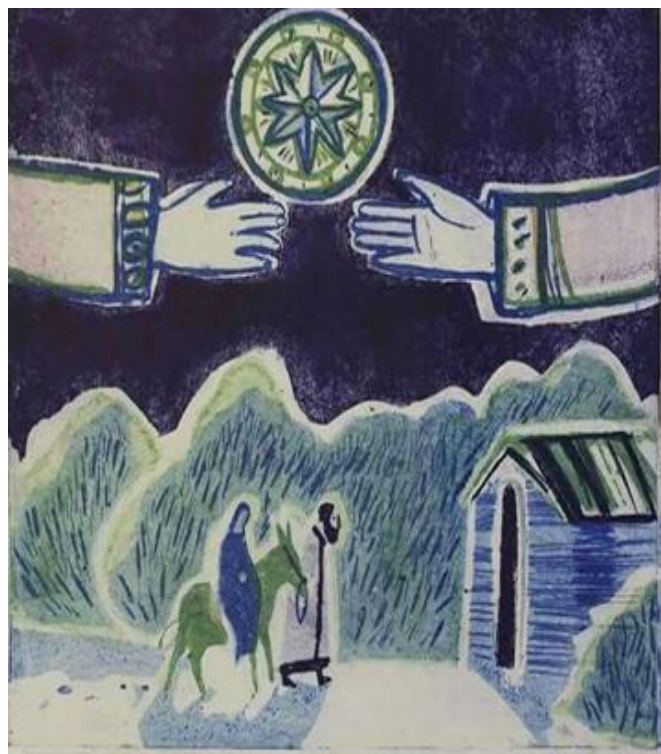
### *Gospel, Matthew 11.2-11*

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more

than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

### ***Post Communion***

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.



# **Advent at St Mary's and St Faith's**

**St Mary's Church:**

**32 Brooklands Ave, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 3XZ**

**St Faith's Church:**

**Crosby Rd N, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 4QQ**

**Vicar: Revd Dr Louis Johnson**

**[louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto:louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk) 07947 752 399**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November,  
6pm:  
Sung Compline for Advent  
@St Faith's

Mondays 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>  
December, 2.30pm:  
Advent Course on Prayer  
@St Mary's

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December –  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December:  
Christmas Tree Festival  
@St Faith's

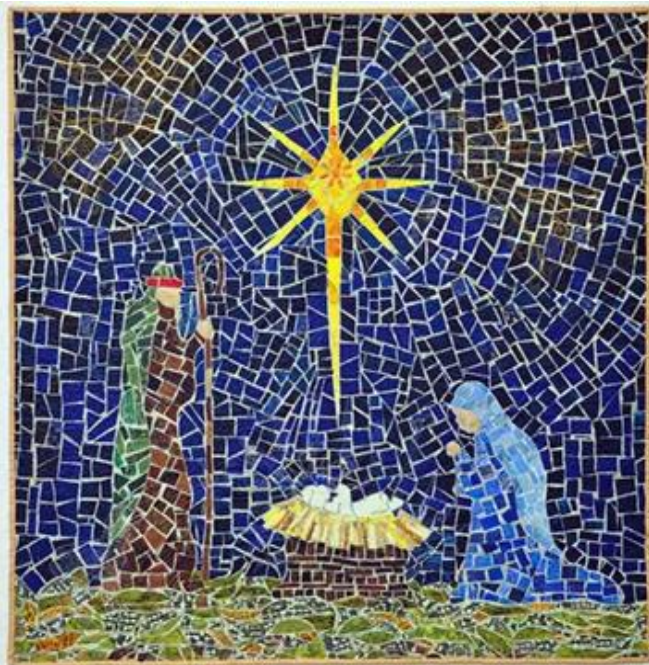
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December,  
7pm:  
Military Band  
Christmas Concert  
@St Faith's

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December,  
4pm:  
Community Christmas  
Memorial Service  
@St Faith's

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December,  
2pm:  
Advent Walk  
@St Faith's

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>  
December  
6.30pm:  
Carol Singing, Mince Pies,  
Night Prayer  
@St Mary's

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
6pm:  
Early Music As Education  
Liverpool String Academy  
Christmas Concert  
@St Faith's



# **Christmas Services at St Mary's and St Faith's**

**St Mary's Church:**

**32 Brooklands Ave, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 3XZ**

**St Faith's Church:**

**Crosby Rd N, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 4QQ**

**Vicar: Revd Dr Louis Johnson**

**[louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto:louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk) 07947 752 399**

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December,  
3pm:  
Nine Lessons and Carols  
@St Faith's

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>  
December,  
4pm:  
Christingle  
@St Mary's

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>  
December,  
5.30pm:  
Christingle  
@St Faith's

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>  
December,  
11.30pm:  
Midnight Mass  
@St Faith's

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December,  
9.45am:  
Christmas Day Eucharist  
@St Mary's

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>  
December,  
11.15am:  
Christmas Day Eucharist  
@St Faith's

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December  
12pm  
St Stephen's Day  
Eucharist  
@St Faith's