

St Katharine, Blackrod - Sunday 28th December 2025

## FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

### The Parish Eucharist

Welcome to St Katharine's Church today



#### READINGS AND PRAYERS

##### THE COLLECT for the First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in

your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

##### FIRST READING Isaiah 63. 7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

##### PSALM 148 Verses 7-end.

##### Response: O praise the name of the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; Fire and hail, snow and mist, tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word; Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and birds on the wing; Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; Young men and women, old and young together; let them praise the name of the Lord.

##### Response: O praise the name of the Lord.

For his name only is exalted, his splendour above earth and heaven. He has raised up the horn of his people and praise for all his faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; young men and maidens, old and young together, let them praise the name of the Lord.

##### Response: O praise the name of the Lord.

##### SECOND READING Hebrews 2. 10-18

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the

midst of the congregation I will praise you.' And again, 'I will put my trust in him.' And again, 'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.' Since the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

##### GOSPEL READING Matthew 2. 13-23

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.

Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.' When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

##### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### SERVICES AT ST KATHARINE'S THIS WEEK

Tuesday 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 4th January 2026 - Epiphany

11.00am The Parish Eucharist and Sunday School

St Katharine's Church  
Registered Charity No: 1144084

#### CONTACTS

**Vicar:** The Revd Angela Wynne,  
St Katharine's Vicarage, Blackhorse Street,  
Blackrod, BL6 5EN

**Tel:** 01204 468150 **Email:** Revawynne@gmail.com

##### Churchwardens:

Sheila Kinrade 01204 695642  
Chris Skinner 01204 691097

# What's on this week.....

## PRAYERS

For those who are sick:

**Sheila Edwards, Rachel Lowe, Josie Woods  
Pat Morris, Brian Inglis, Steven Hyatt,  
Annie Shaw, Lauren Reid, John Green  
Damian McCabe, Margaret Martinez**

*Pray for all those with Covid to make a full recovery.*

For those who have died:

**John Michael Dainty**

**Stephen Sumner**

*(Funeral on Thursday 8th January at 1pm)*

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

**Maggie Banks**

Let us know? If anyone is aware of someone sick or in hospital, wishing to be included on the Prayer List, please notify the Vicar, or the Churchwardens.

Please ensure you have the permission of the person, or their family, before asking for their name to be added. Thank you.

**Please Pray for Ukraine**

## Today's Hymns - Sunday 28th December

- 66 Hark! the herald angels sing**
- 79 O little town of Bethlehem**
- 86 The first Nowell the angels did say**
- 68 In the bleak mid-winter**
- 785 Such love, pure as the whitest snow**
- 72 Joy to the world, the Lord has come!**

## Home Communion

If you are unable to get to a service at St Katharine's and would like to receive communion at home, please get in touch with Revd Angela, or the churchwardens. And please get in touch if you would like a visit from either the clergy or one of our team of licensed Lay Eucharistic ministers.

If you wish to make a donation to support St Katharine's, you can use this QR code. Thank you.



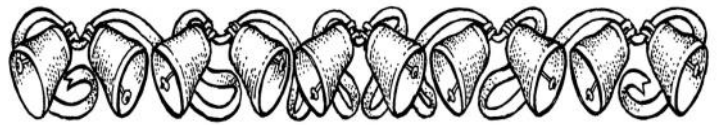
## SAFEGUARDING

As part of the Manchester Diocese, St Katharine's Church follows the safeguarding guidelines, the national legal and procedural framework for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, and the Church of England policy and practice.

**Safeguarding Officer:** Janet Hollick 07514041611



# Happy New Year!



St Katharine's Church

**wiggle worship**

**Baby Rhyme Time**

**Monday**

**Closed 22nd and 29th December.**

**Back on 5th January 2026**

Stories, songs, dance

Refreshments

Free play

Free to all and everyone welcome

**Please note: No Flower Club this week**  
- Next meeting on Friday 6th February.

St Katharine's Church

Warm Welcome Spaces

PLACE OF WELCOME

**Company and chat at**

**Connect**

**Every Tuesday**

**10.30am - 12.30pm**

Beat the Winter blues and come into church for a warm welcome and free refreshments

**Fire Action**

**Raise the alarm**

**Leave the building by the nearest exit**

**Report to assembly point**

**CAR PARK**