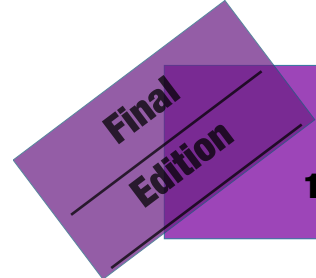


# St John Fisher's Church 1st December 2024



## St John Fisher Parish Community Shrine of Our Lady of Schoenstatt 1st December 2024 First Advent Sunday



**Sunday**      **1st December**      **First Advent Sunday**  
9.30am      Mass

### Welcome to our Parish Christmas Fayre.

**Monday**      **2nd December**      Advent Weekday

**Tuesday**      **3rd December**      St Francis Xavier  
9.00am      Mass  
9.30am      Adoration  
11.00am      Café

**Wednesday**      **4th December**      Advent Weekday  
9.00am      Mass  
9.30am      Adoration

**Thursday**      **5th December**      Advent Weekday  
6.30pm      Adoration  
7.30pm      Mass

**Friday**      **6th December**      St Nicholas  
11.00am      Adoration  
12.00 noon      Mass

**Saturday**      **7th December**      Vigil 2nd Advent Sunday  
11.00am      Adoration  
12.00noon.      Mass

**Sunday**      **8th December**      Second Advent Sunday  
9.30am      Mass

**Monday**      **9th December**      Immaculate Conception

**Livestream Link:**  
**on YouTube:**      <Schoenstatt YouthUK>  
**Facebook**      <Schoenstatt Family England>

**Carols for Peace 15th December at 1.30pm**

### Advent Means Getting Ready (not Just Waiting Around)

Nobody likes to wait, but we all like to get ready. Advent, which starts today, is sometimes understood as a waiting period, waiting for Christmas to arrive (that's what the prophecy in today's First Reading calls to mind). From that point of view, this waiting period between Advent and Christmas is also supposed to make us think deeply about another waiting period. The one between now and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, who will bring history to its fulfilment, judge the living and the dead, and put a definitive end to evil. This second waiting period is what our Lord refers to in today's Gospel passage. But is Advent really just a waiting period? Is human history just a waiting period, an undisclosed number of centuries in which we wait for the Second Coming to happen? No. They are more than waiting periods; they are getting-ready periods. Advent is a liturgical season, a period of time in which the Church surrounds us with reminders of the greatest event in the whole history of the universe: the incarnation of the Son of God, who came to earth to be our Saviour. The Church gives us these reminders to help us get our souls ready to receive the special graces God wants to give us as we celebrate that event this year, in the "right now" of our lives. And those same reminders are also meant to spark a personal examination of conscience. And if in that examination we notice any sinful or self-centred tendencies, habits, or activities, Advent is the time to get rid of them. That's how we get ready for our Lord's Second Coming, which will occur either at our personal death, or at the end of history, whichever happens first. These four weeks aren't about waiting; they are about getting ready.



**Synod in Salford Diocese** In our Parish  
**Next meeting**      **Meeting Four**      **08.12.2024**

### **GOOD NEWS** *Helping Others Get Ready*

There is absolutely no better way to get ready for Advent and for Christ's Second Coming than by helping someone else get ready for them. We do this by living lives that reflect and communicate God's goodness. So get ready to receive the graces God wants to give you during this season, by giving of ourselves to God and to others.



**Mass Intentions.** In the month of November we pray for the Holy Souls. We pray for the people affected by the floods in Spain. We Pray for peace in Eastern Europe, the Holy Land and for the people suffering there and other theatres of war. We pray for world leaders to follow a way to peace and justice. **For all our sick and housebound:** Please pray for Margaret Harris, Diane Middleton, Avril de Mink, Hildegard Cornelius, Barbara Conners, Angela Fenton, Alice McEvoy, Debbie Shades James Neary, Lily Alker, Celia Eccleston, Alice Hindley, Pat Pearson, Peter Hughes, Joe Dalton, Sheila McKay, Anne Holland, Annamma, Kate Martin, Konrad Ostmeier, Elaine McNally, Joan Eastwood, Paul Ormerod, Irene Wood, Sally Gibson, Jane Shades, Pauline Millington, Eileen Kehoe, Ruth Dawson, Pauline Kent, Maureen Manion, Lynda Robinson, Paul Grogan, Leo Mazza, Doreen Mazza, Hilda Plover, Bob Plover, Maureen Rogers, Sheila Barker, Sheila Bocker, Peter Fenton, Marie Fenton, John Ward, Jane Jordan, Rita Derbyshire, Eric Derbyshire, John Derbyshire, Peter Tracey, Linda Muir, Sharon Simpson, Maria Edwards, Agnes McFadden, Eileen Johnson, Jane Boyle, Pat Jones, Lee Pomfret. Successful operation Melissa Jayne Ashford. **For those, who died recently** Rita Tunstall, Peter Shades, Ann Brady, Tommy Cunningham, Margaret Allen. **On the Anniversary** of Winifred Curliss (50 Years), Angela Dease, Mary Grogan, Ann Saunders. **Special Intentions** Margaret Chick, Joanne Raynor, Janet Cassidy, Marie Fenton, Nikki Fenton and for Dominic Mazza, Marie Jones, Theresa Karey, Shevlin family, for Chloe Fenton, Rita Derbyshire, Hilda Plover, Anne & Konrad, Harris family, Anna Abraham, Arun & Swany.

### **Confirmation Classes**

Those wishing to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to the class on Saturday 30th November at 2.00pm in the tearoom of St John Fisher's.



### **MARRIAGE MATTERS** *Keeping the star of our love burning brightly*

Jeremiah's joy reminds us of the weeks before our wedding, a time when we were deeply aware of our love for one another. Since then, many cares have threatened to divert us from that love and it has sometimes been necessary to make a special effort to share, listen and forgive to keep the star of our love burning brightly.



### **Silver Jubilee of the Shrine**

Next year in October 2025 we have the Silver Jubilee of the Blessing of the Shrine. Our Shrine has been designated by Bishop Arnold as one of the places to gain graces of the Holy Year through receiving the Holy Year Indulge. Throughout the year pilgrims will make their way to the Shrine to be welcomed by our Parish and the Schoenstatt Family. In a special way the members of the Parish are invited to join with the Schoenstatt Family to celebrate this Silver Jubilee. A number of workgroups a starting to meet to plan a programme.

### **Advent**

Sunday 1st December is the **First Sunday of Advent** and we will have **the introduction of the new Lectionaries** as the book of readings from the Bible at Holy Mass. Thank you to the members of our Parish who so generously contributed towards the cost of the new Lectionaries. Our Bishop has written a pastoral letter introducing the new Readings and thanking our readers at Mass. The New Rota for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers is available at the back of Church.

### **Christmas Fayre**

Sunday 1st December is the Parish Christmas Fayre. Please contact Susan Riley if you would like to help in the Fayre. You and your family and friends are cordially invited to join us on the day of the Fayre

### **Carols for Peace Sunday 15th December at 1.30pm**

Come and join us with your family

Light the Advent candle, one:  
Now the waiting has begun;  
we have started on our way,  
time to think of Christmas day.

Candle, candle, burning bright,  
shining in the cold winter night;  
candle, candle, burning bright, fill  
our hearts with Christmas light.

