

PRESCOT PARISH NEWSLETTER



Churches of St Mary & St Paul . www.prescotparish.org.uk
Vicar: Revd Kim Mannings . revkimberleymannings@gmail.com . 07305 922 392
Newsletter Editor: David Kernick . kernick@gmail.com . 07835 090 752



. SHARING THE LOVE & LIGHT OF CHRIST IN PRESCOT, THROUGH WORD & ACTION .

Sunday 12 December 2021—Third Sunday of Advent



Prayer for the lighting of the Advent candle

God our Father, you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age a son called John. He grew up strong in spirit, prepared the people for the coming of the Lord, and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us, who have been baptized into Christ, to be ready to welcome him into our hearts, and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. Amen.

Preacher

Sue Snow

Readings

Old Testament Zephaniah 3.14-20
New Testament Philippians 4.4-7
Gospel Luke 3.7-18

Hymns

480 O come, O come, Emmanuel
Longing for light (words on next page of newsletter)

In place of the psalm, the choir will sing the chant 'Creator of the starry height.' During Communion they will sing the hymn 'In the Lord I'll be ever thankful.'

Readers

Liz Taylor
Myra Grimshaw

Intercessions

Kath Pye

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. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

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. Amen.

For your prayers:

- ◆ Departed: Norma Preston,
Roger Yates Mike Wynn
Anne Kenny, Himmin Stove
- ◆ Anniversaries: George Done
- ◆ Baptisms: Pixie-Rose

Words for Gradual Hymn

Longing for light,
we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth,
we turn to You.

Make us Your own,
Your holy people

Light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church
Gathered today.*

Longing for peace,
our world is troubled
Longing for hope,
many despair.

Your word alone
has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Christ be our light, etc.

Longing for food,
many are hungry.
Longing for water,
many still thirst.

Make us Your bread,
broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

Christ be our light, etc.

Longing for shelter,
many are homeless.
Longing for warmth,
many are cold.

Make us Your building,
sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Christ be our light, etc.

Many the gifts,
many the people.
Many the hearts
that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants
to one another,
Making Your kingdom come.

Christ be our light, etc.

NOTICES

THE FUNERAL OF MIKE WYNN takes place this Tuesday, 14 December, at 12.30pm. The funeral of Anne Kenny is on Friday 17 December at 9.30am.

THE CHURCH OFFICE is now closed until Tuesday 11 January.

THANK-YOU to everyone who helped make the Mayor of Prescot's Charity Christmas Concert a success, especially festival volunteers, Brassworks Quartet, Bluebell Park Makaton Signing Choir, St Mary and St Paul's CE Primary School Choir and our own Prescot Church Choir. An audience of 234 attended, raising £245.17 for local good causes.

MOTHERS' UNION IMPORTANT NOTICE: From January 2022, meetings will be held on the fourth Friday of the month at 1.30pm. The first of these is on Friday 28 January at 1.30pm in the Parish Centre.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| Friday 17 December | 5pm | Carols around the Tree —Christians from across Prescot gather outside St Mary's for Christmas carols |
| Sunday 19 December | 6.30pm | Carols by Candlelight —a service of readings, prayers, Christmas carols and music from the choir |
| Friday 24 December | 3pm | Crib Service —the Christmas story with songs, ideal for families with young children |
| Friday 24 December | 11.30pm | Midnight Mass —join us for the first Eucharist of Christmas |
| Saturday 25 December | 10am | Eucharist for Christmas Day |
| Sunday 26 December | 10am | Eucharist for the Feast of Stephen |
| Sunday 2 January | 10am | Sung Eucharist for the Epiphany |

PLEASE HELP SHARE KNOWSLEY spread some seasonal cheer to refugees and asylum seekers living in Knowsley by donating gifts to their Christmas party. Hats, gloves, scarves, colouring books and items, and men's and ladies' toiletry gift sets are ideal. Please bear in mind that SHARe has more men than women. Donations can be dropped off at the Old School House, St. John's Road, Huyton, L36 0XL. Alternatively, donations of money are always well received. Please email admin@shareknowsley.org.uk if you would like to make a bank transfer, or call 07842 185100. Also, as bus fares are expensive, and clients live on less than £40 a week, SHARe always welcomes donations of bikes in good working condition. Please leave a message with Sarah on 07565208046 if you can help, and they will contact you to arrange collection.

PLEASE WEAR A MASK in church if you are able and comfortable.

We encourage you to remain mindful of others, especially as the winter approaches and Covid and other viruses are on the rise again.

THE PRAYER LIST for those who are sick is updated at the beginning of each month. See Norine if you'd like your name or that of a loved one to go on the next month's list, but please only add names to the list with the person's express permission.

GREETINGS CARDS are now on sale to help raise parish funds. There are two designs, specially created by Prescot-born artists The Jones Boys, and featuring a spring/summer illustration of St Mary's and a winter one, ideal for Christmas. The cards cost £2 each and are available from Val Sugden on 0151 493 9081 or Lesley Porter on 0151 426 1819.

PRESCOT FOODBANK is open 12pm-2pm every Wednesday at the Salvation Army (Ash Grove/Warrington Road). You can leave donations of imperishable foods and toiletries at Prescot Tesco Extra.

Stay in Touch

prescotparish.org.uk | facebook.com/prescotparishchurch

If you're struggling & need pastoral support or practical help, please

contact someone: Revd Kim Mannings—073059223920,

revkimberleymannings@gmail.com; David Kernick—07835090752,

kernick@gmail.com; Churchwardens: Marian Piert—01512890248;

Val Sugden—01514939081, Steve Martin—07921835823.

LISTENING EAR—SOMEONE TO TALK TO: If you're struggling with any of the following issues and feel you need to talk to a professional counsellor, Listening Ear can help. The service covers such issues as bereavement, separation, depression, anxiety, loneliness, phobias, panic attacks, stress, low self-esteem, health anxiety, domestic abuse and financial worries. Call 0151 488 6648 in confidence, and leave your name and number, and say you found out about the service through a parish in the Huyton Deanery. They'll call back to arrange an appointment. Visit www.listening-ear.co.uk to find out more.