



## 2nd Sunday of Christmas

### Mass times, intentions + the week ahead

Sat 3rd January	6.00pm	Elizabeth McGregor Patsy + Gerry Bennett, Joan + John Redmond, Josie + Andy Welsh
Sun 4th January <b>2nd Sun of Christmas</b>	10.30am	Tony Williams Parishioners Intentions
Mon 5th Jan	9.10am	Lilian Rose Storey Terry (sick)
Tues 6th January <b>EPIPHANY</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	David Owen Gray Family
Wed 7th January	11.30am 12 noon	<i>Confessions</i> Michael + Angela O'Brien
Thurs 8th January	9.10am	John + Paul Kenny
Fri 9th January	9.10am	Deceased Walsh Family Marc Sringer
Sat 10th January	6.00pm	Frank + Rio Taylor Tom Power, George Murphy
Sun 11th January <b>The Baptism of Jesus</b>	10.30am	Maureen Lynch Maria Wilson, Brian Kelly

#### Confessions

Wednesday and by appointment with Fr Philip.

**Pope Leo's prayer intention for Jan:** Let us pray that praying with the Word of God will be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, building a more fraternal and missionary Church.

**PRAYING THE PARISH:** WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE PREPARING TO GO BACK TO SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

**Praying with the Sunday Missal:** The readings are on **Page 82** in the red Sunday Missals - and on page 55 in the blue missals.



#### Parish of Holy Rosary

Holy Rosary Presbytery, Altway,  
Liverpool, L10 2LG

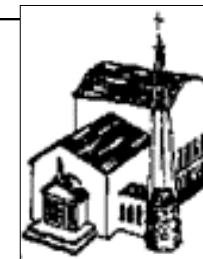
**Parish Priest: Mgr Philip Inch**

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**Webcam: <https://www.churchservices.tv/aintree>**



## 2nd Sunday of Christmas

### 4th January 2026



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas gives us the mightiest Gospel of all: one so fundamental to the Christian identity that it used to be read at the end of most masses, the Last Gospel. It is often referred to as the Prologue, or "introduction", of John.

John's Prologue puzzles us, because it is a chunk of theology stuck on the front of a book that otherwise looks like a story. The closest parallels to it in the Synoptic Gospels are the genealogies of Matthew and Luke, both of which attempt to stake a theological as well as a historical claim for Jesus. John's Prologue draws us with its poetry, attracts us with its vision of a world beyond this visible one that we inhabit, and finally captivates us with a single sentence that brings all three of these elements into a single point of light: "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us."

John's Prologue is doing its best to solve this question "Who is Jesus?" If we imagine ourselves hearing the ultra-familiar words for the first time, we may be surprised that they begin with what is most opaque and mysterious: "The Word was with God and the Word was God." This Word's identity then begins to be disclosed in stages, through references to earthly existence, still in mysterious, non-specific terms. At last, the truth is first hinted at, then confirmed: he has glory *like* a father's only-begotten son, and then he is fully revealed as "God the only-begotten Son".

**Holy Day of Obligation: Tuesday 6th Jan** - the Epiphany. Mass 10.30am. There is a vigil Mass at Our Lady's Lydiat on Monday at 7.00pm, The Christmas season ends on 11th Jan with the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus.

**Theatre Trip:** We have got 20 tickets for Letter to Brezhnev in the Royal Court on **Friday 11th September**. They will be on sale at the start of February - treat yourself!

**Parish Workers:** To say thank you to the many parish workers there will be a night out on February 16th.

**Hot Lunch:** The next lunch is Friday 9th Jan. (Please note new name!)

**FoodShare:** Some cereals, laundry items etc. Thank you for the wonderful amount that has come in over recent weeks.

**Parish Account Details:** Holy Rosary Presbytery (183) Sort Code 40-29-12 Account No. 41543849 Or fill out a Standing Order form (in church).

**Clothes Bank:** You will see a clothes bank - in the front car park. This can be used to support research into leukaemia and myeloma.

**1st Communion: Year 4** - sign in at Mass! Coming to Mass is your gift to Jesus as you prepare for Holy Communion. We are seeking **new altar servers** from Year 4 or above - see Fr Philip or an altar server. We have some **new Mass books for children** to use (and leave in church).

**The Caritas Group:** How it will work: If you or anyone you know is in need please contact the parish office - the details will then be shared with the Caritas Group on their WhatsApp and we will try to respond.

**Companionship:** home visits, clinical appointments including hospital, doctors, dentist. **Financial:** funding made available on an individual and discretionary basis. **Transport:** to appointments, social engagements, church, shopping. Thank you for the recent donations. We were able to help some local families over Christmas.

**Confirmation in 2026:** Anyone in year 8 can now register to be confirmed in June 2026. Register: [liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://liverpoolcalled.co.uk) (See poster in the porch).

**Let God love you:** following on from some requests after the Christmas sermon a sheet is available with some ideas.

**Online Alpha Course** - Thurs 15 January 6:45pm – 8:00pm (online). 11-week Alpha, running weekly to 26 March. Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith and meaning in a friendly and open environment. All are welcome. Information email [pd@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:pd@rcaol.org.uk) This is being run by the Archdiocese.

**Presents:** If you receive any unwanted Christmas presents this year they might make excellent raffle prizes. Also, any unused boxes of biscuits/chocolates can be used by the Sunday tea and coffee team. Thank you.

**Thank you** for the Christmas collection - £2376 - and for a donation towards the cost of the web cam.

**Fr Philip writes:** The beginning of a new year is always a time for looking ahead. As you know we are one of the pilot deaneries in the parish development strategy. It is hoped that during 2026 proposals will be drawn up for the development and sustainability of the local church into the future. This will inevitably mean some changes for everyone.

As I look forward, I do so with great hope. This is a great parish. I counted that during the Christmas period over 80 people were involved in ministry of one kind or another. That is remarkable and a real credit to this parish community. We have recently renewed our catechists for communion, we have a strategy group and our Caritas group but I found myself thinking that if I wasn't here (and I am not expecting this to happen) - who would do some of the things that I do - now some of them you have to be ordained for - but if I am honest most of them you do not. It has made me think is everyone in the parish playing a part - or do I do things that others might like to do? In the coming weeks I am going to draw up a list of "jobs/ministries" that we need some help in - I invite you to think - could I give some time to the parish to do these things. Let me give a few examples: counting the candle money each week, setting up the crib, cleaning drains of leaves, setting up IT, sacristy duties, meeting contractors and opening up buildings, checking our boundary fences each month, helping with the parish lounge, preparing rotas for servers and eucharistic ministers and the list goes on - then there is always the regular things, church cleaning, altar servers, bereavement team, eucharistic ministers, readers, tea makers. To use the JFK phrase: ask not what the parish can do for me but what can I do in the parish. **Happy New Year.**