



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
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Second Sunday of Advent Sunday 7th December 2025

Replacement of the boiler has been delayed to Wednesday 10th December due supply issues

Page 85	Isaiah 11: 1-10	Romans 15: 4-9	Gospel Matthew 3: 1-12
<p>In the readings this weekend for the Second Sunday of Advent encourages self examination at this time of preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. It reminds us that God looks into our hearts, and not just our actions and words. In preparing for Jesus, it is not about looking good, but opening our hearts to receive Him. Be honest, be humble and let God work in you. In the first reading from the prophet Isaiah he points to something new and speaks of a branch growing from the stump of Jesse. The old ways are ending and a peaceful king will come. Justice, peace and harmony will grow again uniting the world under God's spirit. Harmony in nature will be restored and the earth filled with the knowledge of the Lord which reflects a broader theme of God's plan for all nations. It offers hope to people at the time who were in exile and captivity. In the second reading St Paul is writing to the Romans and tells them that salvation is for both Jews and Gentiles. He points to Jesus as the one who fulfils God's promises. Paul invites all people to live together in peace and worship together as one body in Christ. He connects the message of the Old Testament to the new life in Jesus and the need for trust and humility. In the Gospel Matthew tells of John the Baptist who is preparing for the coming of the Messiah and is totally committed to his mission. He baptises in the River Jordan with water as a sign of repentance for the forgiveness of their sins. But he tells of the Messiah that will baptise with the Holy Spirit. John is very courageous and fearless in challenging sin, oppression and the abuse of power. He challenges the soldiers, the tax collectors, the Pharisees and the Sadducees and is a model for us today. The world today faces a myriad of challenges due to violence and conflict under oppressive regimes and inhuman conditions.</p>			
Mass times		Feast Days	
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Fr Shaun Budden RIP	Saturday 6 th St Nicholas of Myra Born 270 in Asia Minor now Turkey to rich Greek parents. Worked for social justice in his youth and did a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Made Bishop of Myra. Imprisoned in the "Great Persecution" of Christians by Roman Emperor Diocletian. When released by the new Emperor Constantine his parents died and he inherited great wealth which he used to help the poor. Legend of helping 3 poor daughters with dowry so they could marry rather than go into prostitution. To give the bags of gold secretly he threw them through the bedroom window and the gold landed in the girl's stockings hanging at the end of their bed. On the third occasion the father saw Bishop Nicholas and overwhelmed him with gratitude.. Pawn brokers sign of 3 gold balls represents the 3 bags of gold he gave them. Basis of Santa Clauss giving presents to young people at Christmas. Fought for justice against the Roman authorities and saved innocent people from execution. Patron saint of unmarried women, brides, sailors, pilgrims. Died in 343. First buried in Myra. Relics moved to Italy in Bari and Venice when the area was captured by the Muslim Turks		
	9.30 am Mass Sunday 7 th December Second Sunday of Advent For the success of Shelagh Moon's surgery		
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 8 th The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception and that God preserved the Virgin Mary from the taint of original sin from the moment she was conceived was defined as a dogma in 1854 by Pope Pius IX in the papal bull <i>Ineffabilis Deus</i> . The Council of Trent, held between 1545 and 1563 had previously affirmed her freedom from personal sin. The feast of <i>Mary's Conception</i> originated in the Eastern Church in the 7 th century and reached England in the 11 th century where Mary was particularly venerated. It then spread to Europe, where it was given official approval in 1477 and extended to the whole Church in 1693. The word <i>Immaculate</i> was not officially added to the name of the feast until 1854.		
10 am Mass	Tuesday 9 th . St John Diego Cuahtlatatzin An Aztec Indian born in 1474 in Mexico. Converted by conquistadors and Franciscan missionaries from Spain. Had visions of Virgin Mary on Tepeyac Hill on his way to morning Mass who requesting a shrine to be built to her there. As a proof of the vision flowers bloomed in the middle of winter. Mary wrapped the flowers in his cloak and told him to take them to Bishop Juan. When the flowers were unwrapped there was an image of the Virgin Mary imprinted on the cloak. John's sick uncle was cured with the famous words, "Am I not here? I who am your Mother?" Uncle had a vision of Mary as well. Shrine of " <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> " was built. John died in 1548 aged 74 and was buried in the first chapel built at the shrine. The cloak, preserved from 1531 to today, is kept in the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico.		
6.30 pm Mass Thanksgiving Mass for baby David	Wednesday 10 th St Swithun Wells Born 1536 in Bambridge House between Winchester and Southampton, named after St Swithun, Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Winchester. Catholic country gentleman who left for the continent for safety especially in Italy. Returned to England as tutor to the household of the Earl of Southampton, a recusant Catholic. Married Alice a devout Catholic and the couple founded school at Monkton Farleigh near Bath. They hid priests on the English mission. Were suspected so moved to London to avoid detection.. House had a secret Mass room. Arrested many times. Eventually executed as a martyr on 10 th December 1591 outside his house in Grays Inn Lane. His wife Alice was given a life sentence in prison and died alone but faithful to Christ in 1602.		

10 am Mass	Thursday 11th St Pope Damasus I Born of Spanish parents in Rome 305. Ordained to serve with his father who was also was a priest. Religious conflicts between orthodox Nicene Christians and heretical Arians. Pope banished by Emperor and puppet Arian pope put in place. Conflicts continued. When both popes and Emperor died, Damascus was elected pope for his orthodox beliefs. Started his papacy with controversial massacre of Arians. Tried to impose his theologically orthodoxy and the supremacy of Rome. Was the first "Pope" rather than just Bishop of Rome. Died 11 th December 384
NO MASS	Friday 12th St Jane Frances de Chantal Born 1572 in France. Father was President of Parliament of Burgandy. Leader of royalist party. Mother died when she was 18 months old. Father then brought her up to be a devout Christian. Developed into a refined, cheerful and beautiful woman. Married a nobleman, lived in a castle. 4 out of 7 children survived. Brought up her children well. She restored order in the castle and daily Mass. Brought back prosperity to the family. Engaged in many charitable works. Husband killed in shooting accident. Depressed she took a vow of chastity. Problems with father-in-law. When visiting her father, she heard a sermon from Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, who became her spiritual advisor. Wanted to be a nun. Left son with brother, Archbishop of Bourges; eldest daughter had married so took other two daughters with her and founded <i>Congregation of the Visitation</i> . Order of nuns accepted widows and those who had been rejected due to their health or age by other Orders. Unusual in work and ministry outside Convent. Other clergy objected so became enclosed Order. Had a special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. When Francis de Sales died in 1622 the Order had 13 houses of nuns. Vincent de Paul became her new spiritual advisor. She attracted large crowds when she travelled around starting new Convents. 86 houses of nuns when she died aged 69 on 13 th December 1641
6pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 13th St Lucy of Syracuse Born 283 in Syracuse in Sicily to rich, noble Christian parents. Her father died when she was 5 years old. Lucy dedicated her virginity to God unknown to her mother who arranged a marriage with a rich noble pagan young man. When Lucy convinced her mother to give her dowry and wealth to the poor he was furious. He denounced her to the Governor who demanded she offered pagan worship. When she refused he tried to punish her but was unable to harm her. He had her eyes gouged out and killed by the sword as a martyr in 304. St Lucy became one of the most famous and venerated virgin martyrs of the early Church.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 14th December Third Sunday in Advent 3 pm: Christmas Carol Service at St Vincent de Paul
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION	
Your prayers are needed for the following people	
Ann Drumgoole Hazel Sale Mary Light Trevor Delves	

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Rev Fr Shaun Budden died on Sunday 30th November. May he rest in peace and rise in glory

He was 83 years old and it was a happy release from his recent suffering after a life of wonderful service

Christmas Carol Service is on Sunday 14th December at 3 pm at St Vincent de Paul

Replacement of the boiler has been delayed to Wednesday 10th December due to delay in supplies

The funeral of Sue Chandler will take place at St Vincent de Paul on Tuesday 30th December at 10am.



Are you able to host the Posada, figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey, for the night?

Parishioners wishing to host the Posada should fill in the "*Posada Journey Rota*" in the church porch with your name and contact details. The person hosting the Posada on the day before you will deliver the Posada to you at an agreed time. You are then expected to make arrangements for the Posada to be delivered to the next host on the following day. For the evening that you host the Posada, you might like to invite family and friends to join in your celebration, or you might prefer a quiet evening of prayer and reflection. Sheet of suggestions are available. Hosting the Posada can be an opportunity to share our faith with family and friends and to celebrate the period of Advent on our journey towards the feast of Christmas

Christmas Collection of sweets for Southampton Sunday Lunch Project by Sunday 15th December

Collection of wrapped sweets such as Roses, Celebration and Quality Street needed. Please place your donations in box in the porch by Sunday 15th December. Many thanks in anticipation. Shelagh Moon can be contacted up to Sunday 7th December on. Tel: 023 8073 6275. After that date please contact Liz Challand.

Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 17th December – 1pm to 3 pm

Another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes or 2 hours, whatever suits you. Renee and Pat

Parish collection for last weekend 29th and 30th November

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£155	£38.75	£177.15	£242.54	£51.98	£665.42				£665.42