



**The Parish of St Charles Rishton**  
**Parish Priest: Fr. Martin C Dowd**  
**1St Sunday of Advent Year B Missal 466**  
**Sunday 3rd December 2017**

**Telephone: 01254 886243 Mobile 07749 821 550**  
**email: stcharlesrishton@aol.com web www.stcharlesrishton.co.uk**

**Masses this coming week and meetings**

Monday 4th December Mass 11am Evening Prayer as arranged  
 Tuesday 5th December No Mass here today—Morning & evening Office as arranged  
 Wednesday 6th December Mass 9:30with Year 5 children from school—Sunday Club leaders meet 7pm in church  
 Thursday 7th December Mass 9:30am  
 Friday 8th December Feast of the Immaculate Conception Morning Prayer 8:45, Mass & Evening Prayer 6:30pm  
 Saturday 9th December Mass 10am

**Sunday Mass 10th December at St Charles 10am** All children on the Sacramental Programme to attend with their parents please. Parents to enjoy coffee and DVD after Mass

**The Sacrament of Confession (also available in French or Spanish)**

Saturday Evening 5pm—5:30pm or on request.

**Sick of the parish:-** Denise Atkinson, Douglas Beveridge, Ian Birch, Sheila Calvert , Jacqueline Dowd, Sheila Dowd, Winnie Eastham, Colin Fielding, Margaret & Tom Gater, Kathleen Holden, Marie Hoole, Jean Horrocks, Tony Maffia, Eileen O'Neill, Shirley Rush, David Sutton, Gladys Slater, Eileen Smith, Gordon Stanley, Margaret & Thomas Stinson, Anna Zieba

**Anniversaries:-** Connie Threlfall, Nora Henson, William Baldwin, Michael Doherty, Leo Cook, Fr. Thomas Murray, Agnes Myles, Martha Smith, Clementine Imundi, Ellen Parkinson,

**Lately Dead:-** Father Michael Fleming, Canon Kevin O'Connor, Audrey Jean Richardson, Fr Ivor Netto, Jack Aspden, Caterina Smithson, Amy Shuttleworth, Tony Wilson, Kathleen Gilbraith, Maisie Rebello, Ruth Wilkinson, Hughie McConnell, Martin Gooden.

**Divine Office for Advent and Christmas** Everyone is welcome to join in the Daily Prayer of the church (The Divine Office) which is recited in public every day of Advent and Christmastide

8:45am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer—6pm Evening Prayer (Monday to Friday)

Saturday, OR and MP 9:15—Sunday (Morning Prayer only) 9am, (Evenings 6pm)

Any exceptions / special arrangements will be announced for the relevant days of the week

**Please pray for The Holy Father's Intentions**—Workers and the Unemployed —That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good. The intentions in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer— Students and Teachers, the spread of the Gospel, The harvest, The fruits of human work and the reverent use of creation, Justice and peace in the world, All victims of war, Young people, Prisoners and their families.

Please pray for all the children and their families on the Sacramental Programme

**The New Book of Remembrance**

Please take a look at our new Book of Remembrance now on display in the church. Please let Anne Yates know, in writing please, if you are aware of any errors or omissions, with full name and date of omission/error.

**Thank you** to the Scouts for rigging up the hoist for the Children's Christmas decoration display.



**Thank you** to all who gave, came along or helped in any way with the St Charles Christmas Fayre yesterday

**Youth Organisations**

Scout Hut, Commercial St Rishton

Beavers Monday 6pm—7pm

Cubs Monday 7pm—8:30pm

Scouts Tuesday 7pm—9pm

Methodist Church Albert St Rishton

Guides Monday 7pm—9pm

Brownies Tuesday 7pm—8:30pm

Boys Brigade Wednesday 6pm—7:30pm (Juniors & Seniors respectively)

**Next Sunday 10th December**

there will be an additional Mass at St Mary's Clayton at 10am which will be followed by their Christmas Fayre.

**We need cooks for the International Food Night**

God bless you and yours with a good week! *Fr Martin*

Advent opens with a great cry, and a great promise: "Oh that you would tear the heavens open and come down!" is the cry, of a people who need God....The master is coming" is the promise, not to breed fear, but to answer our cry. Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with love and mercy. Nevertheless we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today!



**St Charles Primary School**

Tel 01254 886110

Web [www.st-charles.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-charles.lancs.sch.uk)

**St Augustine's High School**

Tel 01254836362

Web [www.sarchs.com](http://www.sarchs.com)

**St Mary's RC Sixth Form College**

Tel 01254 580464

Web [www.stmaryssblackburn.ac.uk](http://www.stmaryssblackburn.ac.uk)



**Bishop John has written** to all Parishes and School Communities in the Diocese and asks –

"Do you support Catholic Schools and the right of Catholics to send their Children to them?

Then we need you to make your voice heard.

This is the problem—when schools do not have enough places to accept all pupils who wish to go to them, School Governors have to follow a list of priorities to decide who will be offered a place.

In 2010 the Coalition Government limited, or capped, the right of new free schools to give priority to pupils on faith grounds to 50%. In practice, this prevents the opening of new Catholic Schools because School Governors are obliged to turn away Catholic pupils in favour of others. The Church has worked with Parliament and the Government since 2010 to have that limit removed. The Government admits that the policy discriminates against Catholics and has promised to abandon it.

In 2016, the Prime Minister said again that the limit should be removed, and the 2017 Conservative Party Manifesto promised to do so.

The Secretary of State for Education may be about to reverse that Manifesto promise. If she does, it will rob Catholic parents and children of the right to provide and receive a Catholic education.

We need you to tell the Government not to U-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Please visit: <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for "Catholic Education" in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new catholic schools.

**Thank you. +John (+John Arnold, Bishop of Salford)"**

**Christmas Masses—**

**Sunday 24th December**—unless a massive vote to the contrary the Christmas Vigil Mass will be at 4:30pm

**There will be No Midnight Mass**

**Monday Christmas Day 25th December Mass 10am**

People have asked—"Do those who attend the Vigil Mass as their Christmas Mass share with Fr Martin the obligation to attend Mass twice on the 24th December?"

The answer is Yes.

**A few more items for the future**

**10th December** Sacramental Programme Unit 1 10am Mass

**10th December** Christmas Fayre at St Mary's Clayton after 10am Mass

**14th December** St Charles school infants production 2pm & 6:30pm

**14th December** St Charles Parish Meeting in Church / Chapel

**14 December** Lancashire Sing Christmas at the Roebuck

**15th—17th December** Rishton Christmas Tree Festival at the Parish Church 7:30pm

**19th December** St Charles Carols 2pm School Hall

**19th December** Carols round the streets 6:30pm Supper afterwards. Meet at Methodist Church

**20th December** St Charles School Band Morrisons Blackburn

**21st December** 9:15 Whole School end of term Mass

**22nd December** St Charles School closes for Christmas 2pm.

**27th January** St Charles International Food Evening in St Charles Primary School (We need cooks please)

**Could we ask our children** if they would like to stay behind after Mass to make decorations for the church before Christmas whilst parents have coffee?

**10th December** Catechists will meet with children after Mass whilst parents can watch a DVD which all may find helpful and interesting and have a coffee.

Thank you very much last weeks collections.



Anything for the newsletter or website—Please contact Colin Yates on 01254 884540 or 0777 642 0296 or email [colin.yates1940@ntlworld.com](mailto:colin.yates1940@ntlworld.com)