

PEACE THOUGHTS
THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

When the song of the angels is stilled;
when the kings and princes are home;
when the shepherds are back with their flock;
the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among others, to make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

Christmas is the celebration of small things, barely noticeable things.
It is Jesus in a manger, the child who will grow into the voice of God
that is heard around the world and will change it!
Maybe we've never wanted to face the implications of the Christ-Child's
birth for ourselves. Maybe it has been so well masked,
that we don't realise the demands it makes on us now.
It's time to grow beyond fairy-tale-spirituality and face our own part in
the drama, and how, in our own time, we are the deciders
of what this birth will bring. It's time to realise that Christ's birth
is meant to change us all - to make us the bringers of hope,
justice and peace to others.

Sr. Joan Chittister OSB

WORTH WATCHING!

SUNDAY 8.45pm BBC4: A MUSICAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS

The hugely talented Kanneh-Masons family gather for a seasonal celebration, fusing musical traditions from the UK, Sierra Leone and the Caribbean.

MON-WED 8.00pm BBC4: ROYAL INSTITUTION CHRISTMAS LECTURES

Family-friendly lectures, over three evenings, with Professor Dame Sue Black as she takes us deep into the world of forensic science.

TUESDAY 1.50pm PBS AMERICA: LOVE WINS OVER HATE

Explores the lives of six former white supremacists, who explain how they were transformed from being filled with hate and anger, to acceptance and appreciating diversity. All now teach others to love, rather than hate. They talk honestly about their former beliefs, the pain they inflicted on others, and their fight for a world devoid of hate.

THURSDAY 7.45pm BBC4: KEN DODD: HOW TICKLED WE WERE

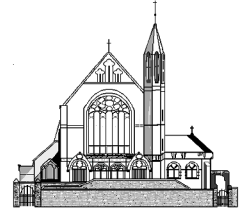
Portrait of the hilarious and much-loved Liverpool comedian.

Registered Charity 232709



**THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL
AND SACRED HEART**

Fr. James Nugent Pastoral Area
St Michael's Church, Horne St, L6 5EH
Sacred Heart Church, Low Hill, L7 8TN
Tel: 0151 263 6578
Confessions: Saturday 12noon St Michael's



24th/25th December 2022 p.95 Nativity of the Lord

MASS TIMES

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart
Sunday 10.30am St Michael

GOSPEL THOUGHTS John 1; 1-18

When mum speaks, the little ones learn and are able to dress themselves. When teachers teach, their students learn and grow confident. When we insult and skit, our words damage the self esteem of the victim. Speech is powerful.

Before the world was, God spoke the Word and the world was made, says St John. St Paul says God spoke to our ancestors and then says God spoke to us.

God spoke to share God's light and God's nature with us. When God speaks, things happen. The power of God lit up the night for those shepherds. In that baby all flesh was chosen by God as the way to come into the world so every human being has the capacity to be the radiance of God among each other.

Avoid consumerism and hug those you love and forgive those who have hurt you. You are the presence of God.



REMEMBERED

...during Mass

Carol Rudkin, Joseph & Charlotte Moore, Alfie Donegan, Esther Robinson, Rose Ann Fitzsimons, Francis Griffin and all our family and friends who have gone before us.

PASTORAL PLAN Deanery Synodal Council

Although there have been some delays because of changes to structures in the Archdiocese, the Deanery councils have been meeting to consider two elements of the six-point Pastoral Plan. The team are keen to let parishes know what they have been discussing through the representatives and to gain feedback so that the process continues to unfold.

<http://liverpoolpastoralplan.org.uk>

Six Areas of Development

1. Becoming a church that **accompanies people through life**
2. Becoming a church that **honours the vocation of all the baptised**
3. Becoming a church where **synodality is embedded**
4. Becoming a church that **renews its organisational structures and administers its property to serve its mission.**
5. Becoming a church where **young people and young adults flourish.**
6. Becoming a church that **cares for its priests.**

One of the four sign posts that emerged from the work that we in our local church have been doing over the last few years is "Embed synodality in every aspect of archdiocesan life."

FOOD AT THE PARISH DOOR

We are getting low but the demand is constant.
Ring pull cans with a whole meal.
Pasta, noodles and tinned tomatoes too.
Thank you for your response.

PAX CHRISTI

We will meet again in the New Year, January 5th.

CHILDRENS' VIGIL MASS

The children came to mass dressed as any nativity character. We had some costumes available for any child who hadn't got one. A tea towel on their head made them a shepherd, an innkeeper or St Joseph!
Christmas Eve with the little ones.

With You Always (1st Communion preparation)

Children's First Reconciliation Service

Thank you to all the families that attended the First Reconciliation Service. Despite the terrible weather conditions nearly all the families turned up to a joyful and meaningful Service.

Our next session is January 24th, 5.30pm at The Irish Centre.

WRITE FOR RIGHTS!

Our parishioners have sent Christmas cards to Prisoners of Conscience across the world. Over a hundred cards were taken away. Well done everyone! Don't forget to post the ones you took away. The envelope is already addressed. Your job is to read the slip about their plight in the card. Keep this slip at home, write a message and take the card to the post office and buy the stamp necessary to send it abroad.

Remember your prisoner and pray for them.

EMMAUS GROUP

'God for Grownups.' An hour for adults to look at our faith for our own time. A chance for conversations about our life in the light of the gospels. Interested?

Our next meetings will be

4.00pm, Sunday, 29th January '23
5th & 12th February '23

Energy Bills

Don't be alone with your worries.

Use less. Keep your Bills. Get in touch with your supplier.

Join a Credit Union. Speak to a Benefits Adviser.

Advice and support is available from the following:

Citizens Advice Bureau 0300 330 1196

Kensington Fields Community Centre 0151708 9107

BIG HELP Boaler Street 0808 275 9931