

Rochdale Parish Churches of St Chad and St Mary in the Baum



NEWS

(Please take one and pass it on)

Advent
to Christmas
2022

*Thank you for joining us for worship today.
You are welcome to stay for refreshments
after the service.*



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE TO BE MARRIED AT
ROCHDALE PARISH CHURCH OF ST CHAD

Saturday 17 December

Grace Eburn Adebote and Abiodun Adebote



**PLEASE CONTINUE
TO PRAY FOR UKRAINE**



**PLEASE ENSURE
YOUR PHONE IS
OFF
DURING THE SERVICE**

Thank You

Sunday 27 November 2022

THIS NEWSLETTER IS FOR ADVENT TO CHRISTMAS.

Any new items will be shared via separate hand-out sheets
or with the notices during our services.

The next newsletter will be available on Christmas Eve, 24 December.

2022 ADVENT COURSES
@ROCHDALE PARISH CHURCHES

*A four-part journey to Christmas using material from the
Diocese of Sheffield's 'Travelling Light' series*

10.30am at St Luke's, Deeplish

Mondays 28 Nov, 5 / 12 / 19 Dec

6.00pm at St Edmund's Vicarage, Falinge

Wednesday 30 November Thursday 8 / 15 / 22 December

There's an Advent Course sign-up form on the desk



**A reminder that there is now a mid-week service
at St Chad's on Thursdays at 10 am**

Weeks 1, 4 and 5* Morning Prayer
Week 2 and 3 Holy Communion**



** months with a 5th Thursday*

*** for those who wish to receive the sacrament in the week*



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS DONATED
TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF
OUR CHRISTMAS TREE AT ST CHAD'S.

St Chad's Christmas Fayre

Thank you for items already donated
for the various stalls
at St Chad's Christmas Fayre.

Donations for...

Raffle prizes and Tombola prizes

Bottle Tombola prizes

Books, DVDs & CDs

Bric-a-Brac

Toys and Games

Handcrafted items

Home-made Cakes, Bakes and Preserves

Jewellery and Accessories

Items for Hamper Raffle

are still being accepted.

*Note to Sidespersons and Wardens:
don't forget to bring in your 6 bottles
for the Bottle Tombola!!!*



**ADMISSION
FREE**



St Chad's Christmas Fayre

SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER

11am - 2pm



**RAFFLES & TOMBOLA
BOTTLE STALL
CHRISTMAS HAMPER
CAKES, BAKES & PRESERVES
BOOKS, DVDs & CDs
TOYS & GAMES ~ BRIC-A-BRAC
JEWELLERY & ACCESSORIES
CARDS & CRAFTS
CHILDREN'S FUN
REFRESHMENTS
AND MORE**

● ST CHAD'S ASIAN FELLOWSHIP ●

JOIN US
AS WE CELEBRATE

White Gift Sunday

Your faith has healed you

Mark 10:52

SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2022

1pm - 4pm

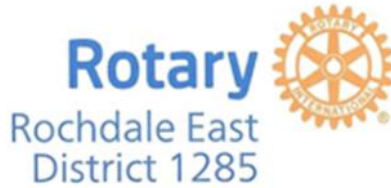
**Rochdale Parish Church of St Chad
OL16 1QT**

Contact info: Mrs Elizabeth Julius

07498 736807

07931 846942

White Gift Sunday began in 1904, with an idea from the minister's wife in a small Methodist church in Ohio. The story goes that she wanted to solve the problem of the unequal value of gifts donated, and so by wrapping gifts in white paper the donors would be able to remain anonymous. Everyone would be able to share in the joy of giving to others and no-one would be judged by the value of their gifts. During the event held at St Chad's you will be invited to place a gift of money inside the white envelopes available and the amount collected will be used to help others. It is just one way in which we can show God's love along with our caring commitment to people in our community.



HELP TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY WARM THIS WINTER

*THE ROTARY CLUB OF ROCHDALE EAST
IS ASKING FOR YOUR HELP FOR OUR PROJECT*

'WINTER WARMING WOOLLIES'

**PLEASE DONATE NEW OR GENTLY USED
HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES OR SOCKS
FOR MEN, WOMEN OR CHILDREN
BETWEEN NOW AND 30 NOVEMBER**

*ALL DONATIONS WILL BE HANDLED BY ROTARY ROCHDALE EAST
TO ENSURE THEY REACH THOSE IN NEED*

PLEASE HELP US SPREAD A LITTLE WARMTH THIS WINTER

**IF YOU CAN HELP US HELP OTHERS
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ROTARIAN
WHO WILL ARRANGE COLLECTION**

**OUR LOCAL ROTARIAN IS:
GRAHAM KNOX 01706 642311**

❖ DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Sun 27 First Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER

Thur 1 Light for Life with Rochdale Hospice 7 - 9 pm

Sat 3 St Chad's Christmas Fayre 11 am - 2 pm

Sun 11 The Mayor's Carol Service at St Chad's 11.15 am

Mon 19 WonderPiano Students' Concert at St Chad's 6 - 9 pm (*time tbc*)



**DATES AND TIMES OF OUR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES
ARE ON THE PAGE OPPOSITE ➤➤➤**

MUSIC AT ST MARY IN THE BAUM

TOAD LANE CONCERTS

Rochdale's Weekly Music at Lunchtime on Wednesdays
Doors open at 12 noon • Concert 12.30 - 1.30 pm • Entry fee: £6

◆ NOVEMBER 30◆

Louise Taylor *soprano* and Leighton Jones *piano*

◆ DECEMBER 7◆

Margaret Ferguson *soprano* (Ghana, Poland & RNCM)
& Jonathan Ellis *piano* (RNCM & Manchester University)

◆ DECEMBER 14◆

Notability - Mixed Voice Choir

◆ DECEMBER 21◆

Shuwei Zuo *violin* (*Beijing Conservatoire, Royal Academy of Music, & RNCM*)
& Xin He *viola* (*Xinghai Conservatoire & RNCM*)

◆ Thank you for your support ◆

Contact Dr Joe Dawson **01706 648872** for more info



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES

SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER

First Sunday of Advent

9.15 am at St Mary in the Baum 11.15 am at St Chad's

SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER

Second Sunday of Advent

9.15 am at St Mary in the Baum 11.15 am at St Chad's

SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER

Third Sunday of Advent

9.15 am at St Mary in the Baum 11.15 am at St Chad's

SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.15 am at St Mary in the Baum

CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE at ST CHAD'S 11.15 pm

SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS EVE

Crib Service and Christingle at St Mary in the Baum 2.00 pm

Midnight Mass 11.30 pm at St Chad's

SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS DAY

St Mary in the Baum at 9.15 am

Festal Choral Eucharist at St Chad's 11.15 am





Advent marks the start of the Christian calendar year, beginning on the Sunday nearest to 30 November and extending until Christmas Day on 25 December.

The Church of England's website tells us that
"Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (*Latin: adventus*) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time."

It's unsure as to when the season of Advent was first celebrated although the first clear reference to its celebration occurs in 567AD when the Council of Tours proclaimed a sacred, festive season for the twelve days from Christmas to Epiphany and that fasting during Advent was to be a necessary preparation for this feast.



Prior to this time there were celebrations and fasts resembling our current Advent season. St Hilary of Poitiers (d 367AD) and the Spanish Council of Saragossa (380AD) spoke of a three week fast before Epiphany. Pope St Leo the Great preached many times about "the fast of the tenth month (December)" prior to Christmas. Also, monks were instructed to fast during this month. The Gelasian Sacramentary (750AD), a book of Christian liturgy, provided liturgical material for the five Sundays before Christmas and also Wednesdays and Fridays. Eventually the Western Church settled on 4 Sundays of Advent, with the season beginning at the end of November or very beginning of December, and starting immediately after Ordinary Time.

The Church of England's website tells us that:

"Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (Latin: adventus) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time."

It is also a season of prayer and repentance, almsgiving, with fasting if you choose to, together with anticipation, hope and joy.

In the Middle Ages the season of Advent was a required time of fasting, in preparation for the Nativity of Jesus. Christians began a forty-day Advent Fast on St Martin's Feast Day, 11 November, and this fasting was to be as intense as the fast during Lent. (Sundays are regarded as a feast day, so no fasting required on Sundays.) The Greek and Orthodox Churches still observe this as their Nativity fast which begins on 15 November.

Nowadays Christians may still choose to observe a period of fasting during Advent, and whilst some churches no longer require this to be an obligation there isn't a rule saying you should *not* do this. /contd...

Advent helps us, as Christians, to prepare for Christmas and remember its real meaning, and on each Sunday of Advent we focus our thoughts on one of the four virtues Jesus Christ brings us: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Purple is the liturgical colour of Advent (although blue may be used as an alternative) and this symbolises that Christ comes from the royal line of David. Christ also comes as the King of Kings and the Prince of Peace.

The Advent wreath is probably the most well-known symbol of Advent. There is a candle for each week of the Advent season and these candles represent hope, peace, joy and love, and the wreath is in the shape of a perfect circle to symbolize God's continuous power, His eternity and endless mercy.

The lighting of candles on the Advent wreath was introduced here in the 19th century from northern Europe, and their purpose is not to illuminate the interior of the church but to represent the light of God coming into the world through the birth of his son Jesus Christ.

The evergreen branches of the wreath represent the trust Christians have in God, and in the hope of newness, renewal and eternal life.

The wreath usually has three purple or blue candles to reflect the liturgical colour of Advent with a pink candle for the third Sunday, arranged around a white or gold candle. (Some other churches choose to use red candles in place of the purple ones - confusing!)



ST CHAD'S ADVENT CANDLES

One candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent, two candles on the second Sunday, and so on.

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday and this candle, representing joy, may be a rose or pink colour.

A fifth candle may be included in the centre of the Advent wreath, usually white or gold, known as the Christ candle, to be lit on Christmas Day to represent the light of God coming into the world through the birth of his son Jesus Christ. As each candle is lit, its flame reminds us that something is happening and also that there is something more still to come.

Before the Advent Calendar became popular, 1800s German protestant Christians would make 24 chalk lines on their doors at the start of Advent and

then rub off one line each day as part of their countdown to Christmas preparations. Alternatively some would make a chalk line on the first day of Advent and add another line each day, while others would light an Advent Candle and burn down a portion of this each day.

Another custom in Germany was for people to make their own paper Advent calendars at home, and then in the early 1900s printer Gerhard Lang made his commercially printed versions available. In the 1920s he added opening doors to the calendars and is regarded as the creator of the modern Advent calendar.

Calendars containing chocolate appeared in the early 1950s, and the first chocolate Advent Calendar appeared here in the UK in 1958, with Cadbury launching their first one in 1971.

Btw, according to Guinness World Records the world's largest Advent calendar was built at London's St Pancras station in 2007, and measured 232ft 11ins in height and 75ft 5ins in width.

In closing, remember that your bible offers an alternative countdown to Advent in the book of Luke... there are 24 chapters, so you can read one chapter on each day through December until we arrive at the 24th and Christmas Eve. (And it's also a no-calorie option, so no excuses!)

Linda G.

Week 1 - Hope

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. *Amen.*

The Collect for the First Sunday in Advent

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. *Amen.*

(The Advent Collects should be repeated every day until Christmas-Eve.)





Sunday 4 December

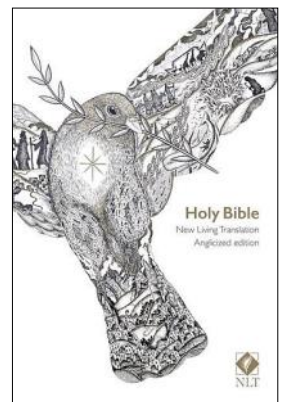


The great symbol of Advent is the increase of light, and as we begin the second week in Advent two candles will be lit on the Advent wreath representing hope and peace, with the increase in light each week symbolizing the coming of the light of the world, Jesus.

The focus this week is on peace, something we all need, not just for the world but in our hearts and lives also.

In John 14:27 (NLT) Jesus said, "I am leaving you with a gift - *peace of mind and heart*. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

There are many translations of the bible and so the exact words of this verse in one translation may differ from the words for the same verse in another. They mention not to be troubled or afraid, but the New Living Translation is very clear in its words about the gift Jesus leaves us - *peace of mind and heart*. It is a powerful statement, as to have peace in both mind and heart is indeed a wonderful gift.



This is a time that invites us to prepare our hearts for the arrival of Jesus, the precious child of God who embodies His hope, peace, joy and love for this world, as we prayerfully come to a fuller and deeper understanding of who He is.

The weeks leading up to Christmas can be hectic as we prepare to celebrate with family and friends. You've probably sent your cards and hopefully managed to do most of your gift shopping by now, but have you made an effort to set aside time each day for the reflection and prayer that is an important part of our preparations?

Advent provides us with an opportunity to work towards becoming the best version of ourselves, finding a deep and abiding inner peace and then sharing that with others, especially with those who might need it most.

It also invites us to joyfully look forward to Christmas Day itself when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the son of God - a day to remind us of an event in the past, but also a reminder of things to come.

For as long as any of us can probably recall we've prayed for "peace on earth" but do you include a prayer for people to find peace within themselves and with each other? Anything that might help to bring this world closer to a wider peace has to be worth a mention.

Through Jesus we can find the peace that will strengthen us as we make our journey through life, and also help towards making a kinder and more compassionate world.

Linda G.

Week 2 - Peace

The prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where
there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt,
faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there
is darkness, light; and Where there is sadness,
joy... Divine Master; Grant that I may not so
much seek to be consoled as to console; to be
understood as to understand; to be loved as to
love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in
pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in
dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Collect for the Second Sunday in Advent

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come
among us, and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered in running the race
that is set before us, your bountiful grace and
mercy may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to
whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour
and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*(The Advent Collects should be repeated every day until
Christmas-Eve.)*





Third Sunday *of* Advent

Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

O LORD Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

We've now reached the third Sunday on our journey through Advent.

On each of the first two Sundays of Advent we lit a purple candle and today we will light a rose (pink) coloured candle, rose being the liturgical colour used to signify joy. Also, rose coloured (pink) vestments may be worn instead of the purple ones associated with the season.

The third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday, or Rose Sunday.

Gaudete is taken from the Latin word for joy - and today is a day for rejoicing as we arrive at the halfway point of our journey through Advent.

Today's change of colour for the candle and vestments lightens the mood, encouraging us to continue with our spiritual preparation as we travel on towards Christmas Day, and the celebration of Jesus' birth.

At one time flowers and organ music were forbidden during Advent, but were allowed on Gaudete Sunday as a respite from the penitential nature of the season.

Our journey through Advent may have us running around, ever busier, as we embark on preparations for Christmas and all that it entails, but we should always remember to pause for a while and make time to prepare our hearts to receive the greatest gift of all.

Today, three candles have been lit... and so the light increases.

Linda G.





We've now reached the fourth Sunday of our journey through Advent.

The waiting is almost over!

Today, the fourth Advent candle is lit, reminding us of the love that is at the heart of Christmas.

Again, the light increases.

A new candle has been lit each week and we have been reminded that something is happening, and that there is more to come.

Christmas is a special time, with God's gift of love to the world at its heart.

Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

As we are told in John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (NRSV)

There is one more candle on our Advent wreath, the Christ candle, that will be lit during the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

This candle is at the centre of the wreath to remind us that Jesus is at the centre of Christmas.

So, as you watch this candle burn remember that He is 'the reason for the season', and is the one who brings hope, peace, joy and love for us all.

This final candle on the Advent wreath also reminds us of the light Jesus brought into the world, a light to guide us, and a sign of His presence amongst us.

Take a moment to reflect on John 8:12 (NRSV) where Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

Christmas is now just a few days away - we will soon be celebrating the true meaning of the season, and giving thanks for the greatest gift of all given to us some 2,000 years ago.

Enjoy your Christmas.

Linda G.



MIDWINTER SOLSTICE

According to the Greenwich Mean Time website, this year's Midwinter Solstice is on Wednesday 21 December at 09:49 GMT.

"Solstice" comes from the Latin word solstitium, which means 'Sun stands still' [sol (sun) and sistere (to stand still)].

The date and time of the actual solstice does vary slightly from year to year, the precise timing being determined by factors such as the axis of the earth's rotation, speed of the earth's orbit and the length of the solar days.

Although the time of this year's Midwinter Solstice is around 09:49, people generally refer to the whole day as being the solstice.

The Midwinter Solstice can occur between 20 - 23 December, with 21 or 22 December being the most frequent dates.

20 December solstices are rare - the next one will be in 2080.

The last 23 December solstice was in 1903, and you'll need to be around in 2303 for the next one.

So, we can look forward to about a quarter of an hour's extra daylight each week until we arrive at the Midsummer Solstice on Wednesday 21 June 2023 at 15:57 and the longest day (or shortest night), Midsummer, from which date (no surprises here) the daylight then reduces again until we're back at the Midwinter Solstice and the shortest day once more.

It's interesting to note that whilst the Solstice is also known for being the shortest day (or the longest night) of the year, the mornings don't

actually start becoming lighter for a few days after the solstice as the path of the Sun's travel appears to stand still before it changes direction and takes us on once more towards the Midsummer Solstice in June.

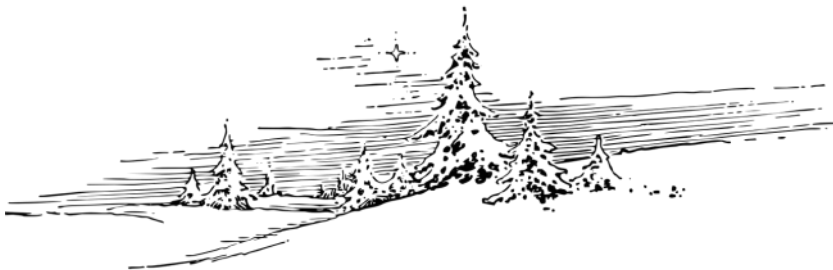
The astronomical seasons may be a more traditional, and perhaps familiar, way of defining the seasons and the Midwinter Solstice also marks the first day of the astronomical winter season.

In contrast to this, the meteorological seasons take the first day of winter as 1 December and ends on 28 February (or 29 February during a Leap Year) .

However the seasons may be referred to, this year's Midwinter Solstice will be on Wednesday 21 December - soon, extra daylight each day, and we'll be on our way towards summer again!

Linda G.

** The meteorological seasons begin on the first days of March (spring), June (summer), September (autumn) and December (winter), to make it easier to observe and forecast the weather and compare monthly and seasonal statistics.*



SERVICES OF WORSHIP

◆ Sundays

ST MARY IN THE BAUM

9.15 am

Week 1 - BCP Communion

Week 2 - Service of the Word

Weeks 3, 4 and 5*

Common Worship Communion

** where there is a 5th Sunday in a month*

ST CHAD'S

11.15 am

Choral Eucharist

Matins on 2nd Sunday of month

1.00 - 2.30 pm

Asian Fellowship

◆ Thursdays

ST CHAD'S

from 3 November at 10.00 am

Weeks 1, 4 and 5* Morning Prayer

Week 2 and 3 Holy Communion**

** months with a 5th Thursday*

*** for those who wish to receive
the sacrament in the week*



CONTACT INFO

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fr.darrenquinlan@gmail.com

Asian Fellowship:

Elizabeth Julius

07931 846942 (please text)

Churchwardens:

St Chad's

Mr P Bollington 07566 983 798

Mr A Wild 07905 837 847

St Mary in the Baum

Andrea Pollock 07974 191 246

<https://rochdaleparishchurches.org.uk>

www.facebook.com/rochdaleparishchurches

@RochdaleStChads @stmaryinthebaum

*To book a Wedding or Baptism/Christening
at St Chad's or St Mary in the Baum,
please come along to church
on Sunday morning
or phone the vicar to make arrangements.*

