



OUR LADY OF GRACE PRESTWICH

‘Stay with us, Lord, on our journey’

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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH 27 December 2020

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

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| SUNDAY | First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am |
| MONDAY | 12 noon The Holy Innocents |
| TUESDAY | 12 noon St Thomas of Canterbury |
| WEDNESDAY | 12 noon Sixth Day within the Christmas Octave |
| THURSDAY | 12 noon Seventh Day within the Christmas Octave/St Sylvester I |
| FRIDAY | 12 noon Holy Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day) |
| SATURDAY | 12 noon St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen |

The church is open every day

Monday to Friday from 11.45 am-4.00 pm. **Saturdays** from 11.45 am-3.00 pm, 6.45-8.00 pm
Sundays from 8.45 am to 10.00 am, 10.45 am to 12 noon.

My dear Parishioners and Friends,

“Stunning!” That was the word frequently heard as you saw the beautiful flower displays in the church on Christmas Day. The flower arrangers are indeed to be thanked for lifting our hearts in this way during these days of lockdown.

It was good to be able to greet so many of you at the Masses on Christmas Eve and Day. All were well attended except the one at twelve noon. Maybe this was a little late for people wanting to cook their dinner.

Understandably, a lot of people are wary of mixing, given the strong warnings from Government experts and leaders about the rapid spread of the new strain of the coronavirus. However, churches have been shown

to be among the safest places where people gather. Again, we express gratitude to the Welcomers who give generously of their time to ensure that the church remains open.



Our thanks must also go to the parish branch of the **St Vincent de Paul Society** for the various ways in which they have helped families and individuals, not just at this time of Christmas but also during the past year.



Sister Joan and the Team at Bury Red Door have sent their thanks to our parish for help given during the pandemic. You have indeed been generous in your support for the Food Bank in Radcliffe. The Red Door project, working from St

Joseph's in Bury, provide some impressive figures: 906 visitors, 592 food parcels, 445 hot lunches and packed lunches, plus support for individuals, laundry and shower facilities and clothing, plus supplying a postal address and telephone access for the needy.



Fr Dearman joins me in offering our warm thanks for your greetings and gifts over the past few days. They are greatly appreciated. We hope you continue to enjoy the special graces that the Christmas season will continue to bring. The season doesn't end until the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, 10 January 2021.

Fr Allen

PS This week's letter is a holiday edition – one page only!