



# Life and Hope for All



Join Us This Sunday:  
**ADVENT SUNDAY**

Isaiah 2.1-5, Psalm 122  
Matthew 24.36-44

**SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JOINT SERVICE  
ONLY AT ST JAMES'**



**Advent  
Sunday  
Joint Service**

**BAPTISM & LUNCH**

## From Wreaths to Worship: Entering Advent


As we step into Advent, our churches are already alive with the warmth and creativity of the season. This weekend, St Edmund's hosted a wonderfully successful wreath-making workshop, filling the hall with laughter, concentration, the scent of evergreens, and the joy of crafting something beautiful together. Combined with the vibrant Winter Fair at St Margaret's – buzzing with music, stalls, and community energy – these moments have begun turning our hearts toward the festive season now unfolding around us. This Advent Sunday, as we gather for our joint service and Bring & Share meal, we come not simply as individual congregations but as one family across St James', St

Edmund's, St Margaret's, and Grace Community. Advent invites us to pause, breathe, and look forward with expectation. It calls us to prepare not just our homes but our hearts – to listen again for the whisper of hope, the promise of peace, the song of joy, and the steady, transforming love of God coming among us.

And so we look ahead to a rich season of celebration: Nativity services, candlelit carols, Café Church Christmas gatherings, and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship across our churches. Each moment is an invitation – to wonder, to worship, and to walk together into the good news of Emmanuel, God with us. Come and share the journey.

Rev'd Tom





WHALLEY RANGE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE  
invite you to  
write some wrongs

**THE PEN IS  
MIGHTIER  
THAN THE  
SWORD #23**

'Many snowflakes  
make an  
avalanche'

Once a year Amnesty  
International asks  
supporters to send cards  
with messages of hope and  
solidarity to victims of  
human rights violations  
and those who defend  
them. Once again we  
invite you to join us in  
supporting this simple but  
effective humanitarian  
initiative.

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> December 1.00pm – 5.00 pm**  
**St Margaret's Church, Rufford Rd**

Whalley Range for Peace and Justice invite you to The Pen Is Mightier Than the Sword #22, Sat 7 December, 2–5pm, at St Margaret's Church, Rufford Rd, M16 8AE. Join us in sending seasonal messages of solidarity to political prisoners worldwide with materials from Amnesty International. There will be live music, food, drinks, and fair-trade stalls. If you can't attend, you can still Write From Home: download the booklet at <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/write-rights-2024-get-started> Completed, unstamped letters/cards can be delivered to Paul Morris, 135 Nicolas Rd, Chorlton M21 9LS, to be posted as a batch. Deadline: 15 December. More info: WRPJ2020@gmail.com.

## Upcoming Events

### Prayer Meetings

Morning Prayer at St Edmund's on Monday, St James' on Tuesday at 9:30 am. Join us if you can for a meaningful time of prayer.

### Tuesday Place of Welcome

10am join us for a brew and a good chat at St James.

### Coffee Morning – Wednesday 10.30

Join us at St Edmund's for a Bible Study and a good brew and natter. See you on Wednesday at 10.30.

### Grieving Together Cafe

Meets every week at St James at 11.30am. This week for National Grief Week we walk in Alexandra Park. Meet at St James.

### Thursday: The Chosen Bible Study

Do join us on Thurs 4th Dec 7.30pm at St Ed's for The Chosen, Season 1 Episode 5 : The Wedding Gift – about the miracle at Cana. We'll read the relevant Bible passages and then watch the film, reflect and pray. A great way to discover or rediscover the life of Jesus.

Join our Marathi families and folk from Grace Community as they sing carols at Piccadilly Train Station on Dec 7<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Contact Amit to get involved or speak to Revd Kausar.




PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL  
*Christmas*  
-CAROLS-  
DECEMBER 7 AT 15:00  
Manchester Piccadilly Station  
PRASHANT - 07969161994  
BROTHER AMIT - 07743384747



Meeting point

## This Weeks Prayer Topic

- Advent Lord, shine hope where conflict and fear persist.
- Bring peace in Gaza and Ukraine and protection for civilians.
- Steady our nation amid rising costs and winter hardship.
- Strengthen our community to welcome refugees and support those hit by severe weather.
- Bless all seeking work, warmth or stability.
- Prepare our hearts this Advent to wait with faith, live with peace, and share your love.



**JOY**

Nativity - Sunday 14th December  
10.30am at St Edmund's M16 8EZ

Churches Together Carols - Sunday 14th December  
12.30pm at Alexandra Park Bembe Café

Café Church Christmas Special - Sunday 14th December  
4.30pm at St James' M14 4TH - Bring & Share meal

Grace Community Urdu Carols - Sunday 14th December  
Starts 2pm followed by Christmas dinner at St Edmund's

Communion & Carols - Sunday 21st December  
10.30am at St Edmund's M16 8EZ and St James' M14 4TH

Candlelit Carol Service - Sunday 21st December 6pm  
our joint Carol Service 6pm at St Edmund's

Christmas Eve Celebration - 24th December 9pm  
Grace Community Urdu celebrations from 9pm at St Edmund's

Midnight Candlelit Carols - 24th December 11pm  
Includes 1st Christmas Communion at St Margaret's M16 8AE

Christmas Day Celebrations 10.30am and 4pm  
at both St James' and St Edmund's at 10.30am  
Grace Community Urdu Mass - St Edmund's at 4pm

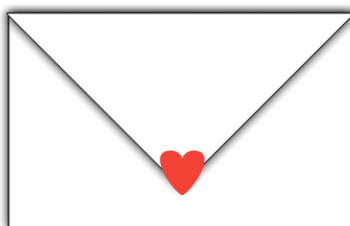


All are welcome this Christmas  
[www.stedsandstjames.org.uk](http://www.stedsandstjames.org.uk)  
or call 0161 226 1291

### Begin Your Advent Well

Engage with the Church of England's Advent 2025 resources. From 1 December, you can read and listen to daily Advent and Christmas reflections through Everyday Faith, the Church of England's new daily devotional app. [Click here for get started>>](#)

**St James' Christmas Gift Envelopes available this Sunday and over the coming weeks, as we have an opportunity to give to church general funds.**



### For friends at St James'

Irene Potter; Chris Roffey; Hylsa Walters; Roy Francis; Floretta Mahon; Muriel Brown; Dorothy Lovell; Tanisha Byfield, Dennis Rochester, Jean Wheale, Revaleta and family, our Warden Barry.

### For friends at St Edmund's

Yomi, Isobelle Bennett, Daphne Francis; Evelyn Roberts; Morgan Parry; Doreen Huggins, Shirley, Carmen Robinson, Adeline Ackun, Phoebe Leyden, Hyacinth Lightbourne, Garfield (and family), Angela and family