



Editorial

ADVENT SUNDAY

Matthew 24 v 36-44

Traditionally, the Church opens the Advent season by reflecting on apocalyptic scriptures that speak of the end times and Christ's promised return. This is done for a clear reason: if the events Jesus predicted in Matthew 24 are never to occur, then the significance of his birth in Bethlehem is greatly diminished. Without the assurance that Jesus will return to establish the kingdom of heaven he proclaimed, the meaning of his first coming is lost as well.

It shouldn't dampen anyone's Christmas spirit to spend the first Sunday of Advent contemplating the ultimate realities to which Jesus directs us. In a world burdened by sorrow—marked by wars in Europe and the Middle East, the suffering and loss of countless children, and societies fractured by division and rising political violence—there is a deep need for hope. We live amid hunger, economic hardship, and persistent grief.

At Christmas, especially, how can we witness such pain and not yearn for Christ's return, his second Advent? Only if Christ is truly coming again does his first coming hold its full meaning. In fact, it is only in light of his promised return that the birth of Christ becomes absolutely essential.

Tony Whitehead - Licensed Lay Minister



Please Pray for...

Minti R	Emma H
David & Norma V	Chloe
Barbara S	Rachael B
Brenda & Ken	John H & Debs
Betty	Sue S
Lee A	Vinny H
Stuart & family	Bishop David †
Jackie	Michael F
Isaac	Joanne
Jodie	Brian G
Anne H	David P
Ross	Ken K
Belinda K	Re-Ordering Project
Phil & Sue B	WoW & Beyond WoW
Norma M	Pause Café
Freda	
Samantha W	

Remember, this list is for those who need our prayers, not just the sick or bereaved.



This Week at St Bede

Sunday 30th November (Advent Sunday)

10am Morning Service

Join us as we begin the season of Advent with our Advent Service as we prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Our children's ministry group 'Church Rocks' meets this morning.

6pm Mission Community Advent Taizé Service

Join with others from across our Mission Community for a special Advent Taizé Service at St James' Daisy Hill as we worship together this Advent.

Tuesday 2nd December

Our monthly PAUSE Cafe returns this week. The PAUSE Cafe is a safe place for anyone to come and chat and receive peer support. Everyone welcome.

Wednesday 3rd December

12pm St Bede Christmas Luncheon Club

Our Luncheon Club are holding their Christmas Meal this week. Join us for what is always a wonderfully festive occasion. To book your place contact Elaine Almond.

6pm WOW (Worship on Wednesday)

Our WOW services continue this week as we conclude our series looking at the character of God. Our theme this week is 'God the Promise Keeper'. Our youth group **Beyond WOW** also meets tonight at the same time for those in Year 7+

Thursday 4th December

7pm Prayer at 7

Join us for a special Advent reflection as we gather for prayer as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Sunday 7th December

10am Holy Communion

Worship with us as we continue our journey through Advent by reflecting on the role of the prophets in preparing the world for the coming of Jesus.

Our children's ministry group 'Church Rocks' meets this week.



 **THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**
Diocese of Manchester

St Bede Charity Partner 2025.



COLLECT

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Church depends very heavily on fundraising as well as regular giving to keep our Church afloat.

We ask that you do continue to give by setting up a Standing Order from your bank. Please contact our Treasurer, Simon Brooks for further details – brooks_simon@hotmail.co.uk

visit our website www.st-bede.org.uk or scan the QR code below



CHRISTMAS DINNER ON JESUS CAMPAIGN 2026

This Sunday is the last day for donations of custard for this year's Christmas Dinner on Jesus Campaign

We are pleased to announce that as of last week across our 2 churches we have now collected **1245** cartons of custard Thank you for your support.

Finally, as a church we are able to nominate a small number of people to receive a Christmas Dinner on Jesus Hamper If you know of anyone who is struggling or had a tough year and you think would appreciate a Christmas Dinner on Jesus please speak to Vinny today.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2025

🎄 A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who joined us and supported our Christmas Fayre this year! 🎄 We faced a few challenges along the way, but thanks to the team's incredible spirit and generosity, everything came together beautifully.

✨ A special shout-out to those who spent countless hours planning stalls and games—you truly made the day magical!

Because of your amazing support, we raised an incredible **£1,631.31!** Your kindness and festive cheer made this event unforgettable. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! ❤️



MISSION COMMUNITY ADVENT TAIZE SERVICE



Join with people from across our Mission Community for a special Taize style service to begin the season of Advent.

'Light in the Darkness' is on **Sunday 30th November**, 6pm at St James' Church, Daisy Hill.

ST BEDE CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2025

We are delighted to announce details of our Christmas Services here at St Bede.

Our theme this year is Joy and we'll be reflecting on how we can discover the true joy of Christmas as we celebrate Christmas

Please do make a note of our services and use this as an opportunity to invite family and friends to St Bede this Christmas.





JOY



Discover the Joy of Christmas at St Bede Church

Sunday 21st December

10am Christingle Carol Service

Join us for our all-age service
as we sing carols and make Christingles
Staff and Pupils from St Bede Academy
will also be taking part in our service.

Wednesday 24th December: Christmas Eve

6.30pm Pop Up Nativity Crib Service

This is your chance to star in a Nativity!
Please come dressed up as your
favourite Nativity Character.

Thursday 25th December: Christmas Day

10am Christmas Day Celebration with Communion

Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus





🎄 DECK THE HALLS... AND THE NEWSLETTER! 🎄

As St Bede tradition goes, we're swapping Christmas cards for something even better – your festive messages in our newsletter!

Instead of spending on cards, why not sprinkle that cheer as a donation? It's the season of giving, after all!

Simply fill in the form and get it to **Tony Whitehead** by **Wednesday 17th December** – so your message can shine bright in the newsletter on **Sunday 21st December**.

Let's make this Christmas less about envelopes and more about smiles! 🌟





From	
Your message	
Donation made	Cash/Sum Up (please delete as applicable)

Please get this message to Tony before **Wednesday 17th**
December to be in the newsletter for Sunday 21st December
tony@st-bede.org.uk

WOW

Worship On Wednesday



Join us for fun, food, songs, games,
and activities as we explore faith and life together.

We meet every Wednesday
6.15pm-7pm
St Bede Church Community Room





Christmas Dinner on Jesus Campaign 2025

We are delighted to announce our
Christmas Dinner on Jesus Campaign for 2025!

This year we are going custard crazy as we have
committed to collect **1,600 500g Cartons of
Custard** for Christmas Dinner on Jesus
by Sunday 30th November

Please support us by bringing in your donations
today as we support Urban Outreach in
providing local people in need with a free
Christmas Dinner this Christmas.





St Bede's is a living Church, and its people are The Church. The Church's only financial support is its own Church family.

Please try to support our social and fundraising events as they are vital not only to the financial wellbeing of our Church but are great opportunities to get to know one another better.

Your Church thanks you for your gifts of money, time and talents.

Contacts

Vicar– Rev Canon Vinny Whitworth – 01204 658921 vinny@st-bede.org.uk

Curate – Rev Sweetline Burnell – revd.sweetlineburnell@gmail.com 07423084946

Associate Priest – Rev Malcolm Bristow – 01204 659816

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) – Tony Whitehead – 07967 223380 – tony@st-bede.org.uk

Reader Emeritus – Pat Bristow

Authorised Lay Ministers – Gillian Blackburn, Carol Hardman

Church Wardens – Jean Philips – 01204 451676 Gill Blackburn – 01204 660396

PCC Secretary and Church Administrator– Elaine Almond – 07757099862 elainealmond22@gmail.com

Treasurer – Simon Brooks - brooks_simon@hotmail.co.uk

Organist – David Platt

Newsletter Editor – Tony Whitehead 07967223380

Social Media Team – Kirsty Critchley 07763 495009 & Tony Whitehead 07967223380

Administrator – Elaine Almond – 07757099862

St Bede Primary Academy Headteacher – Anna Black – 01204 61899

Chair of Governors – Tony Whitehead Vice Chair – David Almond

ST BEDE'S CHURCH, MORRIS GREEN, BOLTON-LE-MOORS

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