



### Mass Intentions 21st – 28<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Saturday	20 Dec	5:00pm	Sacred Heart	John Thompson / Fidelma McGlone
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Advent	21 Dec	9:30am	St Richards	Joseph Atkinson / Maureen Whittle
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Advent	21 Dec	11:00am	Sacred Heart	Dorothy Hickman
Monday	22 Dec	10:30am	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tuesday	23 Dec	10:30am	<b>St Richards</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>

### Christmas Masses 2025

<b>Wednesday Christmas Eve</b>	<b>24 Dec</b>	<b>5:30pm 6:00pm</b>	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>Carol Service Vigil Mass Christmas - Marcus Reid</b>
<b>Wednesday Christmas Eve</b>	<b>24 Dec</b>	<b>7:30pm 8:00pm</b>	<b>St Richards</b>	<b>Carol Service Vigil Mass Christmas – Enid /Ronnie Kenwright</b>
<b>Thursday Christmas Day</b>	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>St Richards</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass Jimmy Hancock</b>
<b>Thursday Christmas Day</b>	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass</b>
Friday Boxing Day	26 Dec	10:30am	St Richards	<b>St Stephens Mass</b> Chris Roberts 80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Saturday	27 Dec	5.00pm	Sacred Heart	Janet Gittens / Fr Martin Delaney
Sun – Holy Family	28 Dec	9.30am	St Richards	Winifred + William Denton
Sun – Holy Family	28 Dec	11:00am	Sacred Heart	Joseph + Geraldine Clarkson

### Christmas Reflection 2025

Today we begin our walk together to the manger in Bethlehem, to the peaceful quiet of that night, to see the miracle unfolding in front of us. Now all the decorations and presents are nearly ready, let's not let these things distract us from what we are about to witness.

The problem with Christmas as we celebrate it in our world today, is that it generates all sorts of expectations. TV images suggest cosy warm homes and twinkling lights. Families gathering with no trace of pain or fear, unlimited amounts of money to spend on extravagant gifts. This is not reality. The reality for us is one of unconditional love in the wonder of a baby. However; Christmas can be extraordinarily painful for some people. There is deep poignancy in Christmas coming at the darkest time of the year, as the baby of Bethlehem was born in dark times. God comes as a baby, born in poverty, into a broken world, and we face that brokenness even today, but all our hope is in Him. Let us remember that God is with us and He walks with us always. As we enter another Christmas season let's give thanks for those around us and who we love, and we remember those we have lost in our parish this year. I wish you and all your family and friends a peaceful and happy Christmas. **Fr Carl**

**Keeping Safe from Flu:** Because of the increasing cases of flu this year and the risk of serious illness, I have decided it is best to only have Holy Communion under one kind, so therefore the chalice will be removed from Holy Communion until the risk of illness is reduced. Thank you for your understanding. Keep well. **Fr Carl**

**Sacred Heart – Poinsettia Plants** As is usual tradition, we invite parishioners to bring along their poinsettia plants to remember their loved ones over this special season. Could I kindly ask that these plants are then taken home after the Christmas season.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE.**

