



- Collection Offering £529.61 of which £97.00 was gift aided.

Thank you for your generosity, for Gift Aiding your offerings, and for your support of the Parish. Fr Patrick.

**Luke 3:10-18** In the Gospel from Luke, the people asked John the Baptist, “What must I do? He told them that they must treat people fairly and share their possessions with those in need. John declared, ‘I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of His sandals; He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Water signifies birth and the life given in the Holy Spirit. Fire symbolizes the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was given to the Church at Pentecost. Each one of us has been given the Holy Spirit at our Baptism – we are ‘Temples of the Holy Spirit’.

This great gift of grace must have a transforming effect on our lives and on those we meet. We are to be people of joy and love. We are to rejoice! We are to tell others of the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are to show love to those less privileged than ourselves: the old, the lonely, the homeless, those without jobs. We must share with those who have nothing. We are to live our lives in the knowledge that we have been saved by Jesus Christ. The same Jesus Christ, we receive in the Holy Eucharist: The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

**SVP SENIORS NEW YEAR MEAL:** Will be held on 12th January 2025 in St Charles Hall at 1.00pm. All elderly and housebound are welcome. There will be a full Christmas Dinner at a cost of £5.00. If you would like to attend, please put £5.00 in an envelope and put it in the box at the back of the church, with your name, address, telephone number and any dietary requirements. Lifts are available. Donations for raffle would be welcomed. Kevin Norton.

**NEW YEAR EVES PARTY:** 31st December 2024 at 7.30pm in St Charles Hall. Ticket only event £10.00. You need to bring your own food and drink. Children are free. Buy from Peter McManamon, Julie Lee Or Tracy Wyatt.

#### **FUNERALS:**

The following funeral are taking place next week:

- ❖ Monday 16th December 2024 - Lilia Kanoff Dec'd
- ❖ Thursday 19th December 2024 - Michael Illingworth Dec'd
- ❖ Friday 20th December 2024 - Ann Williams Dec'd

Please pray for the repose of their souls and for their grieving families.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS:** The Christmas offerings are your personal gift to the Parish Priest. Only the following qualifies for the personal offering: Electronic payments with the word ‘Christmas’ included in the reference details, the ‘Christmas Offering’ gift-aid envelopes, and cash placed in the collection at the Christmas Masses. Private gifts welcome. Thank you for your generosity. Fr Patrick.

**ST CLARE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** Applications for 2025 intake must be submitted to Essex County Council between 4th November 2024 and 15th January 2025. You no longer require a Certificate of Catholic Practice. You will need to

supply the child's baptism certificate to the School. If your child has not been baptised, speak to Fr Patrick as soon as possible.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES:**

Sunday 15th December after the 10.30am Mass -Christmas Carols and Mince Pies in the Parish Hall.

Monday 23rd December 7.00 pm Christmas Reconciliation Service with visiting priests.

Tuesday 24th December 6.00 pm Children's Vigil Mass

Tuesday 24th December 8.00 pm Christmas Carols

Tuesday 24th December 9.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Wednesday 25th December 8.30 am Christmas Day Mass

Wednesday 25th December 10.30 am Christmas Day Mass.

**CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE WITH MINCE PIES:** The Choir and the Young Persons Choir will lead a Carol Service in the Parish Hall on Sunday 15th December 2024 immediately following the 10.30am Mass. All are welcome.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER CAROL SERVICE:** The choir will be singing outstanding Lloyds Bank in the Town Square at 2.00pm on Saturday 14th December 2024. Please come and join us.

**FINAL PRACTICE YOUNG PERSON'S CHOIR:** Monday 16th December from 4.45pm to 6.30pm. Text Julie Lee for further details on 07949087427.

**THIS WEEK'S SERVICES**

Saturday 14th December 2024.	9.30am.	MASS: Tim Lancaster & Family Intentions. Joe.
Saturday 14th December 2024.	11.00am to 1.00pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 14th December 2024.	11.00am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 14th December 2024.	11.00am to 12.00pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.
Saturday 14th December 2024.	12.00pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 14th December 2024. Vigil of The Third Sunday in Advent (C ).	6.00pm.	MASS: Catherine & Graham Baudains Intentions. Angela Cook.
Sunday 15th December 2024. Third Sunday in Advent (C ).	8.30am.	MASS: Felisa Thason Intentions (Birthday).
Sunday 15th December 2024.	10.30am.	MASS: Peter Kandiah RIP Kaniah & Deady

		Family.
Monday 16th December 2024.	9.00am.	MASS: Holy Souls Tim
Monday 16th December 2024.	10.30am.	FUNERAL MASS: Lilia Kibanoff RIP
Tuesday 17th December 2024.	9.00am.	MASS: Mary Tomlin Intentions. Lindsey Abbarchi.
Thursday 19th December 2024.	9.00am.	MASS: Mary Peace Intentions. Lindsey Abbarchi.
Thursday 19th December 2024.	1.15pm.	FUNERAL MASS: Michael Illingworth
Friday 20th December 2024.	9.00am.	MASS: Monica O'Brian Intentions. Catherine.
Friday 20th December 2024.	1.30pm	FUNERAL MASS: Ann Williams RIP
Saturday 21st December 2024.	9.30am.	MASS: Maureen Hughes RIP. Harry.
Saturday 21st December 2024.	11.00am to 1.00pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 21st December 2024.	11.00am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 21st December 2024.	11.00am to 12.00pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.
Saturday 21st December 2024.	12.00pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 21st December 2024. Vigil of The Fourth Sunday in Advent (C ).	6.00pm.	MASS: Tim Lancaster & Family Intentions. Joe.
Sunday 22nd December 2024. Fourth Sunday in Advent (C ).	8.30am.	MASS: Tim Donovan RIP Catherine.
Sunday 22nd December 2024.	10.30am.	MASS: Peter Coyned & Colette Walker Intentions. Lindsey Abbarchi.