

ST. PATRICK PARISH, FALLOWFIELD



We are a vibrant and engaged faith community committed to building up one another in Christ. We are nourished by the sacraments, and our shared service to one another and the wider community.



FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33.14-16

SECOND READING

Thessalonians 3.12-4.2

GOSPEL

Luke 21.25-28, 34-36

Psalms 25

TO YOU, O LORD, I
LIFT MY SOUL.

December

Month of the Immaculate
Conception

Divine Grace

This month honors the Immaculate Conception of Mary, the moment she was preserved from original sin by God's grace. Chosen to be the Mother of Christ, she was created pure and full of grace, a spotless vessel for the Word made flesh. The Immaculate Conception invites us to reflect on God's saving plan and strive for holiness in our own lives.

December 1st

First Sunday in Advent

Waiting In Hope

As we light the first candle on the Advent wreath, we begin our journey of hope toward the celebration of Christ's birth. This season invites us to prepare our hearts, embrace His light, and reflect on the promise of His coming. Let us enter this time of waiting with joyful anticipation, ready to welcome the Prince of Peace into our lives and our world. May this Advent bring renewed faith, hope, and love to all.

Gospel Reflection

In this week's Gospel, Jesus speaks of signs in the heavens and on earth, warning His disciples of the trials and tribulations to come. These words remind us of the unpredictability of life, yet they also point to a deeper truth: the fulfillment of God's plan. Jesus invites us not to fear these signs, for His coming brings liberation and salvation. "Stand up and raise your heads," He says, for His arrival brings liberation, not despair.

As we enter the season of Advent, this Gospel challenges us to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming, not only as we celebrate His birth but also as we await His return in glory. Jesus warns against being weighed down by the distractions

and worries of life, urging us to remain vigilant, prayerful, and attentive. Advent is a season of hopeful anticipation, a time to reflect on God's promises and renew our commitment to live with faith and trust in His plan.

The call to "stay awake" is an invitation to live consciously and with purpose, to be mindful of the presence of Christ in our daily lives, and to align our hearts with His will. By focusing on prayer, repentance, and acts of charity, we prepare ourselves to welcome Him not only at Christmas but in every moment. In doing so, we remain rooted in the hope of His coming and the certainty that His kingdom is near.

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People of the Parish • † Maurice Powers by Laura Garrett • † Romy Best by Gisele Reinboldt & family • † Amanda Flett by Shawn and Leah • † Norah Hourigan by Marilyn Allen • For the intentions of those who have no one to pray for them by Anne & Alan Gordon
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • † Shirley Frances Howe Lahey by David, Patrick, Cheryl Lahey and families • † Anita Maddalena by Judy & Michael Chambers • † Krista Brady by Brady and Buckland family members • † Ashley LaRoche by Sally & Sonja • † Maria and John Bastone by Eleanor Spriggs
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • † Parish All Souls Intention • † June O'Donnell by Cathy, Nancy and Carolyn • † Parish All Souls Intention • † Members of the Monteiro family by the Monteiro family
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	• † Parish All Souls Intention
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	• † Parish All Souls Intention
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	• † Parish All Souls Intention
Friday	9:00 a.m.	• † Members of the Monteiro family by the Monteiro family



Watch and pray without fear for tomorrow; live ready for the coming of the Lord.



Reconciliation: Saturdays 4-4:45 p.m. in the sacristy or by appointment

December 6th
St. Nicholas, Bishop

Generosity, Compassion, and Selfless Love

St. Nicholas, celebrated for his generosity, compassion, and unwavering faith, was a fourth-century bishop known for his quiet acts of charity and deep love for Christ. He defended the faith during the Council of Nicaea and tirelessly served the poor, the suffering, and the oppressed. His legendary gift-giving, rooted in his love for God and neighbor, has inspired centuries of generosity and joy.

As we honor St. Nicholas, we are reminded of the power of selfless love and the call to care for those in need. May his example inspire us to give generously of our time, resources, and hearts as we prepare to celebrate the ultimate gift of Christ's coming.

Events

Bake & Book Sale
Dec 14th and 15th after Masses



The CWL and the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Christmas Bake and Book sale after all Masses during the weekend of December 14 and 15. Please join us for some delicious Christmas Goodies and Reading material. Donations of baked goodies would be appreciated.



New Year's Eve Dance
Dec 31st, 7:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.




Ring in 2025 with an unforgettable New Year's Eve party, hosted by the Knights of Columbus! Enjoy delicious food, lively entertainment, and dancing, plus a special slideshow highlighting the memorable parish moments of 2024! Tickets are \$50, available online or in the office.




News & Announcements

Bringing Hope to Orphans in the Dominican Republic



The students of Franco-Ouest would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Parishioners of St. Patrick's Fallowfield. As a result of the most generous contributions from the Parish community, over \$3000 was raised, which will help to cover the expenses for the adoption of a child at the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos orphanage. The lives of a child and of a new family have been changed. You can still donate to their cause by contacting the parish office.

Christmas Mission Donations



The CWL is looking for your support to collect Gift Cards for the Missions. Collections will start the weekend of Nov. 16 and will end Dec. 15. These donations will be delivered to the various Missions and Local Shelters for Christmas. You may also make a cash donation, and cheques can be made out to St. Patrick's CWL. Please put the Gift Card/Cheque/Cash in an envelope clearly marked CWL and place in the collection basket.

Advent Prayer by Henri Nouwen

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We, who have so much to do, seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We, who are anxious over many things, look forward to your coming among us. We, who are blessed in so many ways, long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We, whose hearts are heavy, seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

December 3rd
St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Tireless Zeal

St. Francis Xavier, a Jesuit missionary, brought the Gospel to Asia with tireless zeal, baptizing thousands and inspiring many through his deep faith. His life calls us to share Christ's love with the world.

December 4th
St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Wisdom, Devotion, and Eloquence

St. John Damascene defended the veneration of sacred images and wrote profoundly on theology and the Blessed Virgin Mary. A brilliant scholar and faithful servant, he reminds us of the power of truth and devotion in the life of the Church.

Support our Parish Through Bridlewood Home Hardware



Did you know that your purchases at Bridlewood Home Hardware (Michael Cowpland at Eagleson) can benefit St. Patrick Parish? Simply mention you're from St. Patrick Parish at checkout, and a percentage of the pretax sales will be donated back to the church. Thank you for supporting this initiative!



New Liturgical Year Sunday Missals

The new Liturgical Year begins on December 1, the First Sunday in Advent. Sunday Missals for the 2024 – 2025 (year C) cost is \$5 per book, and Sunday Missal for Young Catholics for the 2024 – 2025 (year C) cost is \$10 per book. Missals can be purchased from the ushers after weekend Masses and from the parish office, during office hours (Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.).

Prepare Your Heart This Advent

Advent is a time of hope, renewal, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. Take this opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a gift of God's mercy, to cleanse your soul and make room for His peace and joy this Christmas. Saturdays from 4-4:45 p.m.

Christmas & New Year

Mass Schedule

December 24	5, 7, and 10 p.m.
December 25	9 a.m.
December 31	5 p.m.
January 1st	11 a.m.



Please note: There will be no 9 a.m. Mass on December 24, 26, 27, 31, or January 1.

Empty Host Containers

Throughout the year, we go through a significant number of hosts, reflecting our vibrant and active community. As a result, we have accumulated many empty host containers, which are now available at the front of the church for anyone who would like to take and repurpose one.

Parish Contacts

Pastor:
Fr. Paul Shepherd
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Deacon:
Mark Masson
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Parish Manager:
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Sacrament Administration:
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Bookkeeper:
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Communication Specialist:
David Piccolo
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Parish Life

- The Choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the church.
- The Legion of Mary meets Wednesday mornings in the McGivney Lounge (after the 9:00 a.m. Mass).
- The Catholic Women's League meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Monsignor Baxter Hall.
- The Knights of Columbus meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month in the Monsignor Baxter Parish Hall.
- Children's Liturgy, for ages 4 through 9, is offered during the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Get Involved



Join our team

9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Choirs



The 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Music Ministries are looking to expand their respective choirs. If you are interested in joining, visit our website for details.

Sacramental Prep Team



We are forming a Sacramental Preparation Team to help prepare children and their parents for the sacraments. If you are interested in joining, visit our website for details.

Children's Liturgy



The Children's Liturgy ministry is inviting anyone who feels called to share the joy of the Gospel with children. See our website for details.

Pastoral Care Registration



Through home visits, hospital outreach, and phone calls, our team brings comfort, encouragement, and a sense of community to those we serve. If you or someone you know would like to receive pastoral care, we invite you to register.



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Parish Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

