

# 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

Zephaniah 3.14-18a

## SECOND READING

Philippians 4.4-7

## GOSPEL

Luke 3.10-18

Isaiah 12  
SHOUT ALOUD AND SING  
FOR JOY: GREAT IN YOUR  
MIDST IS THE HOLY ONE OF  
ISRAEL.

## Gospel Reflection

In this week's Gospel, John the Baptist calls us to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Messiah by living justly and generously. The crowd's question, "What should we do?" is one we too must ask. John's response is strikingly practical: share what you have, act with integrity, and live simply. His words remind us that holiness is not found in extraordinary acts but in faithful stewardship of our daily lives.

John challenges each group to examine their unique responsibilities. To the tax collectors and soldiers, he says, "Do not exploit others; be content." These are powerful reminders that justice begins where we stand—how we treat

others, how we fulfill our duties, and how we handle what has been entrusted to us.

Advent is a season of joyful anticipation, but it is also a call to repentance and transformation. As we light the pink candle of Gaudete Sunday, rejoicing in the nearness of Christ, let us also examine our lives. Are we hoarding blessings or sharing them? Are we preparing a straight path for Christ through our actions?

This week, may we embody John's call to bear good fruit, knowing that true joy comes from living generously and justly, with hearts open to the Savior's arrival.

December 15th

Third Sunday in Advent

## Joy, Preparation, Generosity

The Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, is a day of joy and rejoicing as we draw closer to Christmas. The rose-colored candle on the Advent wreath is lit, symbolizing hope and light breaking into the darkness. Let us rejoice in the nearness of the Savior and ready our lives to receive Him.

December 17th

O Antiphons

## Hope, Expectation, Reflection

The beginning of the O Antiphons, a rich and reflective part of the Advent season. These ancient prayers, each beginning with the phrase "O," invite us to deepen our longing for Christ's arrival. Each antiphon calls on a different title of the Messiah—such as "O Wisdom" or "O Lord of Might"—and they offer a poignant way to meditate on the coming of Christ. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, the O Antiphons help us focus our prayers.

# Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Parish All Souls Intentions</li> <li>† Susan Carey by Anne &amp; Alan Gordon</li> <li>† George Allen by Marilyn Allen</li> <li>† Charlie McFadden by Sophia McFadden</li> <li>† Amelia Carey by Karl Carey</li> </ul>
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Parish All Souls Intentions</li> </ul>
<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People of the Parish</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Leah Josita Devlin by Under Mary's Mantle</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living and deceased members Legion of Mary (Intentions of) by St. Patrick Legion of Mary</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Parish All Souls Intentions</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b>	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Liam and Nuala Connolly by Sheena and Jim McRae</li> </ul>



Take what's offered, give what's extra—let justice guide your heart.

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

## Reconciliation During Advent

As we prepare for the coming of the Lord in Advent, we remember that Jesus calls us to newness of life by the forgiveness of sins. We receive that new life through baptism and reconciliation, as well as in communion. Confession, like all other sacraments, is a gift through which God has made his saving love and mercy real and present to us. In his desire to set all people free and draw them into the authentic peace that is communion with God, Christ entrusted his ministry of reconciliation to the apostles. It is through the sacrament of confession that Christ offers us the opportunity of opening our hearts to him, seeking his help as we strive towards a life of holiness, and ultimately, guiding us to eternal life with him. Please consider celebrating reconciliation this advent.



## Events

**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! Expect delicious food, lively entertainment, dancing, a cash bar, plus a special slideshow highlighting the memorable parish moments of 2024! Tickets are \$50 per person and are available online, in the office, and after Mass. Let's ring in the New Year together!



## Prayers for More

Dec 19th, 7:00pm - 8:30pm



Would you like to receive individual prayer ministry this Advent? Join the Servants of the Cross for an evening of prayer, where trained prayer ministers pray for you and your intentions. Register on their website, and the meeting link will be emailed to you.



December 17th  
O Wisdom

## Insight, Guidance, Vigilance

O Wisdom,  
You came forth from the mouth of  
the Most High,  
and reaching from beginning to  
end You ordered all things mightily  
and sweetly.  
Come, and teach us the way of  
prudence.

December 18th  
O Lord and Ruler

## Authority, Justice, Deliverance

O Adonai and Ruler of the house  
of Israel,  
You appeared to Moses in the fire  
of the burning bush and on Mount  
Sinai gave him Your Law.  
Come, and with an outstretched  
arm redeem us.

December 19th  
O Root of Jesse

## Connection, Hope, Promise

O Root of Jesse,  
You stand for the ensign of  
mankind;  
before You kings shall keep silence  
and to You all nations shall have  
recourse.  
Come, save us, and do not delay.

December 20th  
O Key of David

## Access, Authority, Salvation

O Key of David,  
and Scepter of the house of Israel:  
You open and no man closes; you  
close and no man opens.  
Come, and deliver him from the  
chains of prison who sits in  
darkness and in the shadow of  
death

## News & Announcements

### 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.).

### New Donation Envelopes Available This Weekend

Starting this weekend, donation  
envelopes for 2025 be available for  
pickup. Visit the parish hall after any  
Mass this weekend to collect yours and  
enjoy some refreshments while  
supporting the CWL and Knights of  
Columbus Bake & Book Sale!

Following this weekend, the envelopes  
will be available at the front of the  
church. Thank you for your continued  
generosity and support!

### Children's Liturgy Christmas Break

This is the final weekend for Children's  
Liturgy before the Christmas season.  
Sessions will resume on January 12th.  
Following the 9:00 a.m. Mass this  
Sunday, the children invite their parents  
and families to the Children's Liturgy  
room for a special Christmas song and  
surprise!



### Bringing Hope to Orphans in the Dominican Republic



A reminder to our  
parishioners: If you would  
still like to support the  
mission of students from  
Franco-Ouest French Catholic High  
School, there is still time to contribute.  
These students are travelling to the  
Dominican Republic to assist a Catholic  
orphanage, and are working toward their  
goal of raising \$10,000.

Your generosity has been deeply  
appreciated, and they extend heartfelt  
thanks for the support received so far.  
To donate or learn more, please contact  
the parish office.

### 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!

### Follow Us on Social Media!



Follow us on social media  
to stay updated on events,  
news, and inspiring content  
from our parish community.  
Engage with us online—we'd love to  
hear from you! Scan the QR code to find  
all our accounts in one place. Let's grow  
together in faith and fellowship!

## Christmas & New Year

### Mass Schedule

December 24	5, 7, and 10 p.m.
December 25	9 and 11 a.m.
December 31	5 p.m.
January 1	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  
pastor@stpatricksfallowfield.com

**Deacon:**  
Mark Masson  
deacon@stpatricksfallowfield.com

**Parish Manager:**  
Kati Holica  
office@stpatricksfallowfield.com

**Sacrament Administration:**  
Anita MacNeil  
admin@stpatricksfallowfield.com

**Bookkeeper:**  
Vlado Sigel  
finance@stpatricksfallowfield.com

**Communication Specialist:**  
David Piccolo  
communications@stpatricksfallowfield.com

### 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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www.stpatricksfallowfield.com

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

