



Dear church family,

What an amazing start to Advent! Sunday's baptism service was highlight of the year, such a beautiful moment of rejoicing. Obviously, it meant a huge amount personally as a Dad, but I know I wasn't alone in shedding a few tears at the inspiration of Dan, Jade, Charlie and Caleb's testimonies and the power of the prophetic words spoken into their lives. It is a day which will live long in the memory as a celebration of the many varied and glorious ways God is at work here. Beginning a season of anticipation by celebrating the stories of what he's already doing stirs our hearts in longing for more.

On Monday morning, as we started December, with the amazing LifeCentre Christmas menu now available, we prayed that we would feel a real shift and change into this season of Advent. November felt long, cold, dark and wet, but December is a season of anticipation and celebration. Personally, I felt such a shift in my heart through the celebrations on Sunday, ready for more joy and celebration the coming weeks. As I write this, I'm praying for you to have a similar shift, Advent is a time for a shift in perspective, from winter to hope, as we focus on Jesus, the source of our hope. Our Advent theme is to focus on Jesus, to prepare our hearts for Christmas when we will be creating space for him.

Some other ways in which we will be focussing on Jesus through Advent are through our daily reflections and monthly prayer gatherings. We began our daily reflections on Sunday and I do hope you are finding them encouraging at the start of each day. If you would like to join our St Chads announcements community on WhatsApp then details for that are below.

As well as Sunday's celebration of what God is doing, we had an amazing time with Year 1 from Romiley Primary School visiting last week to learn about Jesus, and a lot of encouragement from the Just4Dads Christmas curry night. In each of these people have commented (as they often do) on the sense of life and presence of God in St Chads. This is the fruit of being a praying church and when we see God changing lives, we long for more, and that stirs our hearts to prayer. Our monthly gatherings are earlier in the month in order to pray for Christmas events and for the hundreds from our community who will be attending them.

It takes a shift in our hearts, to move from the heaviness of winter, to focus instead on anticipation and celebration. I pray for that shift for you and as you read on through Chads News and see the many ways we are finding to share the good news. Please pray that as we create space for God in our lives and our church, the one who created space will come and dwell with us.

with love,  
Richard.

# Advent Reflections

Each day throughout Advent, we are sharing a short reflection in our WhatsApp Community. If you'd like to join us, we first need your consent to hold your contact details.

You can give consent quickly and easily by completing the form here. Once we have received it, we'll add you to the WhatsApp group.

If you have any questions or difficulties, please get in touch with Alys at [alys@stchadsromiley.co.uk](mailto:alys@stchadsromiley.co.uk).

## Prayer Events

We really believe God is on the move and we are seeing some exciting things happening in our church and our nation, but we want more!! When God's people pray, lives are changed, families restored, hope renewed, salvation comes – and that includes you!

Our monthly prayer times are the very engine room of St Chads and always encouraging. Do come and join us.

**2nd Dec** - 7.30pm (LifeCentre)

**10th Dec** - 1.30pm (Church Lounge)

## Rainbow Concert

**Sunday 7th December in church at 7pm.**

As in previous years the focus will be on setting hearts and minds on the real reason for the celebration. Through traditional and contemporary song, words and drama we prepare to celebrate the greatest gift of all – the gift of God's own Son born to be our Saviour.

These concerts are always joy filled occasions. We'd love to see some of the Chads family there.

## LifeCentre Carols

15th December



Join us in the **café on Monday, 15th December at 2:30pm** for our annual LifeCentre Carols. This is always a wonderful opportunity to come together with our café customers and celebrate the joy of Christmas.

**All welcome.**



## Prammies Nativity Trail

### Mini Chadders Present: The Prammies Nativity Trail

We're thrilled to invite you to the **Prammies Nativity Trail** on **Wednesday 10th December** in church!

Begin your adventure by meeting **Mary and the angel Gabriel**, who will introduce the story and guide a small craft or activity. From there, journey on to meet the **shepherds**, the **kings**, and enjoy some extra festive fun—collecting stars along the way!

At the end, join us for **drinks and sweet treats**, including mince pies. Every child will also receive a **free gift**! How long you spend is up to you and how your child engages—take your time or whizz through, it's completely flexible.

[Book your slot here](#) and leave a note in the comments to tell us **who you're bringing**. (Just **one ticket per group or family**—this helps us know who to expect!)



Saturday 7th February

### This February, Reset will be gathering in 10 locations across the nation for our Women's Reset Day!

The Manchester day will be held on Sat 7th Feb 2026 at **St Philips Chapel Street in Salford**.

The vision for New Wine Reset Days is to bring women together in multiple locations across the country for a day of worship, teaching, Holy Spirit ministry, and encounters with God and with one another.

These days create sacred spaces where women are invited to meet with Jesus — moments where healing, affirmation, and encouragement can take place. You'll hear from inspiring women as they share scripture, testimonies of faith, and the unique callings God has placed on their lives, bringing challenge and encouragement to others as they do.

**This year's theme is: *"Our heart is a holy dwelling place — steady and radiant in God's presence,"* inspired by Psalm 46.**



# Christmas 2025

## Christmas is Coming!

With the help of our incredible ministry leaders and volunteers, we've been busy preparing a wide range of **Christmas events and services for all ages**.

We can't wait to celebrate together and **welcome our community** into our buildings during this special season.

Below is a snapshot of our Christmas church services over the coming weeks:

### Friday 19th December

**8:00pm** – Carols Unplugged

### Sunday 21st December

**10:00am** – Carols & Readings

(with festive refreshments afterwards)

**12:00pm** – Carols & Chaos

(at the Guywood with food afterwards)

### Christmas Eve

**4:00pm** – Come to The Stable

(a joyfully anarchic re-telling of the nativity story by Matt Britton)

**11:15pm** – Christmas Communion

### Christmas Day

**9:00am** – Christmas Communion

**10:30am** – Christmas Celebration

Invites for friends, family & neighbours with service times are available at the back of church.

---

## Volunteers Needed

We really need people to help at several services over the coming weeks. **Details are on the notice board in the foyer** - please do sign up if you can lend a hand. Thank you!

## Christmas Generosity Update

A massive **thank you** to everyone who has given so generously this year. Together, we have raised **£4,658** to be shared among our **local schools and community partners**. Your support is making a real difference!