Last Sunday we lit the first Advent candle – the candle of hope. It was wonderful to know that so many of you were praying each day in your homes at this special time of year.

Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even when there is war, tension or discord, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

(2nd candle is lit) We pray:

May we grow in understanding of God’s ways of justice and reconciliation, as a pathway to peace in our world. We pray for families and all who are struggling to make ends meet at this time of year. May they find the help and support that they need through the generosity of others.

For all in our parish family who give cheerfully of their time. May they be blessed for their kindness.

(Personal Intentions)

Our Father..... Hail Mary ..... Glory be ......

Lord God,
Let me be a peacemaker in my own life, and in the world.
Let me pray especially for this difficult world
and those who are so in need of an end to violence
Come Lord Jesus come

FR. JOHN
**PARISH NOTICES**

**ADVENT PRAYER**
The front of the newsletter has the 2nd Week of Advent prayers to be said at home. Please take a moment each day this week to quietly say and reflect on the prayer.

**CALLING ALL READERS**
There will be the annual renewal of Commitment to the Ministry of Readers at all Masses this weekend.

**UCM**
The UCM will meet on Monday 5th December at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre for our own Mass. This being the first Mass in our new hall, it is hoped that members will make every effort to attend.

The £5.00 charge for our Christmas Party will be collected.

**MASS INTENTIONS**
We will be taking Mass Intentions for next year from Wednesday 7th December 2016, from 10am-11am. Each family can offer 3 Masses only to be said in St Lawrence’s for the year. Any intentions over that will be sent to the Missions. This will enable every parishioner to have a Mass said in Church. The Mass Stipend remains at £10.00 per Mass as recommended by the Diocese, this also applies to the Missions. Bookings will be taken in the Prayer Room, please wait in Church.

**RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSIONS 2017**
The dates and times that Fr John will be available to see families are on the notice board in the Church porch. To make an appointment to see him please put your name on the appointment, along with their Baptism Certificate and the Certificate of Catholic Practice.