

## SACRED HEART CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Michael Achile Umameh

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Telephone: (0114) 2343580

Parish Deacon: Rev. Tony Strike

Parish Priest and Dean: Fr. John Cooke

Parish website: [www.sacredheartsheffield.co.uk](http://www.sacredheartsheffield.co.uk)

Parish email: [sacredheart479@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheart479@gmail.com)

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Erin Louise Grayson will be baptised at 1pm today. Congratulations to her family.

### Mass Times and Intentions

<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December, Vigil, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	Stuart and Bridget Bright
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	November Dead List
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>African Mass</b>
Monday <i>in the church</i>	9.00am	November Dead List
Monday <i>in the church</i>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Reconciliation Service</b>
Tuesday <i>in the church</i>	9.00am	No Mass. Prayer of the Church
Wednesday <i>in the church</i>	9.00am	Dominic D’Roza
<b>Wednesday <i>in the church</i> School Advent Liturgy Service</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	
Thursday <i>in the church</i>	9.00am	November Dead List
Friday <i>in the church</i>	11.30am	November Dead List
Saturday <i>in the church</i>	9.00am	November Dead List
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, Vigil, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	November Dead List
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Frances, Charlet & Mirando

Mass at Kirk Edge Monastery each day at 8am. Wednesdays: Rosary & Novena, 7.00pm in the Church.

Saturdays: 8.45am Morning Prayer, 9am Mass, 10am to 11am Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Is it a while since you received the sacrament of Penance? Maybe it’s some years since you went to Confession? Come and experience God’s forgiving, healing and unconditional love this Advent. A chance to put things right! Please join us for the Advent Reconciliation Service at 6.30pm on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> December.**

Please pray for all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Donald Gordon, Margaret Ibbotson, Deborah Cohen, Ron Long, Josephine Howe, Terence James, Robert Williams, John Blackwood, Edmund Cape, Dennis MacInnes, Mary Coe, Stuart Bright, Fred Unsworth, Fred Ridgeway, Mary Donlon, Charlotte Neubauer, Patricia Westerman, Wilfred Murray, Albert Pickering, Dennis Neylan, Dominic D’Roza, Eileen Hutchinson, Alice Brown, Anne Leach, Marie Hodgkinson and William Donlon. May they rest in peace.

Please also pray for Jacqueline Mary Robinson, Susan Callaghan and all those unwell at home or in hospital.

Thank you for last week’s collection of £ 531.45, plus your regular standing orders of £ 417.00 per week.

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### Mass information for 22nd & 23rd December, 4th Sunday of Advent

**Announcers:** David Barrett (Saturday) Darren McDonnell (Sunday). **Readers:** Peter Roche, Annette Murray, Lesley Murray (Saturday). Janet Reader, Mary Nadin, David Wilkinson (Sunday)

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Anita Gibson, Francesca Esposito,\* Richard Mardlin (Saturday) Sr Maire, Marie Gelder\*, John Mizzi, Mary Nadin, Mike Nadin (Sunday).

**Announcers, readers, altar servers, Xmas Masses:** Please add your name to the sign- up sheet at the back of church.

**Hallam Diocesan Yearbook / Ordo:** On sale at the back of church, £3.75 each. Please put your money in the envelopes provided and into the collection.

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**Parish Christmas Greetings Tree:** Instead of sending lots of individual cards to friends and family in the parish, why not pin one card to the "tree" on the board at the back of church? If you are new to the parish, do put a card on our tree to introduce yourself. Bring your own card or choose one from the basket. All donations will go to support the parish. Thank you very much.

**Sacred Heart Parish Council** met recently, just to tie up one or two loose ends before Christmas. Below are the salient points from the discussion: **Presbytery Update:** The kitchen is finished and the fire alarm installed. It is hoped that groups will be able to use the Presbytery again early in the New Year, there are just one or two procedural issues to address before that can happen. **Church Displays:** A Welcome Banner will soon appear and will be used at weekend Masses, weddings, christenings and funerals. **Donations to HARC / ASSIST:** cheques have been sent to these 2 worthy causes for Christmas.

**Holy Communion Visits at home.** If you know of anyone who needs to receive Holy Communion at home, please ring the Parish on 2343580. **Patient in hospital:** Ring the voicemail on 2714999.

**Church Cleaning: Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 11am:** Group 1: A Larkin, J McDonnell, A & L Murray, C Obiri, J & C Uwaoma.

**St Vincent de Paul:** Mondays at 7.30pm. Chris Ashton.

**Choir Rehearsals:** Next rehearsal: **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm:** Barbara Hartley

**Art Class:** Wednesdays 10am in the sacristy: Barbara Beatson. **Next one: Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> January.**

**Contact Club:** Wednesdays 1.30pm. **None until the New Year, date TBA.**

**Youth Friendship:** Years 6,7 & 8. Please contact Fran Shiel.

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## **THE EVIDENCE OF GRACE**

(Fr. Michael's Homily)

### **The Lord is Near: Rejoice! Be Thankful!**

In the Lord I will be ever thankful. In the Lord I will rejoice

Look to your God; Do not be afraid. Lift up your voices the Lord is near (Taizé).

The third Sunday in the Season of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday". In the entrance antiphon St. Paul calls us: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice". And immediately after he explains the reason, because "The Lord is at hand" (Phil 4: 4-5). This is the reason for joy. This is the season to be thankful, this is the season to rejoice; for Christ's coming is the reason for our joy. The first reading of the Mass is also an invitation to joy. The prophet Zephaniah at the end of the seventh century B.C. spoke to the city of Jerusalem and its people with these words: "Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem...! The Lord your God is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory" (Zep 3: 14, 17). Christian joy, therefore, is not rooted in the circumstances and struggles of our daily lives. Christian Joy finds its root in the relationship we now have in and through Jesus Christ, with the Father, in the Holy Spirit. We rejoice on this Gaudete Sunday, because the Lord is always near. Christian joy thus flows from this certainty: God is near, he is with me, he is with us, in joy and suffering, in health and sickness, in the challenges of family life and friendship. And this joy remains even in the everyday trials of life, in the sufferings and pains of life, and this joy is not superficial but rather in the depths of the person who gives himself to God and confides in him. As the Psalmist reminds us, "The LORD is close to the broken-hearted, saves those whose spirit is crushed. Many are the troubles of the just, but the LORD delivers from them all"(Psalm 34:19,20).

Advent and Christmas season are privileged opportunity to meditate on the meaning and value of our existence, and the joy that endures. On this Third Sunday of Advent we are called to be thankful, to rejoice because the Lord is near. As we renew our hope in Jesus Christ

and look forward to his coming, may we experience in our lives the deep joy of his salvation.

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**Please join us for refreshments in the hall after Mass**

## **FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Parish Safeguarding Representatives:** Fiona O'Farrell. For non-urgent matters, please contact Fiona in church after Mass on Sunday. For urgent matters go to the Hallam Safeguarding Team on 2566453.

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**Bereavement Support:** If you would like support at either Sacred Heart or St Marie's, please call the presbytery on 2343580 and your request will be passed to Sr Maire or Janina Klapas.

**Diocesan Job Vacancies** are on the screen notice board at the back of church and also the Diocesan website.

**Please consider making your offertory donations to the Parish via Standing Order.** *Our account details:*  
**Diocese of Hallam Sacred Heart - Sort code 404107 - Account no. 21094319.**

**Gift Aid:** The tax the parish can reclaim from HMRC is an important source of income and we would like to encourage any taxpayers who do not currently make their offering under Gift Aid to consider doing so. It is the best way of increasing your offering without it costing you more, since currently, the government will increase each £1 of your personal offering by a further 25p. For the parish to reclaim the tax on your offering, you, the taxpayer, need to make a Gift Aid declaration and we, the parish, need to have a record of the date and amount of your offerings. Offerings can be by standing order, cheque or cash in a numbered offertory envelope. Your Gift Aid Declaration will cover all donations recorded by the parish, including for the Food Pantry. You will find Gift Aid declaration forms at the back of church near the hymn books. When you have completed the form, please hand it either to the presbytery or drop it through the letterbox. Please be assured that the administration of Gift Aid is completely confidential. If you have any questions about Gift Aid, please call Janina Klapas on 2312300. If you are considering making a gift to the Church in your will, information can be obtained by contacting the presbytery. Thank you for your continuing support. It is very much appreciated. Offertory envelopes are at the back of church. If you want to start using envelopes, please let us know.

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