

## SACRED HEART CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Michael Achile Umameh

479 Langsett Road, Sheffield, S6 2LN.

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 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December, Vigil, 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	6.30pm	November Dead List
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	11.00am	Frances, Charlet, Mirando
Monday <i>in the church</i> Family Christmas (Vigil) Mass	5.00pm	People of the parish
Monday <i>in the church</i> Christmas Vigil Mass	9.00pm	People of the parish
Tuesday <i>in the church</i> Christmas Day Mass	11.00am	Con Heffernan, Mary Bridget & Francis Bernes, Keith Vessey & Marilena
Wednesday <i>in the church</i> St Stephen	10.00am	Annie & Andrew Kirwan, John & Pauline McConnon
Thursday <i>in the church</i> St John, Evangelist	No Mass	
Friday <i>in the church</i> The Holy Innocents	10.00am	Chris Clegg
Saturday <i>in the church</i> St Thomas Becket	10.00am	Mary & Tom Green
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> December, Vigil, The Holy Family	6.30pm	Gerald Martin
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> December, The Holy Family	11.00am	November Dead List

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

Saturdays: 9.45am Morning Prayer, 10am Mass, **No Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.**

Please pray for all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Monica Addy, Violet Brown, Charles Coyle, Muriel Bentley, Michael Buckley, Maureen Unsworth, John Whiston, Goronwy Evans, Teresa Szurko, Mary Maloney, Kathleen Marr, Cyril Knott, Fr Lawrence Alan Thompson, Annie Kirwan, Ken Collis, Arthur Horner, Lila Ellen Wilkinson, Marguerite O'Neill, Graham Butterell, Margaret Eborall, Arthur Askham, Angelo Garbiel, Thomas James Green, Ian Douglas Sharrock, Teresa Walker, Joshua Kelly, Peter Hartley, Joyce Thorpe, Maureen Fleet, Norma Goodhand and Gerald Martin. May they rest in peace.

Please also pray for all those unwell at home or in hospital.

Thank you for last week's collection of £ 457.62, plus your regular standing orders of £ 417.00 per week.

### Mass information for 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> December, The Holy Family

**Announcers:** TBA (Saturday) Jayne Kirwan (Sunday). **Readers:** TBA (Saturday) Brian Marsden, Katie Unwin, Jayne Kirwan (Sunday)

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Alison Woodhead, David Raynes\*, Peter Roche (Saturday) Juliet White, Barbara Parker\*, Harry Priestley, Rebecca LeCount, Angela Day (Sunday).

**Sunday Readers & Announcers:** The new rota, from 30<sup>th</sup> December, is on the notice board and in the sacristy.

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

**Leprosy Mission:** Please remember to bring in your used postage stamps and put them in the box in the church porch.

**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.

**Epiphany Party – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January –** After Mass in the Hall. Don't forget to get your tickets, on sale after Mass today.

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

**Church Cleaning: Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> January, 11am:** Group 2: J Corrigan, M&A Fleet, S House, P McConnon, H Woods

**St Vincent de Paul:** Mondays at 7.30pm. Chris Ashton on 2343580.

**Choir Rehearsals:** Next rehearsal: **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm:** Barbara Hartley 2343580

**Art Class:** Wednesdays 10am in the sacristy: Barbara Beatson 2322760. **Next one: Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> January.**

**Contact Club:** Wednesdays 1.30pm. **Next one: Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> January at Rawson Spring.**

**Youth Friendship:** Years 6,7 & 8. Please contact Fran Shiel on 2343580.

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## THE EVIDENCE OF GRACE

(Fr. Michael's Homily)

### The Visitation: A Graced Encounter

Last Sunday traditionally known as the "Gaudete Sunday", we were invited to rejoice for the Lord is in our midst. In today's readings, we see in concrete terms, the manifestation of that joy, the joy that comes from the presence of the Lord. This joy is the reason for today's visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. This joy was first prophesied by the prophet Micah in the first reading (Micah 5:1-4). He delivered a message that brought great joy to all who heard it. It was a message of hope and of deliverance concerning the One who is to be born in Bethlehem. He will be great and will rule over the people with power and majesty and He himself will be peace.

The story of the Visitation teaches us an important lesson: when Christ grow in us, we will be led to people, places and situations that we never dreamed of. We will bear words of consolation and hope that are not our own. In the very act of consoling others, we will be consoled. We become bearers of Christ. heralds of the Goodnews. We will be at peace ... because we know that however insignificant our life and issues seem to be, from them Christ is forming himself. The women of today's Gospel show us that it is possible to move beyond our own little personal agendas and engage in authentic and loving service of others especially the poor, the lonely and the unloved. Today, Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting the child leapt in her womb, and she was filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:41). Are you a source of joy? Are you a herald of peace and a cause for rejoicing? What difference does your presence make to a gathering? St. Ambrose's meditation on the visitation is apt here, "Notice the contrast and the choice of words. Elizabeth is the first to hear Mary's voice, but John is the first to be aware of grace. She hears with the ears of the body, but he leaps for joy at the meaning of the mystery. She is aware of Mary's presence, but he is aware of the Lord's: a woman aware of a woman's presence, the forerunner aware of the pledge of our salvation. The women speak of the grace they have received while the children are active in secret, unfolding the mystery of love with the help of their mothers, who prophesy by the spirit of their sons". This is the model of a graced encounter we could all have with Christ at his coming this Christmas. May the examples of Mary and Elisabeth inspire us.

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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 on 07955 234602, or in church after Mass on Sunday. For urgent matters go to the Hallam Safeguarding Team on 2566453.

**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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