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**Parish Priest:** Fr. Michael Achile Umameh

**Parish Deacon:** Rev. Tony Strike.

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

Parish email: [info@sacredheartsheffield.co.uk](mailto:info@sacredheartsheffield.co.uk)



# PARISH BULLETIN OF SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH

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## Mass Times & Intentions

### Mass Information w/c 27th November 2022

#### First Sunday of Advent Year A

**Saturday 26th November - Vigil Mass 6.30pm** - Celia Mary Stokes

**Sunday 27th November - 11am** - People of the Parish

Monday - Without Congregation

Tuesday - Without Congregation

**Wednesday - In Church @ 10am** - St Andrew

Thursday - without congregation

Friday - without congregation

Saturday (AM) - with Congregation **Parish Advent Retreat** - St Francis Xavier

#### Updated COVID-19 Precautions:

1. If you or your family have any symptoms or indeed have cold, flu or are in any way unwell, please do not attend.
2. The Saturday vigil Mass is quieter and allows for greater social distancing.
3. We encourage you to wear a mask while in church.
4. Please sanitise your hands when arriving and leaving church.

#### Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy is running this weekend. For more information and to sign-up to the family mailing list, visit: [children's liturgy webpage](#)

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#### Confessions:

Confessions are available, please make appointment with Fr. Michael by phone or email.

**Baptism:**

Parents and guardians are now invited to book the baptism of the child/children. The available time slots are: **Saturdays 12 noon & Sundays 1 pm**

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**Prayer Intentions w/c 27th November****For the Sick:**

We pray for all those who are sick, that God may grant them health and strength. *We remember Barbara Beatson, Pip & Paul Carrington, Maria Coogan, Fr Michael O'Connor, Wesley, Kay Langan, Sonia Holland, Robert Ainsworth, Jacqueline Robinson, Ann Saunders, Leah, Emma, Paige and Kevin Noone. May God bring them healing mercies.*

**May God bring them healing mercies.**

**For the Dead:**

**Please pray all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** *Wilfred Gell, Alice Kenna, Greta Saville, Bryan Noon, Mary Sayles, Katrina Somers, Clare Sharrock, Marjorie Hayward, Kevin Williams, Johanna Sampson, Francis Balment, Veara Parker, Hilaire D'Roza, Jason Frawley, John O'Connor, Patricia Davis, Carol Ann Adio, Joan Fox, Eddie Costello, Dolly Unsworth, Fr Hubert McNamara, Sue Kendall, Mary Strain, George (Henry) Cummings, Harold Dobson, Joseph Flanagan, Giorgos Klapas, Patricia Easter, Laurence Guest, Tom Yeardley, Margaret Coyle, Ron Ashby, Irene Growden, Annie Turner, John O'Hagan, Brian Moore, John Reilly and Eligio Buddy Sibaya.*

**May they rest in peace.**

**The Book of Remembrance: will be available from next weekend throughout the month of November - the month of the Holy Souls. May they rest in peace.**

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**Offertory Collection**

Baskets 20th November: £384.61  
Tap & Donate 20th November: Offertory: £55  
*Many thanks for your generosity.*

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**Parish Accounts**

Parish Annual Accounts 2021 - showing income and expenditure for the year [are available to view here](#). Hard copies will be available at the back of church.

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## SACRED HEART FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2023

Catholic children in Year 3 are invited to take part in the parish-based programme of preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist, leading up to their First Confession and First Holy Communion. Children from non-Catholic schools are very welcome, and encouraged, to join the programme.

If you are interested in your child joining the programme, please join us for a parents meeting in Sacred Heart Parish/School Hall before Mass on **Sunday 11th December 2022 at 10:15am.**

Further information, what to expect, key dates and how to register are provided in an invitation letter – **[click here to download.](#)** **Please read this information and check that you will be available for the session dates.** You can check the eligibility and key information on the [First Holy Communion web pages](#) - [click here.](#) You can also check the session dates on the [parish calendar](#) – [click here.](#)



## Sacred Heart Parish Advent Retreat

### Theme: Advent - The Peace Of Christ as the Presence of God

You are invited to join us for a morning here in church, to prepare ourselves spiritually for Christ's coming. The morning begins with tea/ coffee and welcome at 9.45a.m. followed by a programme of reflection and prayer ending with Adoration and Benediction at 1p.m. There will be opportunities throughout the morning to go to Confession. This is a lovely opportunity to take time and forget the stresses of the present buying, card writing, and gift wrapping and prepare ourselves with open

hearts and prayerful minds for the true meaning of Christmas.

**Date:** Saturday 3rd December

**Time:** From 9.45a.m. to 1 p.m

**Venue:** Sacred Heart Church Hillsborough

## **PARISH NOTICES**

Check out the new [Parish Calendar on our website](#) - you can even subscribe to it by clicking the button at the bottom of the page (events will be added automatically to your phone/computer calendar).

**Parish Advent Reflection** - Saturday 3rd December 10am

**Parish Family Disco** – Sunday 18th December 2022. [Click here for details and tickets.](#)

**Premises Update** - the beginning of Advent marks a year since the heated seats were installed in church. In addition to this a number of works have been completed both in church and the presbytery during the course of 2022. John McConnon will speak at weekend Masses the first week of Advent to give a report of what has been happening.

**Red Wednesday:** The 23rd November is Red Wednesday, and as part of Aid to the Church in Need's campaign to "Break the Silence" on the persecution of Christians across the world we are invited to attend Mass for someone who cannot, pray the Rosary and/or come together in solidarity with Christians who suffer persecution for their faith in countries like North Korea, China, Pakistan, India, Nigeria, Iraq and Mozambique. For more information about Red Wednesday, please see <https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/redwednesday/> You can also sign a petition on the website. This year, St Marie's Cathedral will be lit in red from 4.30pm on 23 November. After the 5.30pm Mass, there will be an opportunity to light candles and pray for our persecuted brethren until 9.00pm, with a Holy Hour at 7.00pm. Everyone is welcome!

**Mass Books Year A** - this Advent will see the return in the Liturgical Calendar to Year A which means that the Mass Books that were purchased 3 years ago will be back in full use!

### **Hillsborough Churches' Network Tram Nativity 2022**

A Hillsborough Churches' Network event for Christmas hopefully involving at least half a dozen congregations. This was run successfully three years and so we're building on that experience. Fun and relevant. Easy for anyone to join in.

Should be impactful - speaking of our unity as well as promoting the Gospel.

**Date:** Saturday 17th December

**TIME:** Approx. 11am to get on tram from Middlewood with synced boarding at Malin Bridge (see below). Exact timings will be finalised nearer the time.

**FLAME 2023 - 14-23?** Join us on Saturday 4th March 2023 at Wembley Arena for the largest Catholic gathering of young people in England and Wales. Passes cost just £30 including entrance and travel (a subsidised cost from £62). for more information email: [youth@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:youth@hallam-diocese.com)

### **40 Days for Life –Sheffield**

From 28th September, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of peaceful prayer and fasting for an end to abortion outside the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact: Rachel 40dforlsheffield@gmail.com or 07368297872.

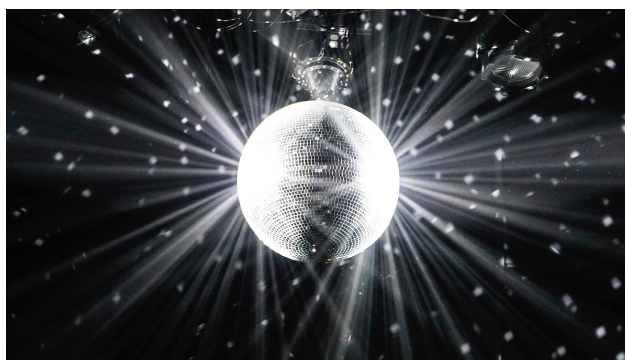
**SVP** - if you are sick, elderly, lonely and you would like to be visited by a member of the SVP, please contact Fr Michael or Chris Ashton via the Presbytery Number: 01142343580

**Carmel Care Centre welcomes new members**

The Carmel Care Centre welcomes all members of the community to join us weekly on a Tuesday and Wednesday for lunch and activities, we are a caring and welcoming group with plenty of space for new members. To find out more please contact Janet Kent on 07927 657462 or email Janet at [jkent@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:jkent@hallam-diocese.com). The centre is based at 172 Dykes Hall Rd, Sheffield S6 4GS.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY, Lisbon, August 2023** Hallam Diocese is taking 35 young people aged 17 - 30 to WYD next year. This is a great experience of Church where young people from every continent gather to celebrate their Catholic Faith in the presence of the Pope. If you would like to join us or want more information email Sue, our Hallam Youth Ministry Director for an information pack: [smcdonald@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:smcdonald@hallam-diocese.com)

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## Parish Children's Christmas Disco!

### 6:00-8:30pm Sunday 18th December

After the success of the summer disco, we're holding a Christmas disco at Hillsborough Arena. [More information and link to buy tickets on the Parish calendar, click here.](#)

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**Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child**

*"Every shoebox is delivered in Jesus' Name to give a child in need a glimpse of God's love."*

At Christmas, this Christian international relief charity distributes gift-filled shoeboxes to children in

need around the world. This year the goal of Operation Christmas Child is to send two-thirds of shoeboxes from the UK to Ukraine or to neighbouring countries that are hosting refugee families. If you would like to send a shoebox, please pick up a leaflet and pre-printed shoebox [or you can pack and cover an ordinary shoebox - just make sure it's not too large!]. The leaflet includes full packing instructions, gift ideas, labels and an envelope for the £5 donation requested for each box to cover overheads.

Please return your gift-filled box to church by **Sunday 20 November**.

To find out more about the charity visit [samaritans-purse.org.uk](https://samaritans-purse.org.uk)

On behalf of the children, thank you.

**Janina Klapas** - Operation Christmas Child Project Leader, Sacred Heart Church

If you have any questions, please call or text me on 0774 267 1268

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**Thank you to everyone who has used the Tap to Donate machine in church or the online Tap to Donate. If you haven't yet tried it out, why not give it a go this weekend?**

Card/online payments cut down on the cash that needs to be counted and banked by volunteers each week.

**For details of the many ways that you can give time or funds to support the Parish, please visit:** <https://www.sacredheartsheffield.co.uk/support/>

In whatever way you support and donate, thank you very much. **God bless you.**

Tap to Donate

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## THE EVIDENCE OF GRACE

(Fr. Michael's Homily)



### Advent and The Great Expectation

Introduction: Today we begin our yearly pilgrimage through the events of history of salvation starting with our preparation for the birthday celebration of Jesus. We are entering the Advent season. Advent means coming. We are invited to meditate on Jesus' first coming in history as a baby in Bethlehem, his daily coming into our lives in mystery through the Sacraments, through the Bible, and through the worshipping community, and finally his Second Coming (Parousia) at the end of the world to reward the just and to punish the wicked. In the first reading (Is 2:1-5), Isaiah describes his prophetic vision of all nations making a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, affirming their Faith in the one true God. In the second reading (Rom 13:11-14), Paul exhorts the Roman Christian

community to get ready to meet Jesus in his Second Coming by discharging their duties properly and by freeing themselves from their former pagan lifestyle of jealousy, and rivalry. We, too, are challenged to make spiritual preparations for Christ's birth in our lives.

In today's Gospel (Mt 24:37-44), Jesus warns us of the urgency of vigilant preparation for his coming on our part that we may meet him as our Judge both at the end of our lives on earth and on the day of the Last Judgment when he comes in his glory. Jesus reminds us that the unrepentant, ill-prepared evil people were destroyed by the flood in the time of Noah. We need to be alert and watchful while spiritually preparing for Christmas by offering our daily work to God for His glory, by practicing more self-control in resisting our evil habits and inclinations, by seeking reconciliation daily with God, our families, and our neighbours, and by asking God's pardon and forgiveness as we extend our unconditional forgiveness to those who have hurt us. Let us begin each day by praying for the strength and power of the Holy Spirit to prepare ourselves for Jesus' rebirth in our hearts and lives. Come, Lord Jesus!

*Lord Jesus, you have captured my heart for you. Make me strong in faith, steadfast in hope, and generous in love that I may seek to please you in all things and bring you glory and praise. Keep me ever watchful for the coming of your kingdom today and every day of my life. **Amen***



**If you are a taxpayer, you can increase your donations to Sacred Heart by 25%, simply by completing a Gift Aid Declaration.** Through the Gift Aid scheme, the government gives the church 25p for every £1 you donate. What the church receives is tax you have already paid. **It costs you no more.**

There are blank Gift Aid Declarations at the back of church, and you can complete one using the screen on the Tap to Donate. For more details visit: <https://www.sacredheartsheffield.co.uk/gift-aid/>



Tap to Donate  
Sacred Heart Heating Fund



We still need to pay for our new pew heating. If you would like to make any donation towards the cost please either pass it directly to Fr Michael or put it in the Offertory basket at Mass.

**PLEASE** mark any donations '**FOR THE HEATING FUND**' - please include your name and address, so we can claim Gift Aid. You can also donate **online** by clicking the button below.

**Many thanks to all those who have already made generous donations and gratitude in anticipation of further offerings.**

[Click Here to Donate](#)



## The Prayer Group will be meeting for prayer & reflection throughout Advent.

Join us for the next meeting on **Thursday 24th November starting at 7.30pm.**

[Click Here to Join](#)

**LINK:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9210301020?pwd=MVF0dThLcHYwLzIRSVUwK2IybjZHUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 921 030 1020

**Passcode:** LjPd8p

**If you wish to dial in** using your phone please use one of the numbers below and use the **Meeting ID: 921 030 1020**: +44 208 080 6592; +44 330 088 5830; +44 131 460 1196

*Perhaps you would like to consider leading a prayer meeting? Please get in touch! [e-mail us](#)*

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### Prayer Resources for Download

A number of resources are available for download. Please click on the buttons below.

[Parish Community Prayer Booklet](#)

### November is the month of The Holy Souls

*O Mary Immaculate, inflame our hearts with one ray of the burning love of thy pure heart*

[Pray the Holy Rosary](#)

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*For services throughout the week we strongly recommend Church Services TV. The link is below:*

[Church Services TV](#)

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Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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