
Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Achile Umameh

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PARISH BULLETIN OF SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH

Mass Times & Intentions

Mass Information w/c 22nd January 2023

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 21st January - 6:30pm Vigil Mass - Celia Stokes

Sunday 22nd January - 11am - Tom & Bridie Kinsella / Brian & Maura

Monday - without congregation

Tuesday - without congregation - St. Francis de Sales

Wednesday - 10:00am with congregation - Conversion of St. Paul- David James Green

Thursday - without congregation - Sts. Timothy & Titus

Friday - without congregation - St. Angela Merici

Saturday am - without congregation - St. Thomas Aquinas

Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy commenced on the 15th January. For more information and to sign-up to the family mailing list, visit: **[children's liturgy webpage](#)**

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**

Prayer Intentions w/c 22nd January

For the Sick:

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

May God bring them healing mercies.

For the Dead:

Please pray all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: *Carol Nicholson, Rosemary Beech, Elsie Simonite, Sheila Ward, Helen Hughes, Julia Mary Flynn; Frederick Askham, Minnie Dearing, Ernest Tingle, Rose Murray, Gerard Finnigan, Patrick Keoghan, Aberilda Cade, Kate Dunn, Kay Perks, David Green, Madeleine Somers, Ann Hutton, Catherine Sharp, Frances Tingle, Mary Groark, Stephen Hunter, Sheila Cauldwell, John Thomas Sands, Mary O'Hagan, Mary Kelly, Josephine Lewis, John Clements. Patricia Hartley, John O'Connor, Josephine Hunt, John Hinchliffe and Siobhan Purdy.*

May they rest in peace.

Please pray for all of the children and their families preparing for their First Holy Communion. May the Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love, so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.

Offertory Collection:

Sunday 15th January

Baskets: £613.82

Tap to Donate: £TBC

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).

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023: Wednesday 18th to Wednesday 25th January 2023
Hillsborough Churches Together are holding two prayer events to which all Christians are welcome to come and pray together for the Lord's Church:

- **Tuesday 24th January from 7:15 - 8:45pm at Hillsborough Baptist Church,**
Hawthorn Road. S6 4LG

It would be good to have our congregation represented so please do consider supporting what is very close to Jesus' heart as He prays: '...that they may become perfectly one...'

The Church Cleaning Squad - will be cleaning the church next Saturday morning (28th January) between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. Please come along and help if you can. Our team has reduced of late but we welcomed some new volunteers last time. 'Many hands make light work' as the saying goes and you will almost certainly find you enjoy it!

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

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

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. The centre is based at 172 Dykes Hall Rd, Sheffield S6 4GS.

Teas & Coffees

Each Sunday after the 11am Mass there is an opportunity to get together with other parishioners over a cup of coffee or tea. This is an important way of building and strengthening the parish community, so please join us, whether you are a regular member of the congregation or a visitor. Refreshments are served in the Parish Hall, and we look forward to getting to know you better – all welcome!



Calling all Altar Servers

Put Sunday 22 January 2023 at 11am in your diaries. We will be enrolling new servers at this Mass. Following the parish becoming part of the Confraternity of The Guild of St. Stephen we enrolled our existing Servers and presented them with Guild Medals back in September 2022. Our MC's, Andrew and Peter, will be inviting new regular Servers, who have been in training since September, to the 22 January Mass of enrollment. New Servers are always welcome.

Preparation for Confirmation 2023

Bishop Ralph Heskett will come to Sacred Heart Church to confirm candidates on **Saturday 13 May 2023** during the 6.30pm Mass. We would very much like to offer our young people in Year 9 and 10 the opportunity to prepare for this sacrament. Sessions are scheduled to start on **22 February 2023 in the Church.**

Please contact Petra Klompenhouwer, one of the catechists on youthshc@gmail.com for an information letter and a schedule of sessions or contact Fr. Michael at the presbytery by phone 0114 234 3580 or email: info@sacredheartsheffield.co.uk .

THE EVIDENCE OF GRACE

(Fr. Michael's Homily)



THE EVIDENCE OF GRACE (Fr. Michael's Homily)

Called to Discipleship

Today's Scripture readings (Mt 4:12-23) teach us that Christ has brought us from the darkness of sin into the Light of God (4:16) by calling us to repentance (4:17) and the acceptance of God's rule over us. In the 1st reading (Is 8:23-9:3), Isaiah prophesies that the coming of the Messiah will bring light and joy to the world. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils." Matthew describes Jesus' public ministry in the Galilee of the Gentiles as the light prophesied by the prophet Isaiah.

We too are called to become bearers of Christ's light. To be Christ's light-bearers, we must try to imitate and identify ourselves with Him, so that His Light will shine and illumine others through us by our life coherent with our faith, founded on prayer, mortification, and interior struggle to carry out good works and give good example to others.

We need to appreciate our call to be Christ's disciples: Every one of us is called by God, both individually and as Church members, to be His disciple. The call is both a privilege and responsibility. The mission of preaching, teaching, and healing which Jesus began in Galilee is now the responsibility of the Church and of each individual Christian. Our response to the call begins with our reception of Baptism and Confirmation, the Sacraments of Initiation. That response is meant to be strengthened through the years by the Eucharist and Reconciliation and to be made manifest in Matrimony or Holy Orders. We are healed and consoled in the Anointing which also prepares us for death. As we respond to Christ's call, we gain spiritual strength through our personal and family prayers, our Sacramental life and our faithful study of the Bible and the Church's teachings.

We need to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom: When we receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, we are sent forth to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom and to defend the Catholic Faith. Each of us Christians has received a unique call to preach the Good News of God's love, mercy, forgiveness, and salvation through our daily life. This call challenges us to rebuild our lives, homes, and communities in the justice and peace that Jesus proclaims. As we continue with the celebration of the Holy Mass, let us ask the Lord Jesus to give us the strength and perseverance to answer his calling, so that we may faithfully serve the Lord, doing His Divine will as best as we can by cooperating with His grace.

*Lord Jesus, your ways are life and light! Let your word penetrate my heart and transform my mind that I may see your power and glory. Help me to choose your ways and to do what is pleasing to you. **Amen***

Diocese of Hallam

Pastoral Letter For Safeguarding

I am taking this opportunity today to inform you about how we keep each other Safe in the Catholic Church, a practice known as Safeguarding. Following the teachings of Jesus and to quote the words of Francis our Pope; 'Let us care for one another and let us be loving custodians of creation' Our first reading today is from the book of Isaiah and tells us, as does our Gospel from Matthew; 'The People who walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow, a light has shone.'

In the past, the Catholic Church has failed in its duty to shine a light in the darkness and to protect those most vulnerable but I wish to commit to all that The Diocese and I strive to be that light that shines in our parish communities for those who need our help, and I pray that the Lord's grace is upon us all as we look to how we care safely for our people.

Each and every one of us has a right to be safe and a duty to keep others safe from harm, but what is the recipe for doing so and how can we as a church, demonstrate to those who are at risk of harm, with vulnerabilities, with fear, that we are a church that cares? Here is some information on what the Catholic Church has been doing to create the recipe for a safe environment for all.

The Bishops Conference of England and Wales commissioned an Independent Review of the Safeguarding Structures and despite the global pandemic, delivered its findings timely, such was the importance of the review. Recommendations were made and accepted by the Bishops Conference and work began in 2021 to implement the recommendations.

The creation of eight Safeguarding Standards was one of the key pieces of work, alongside changing our former Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service into a body that is independent of the church and whom will regulate Safeguarding Practice within the Church and hold Diocese' and Religious Orders to account to those 8 standards through the audit process.

I am pleased to report that Hallam Diocese took part in one of the 2 pilot benchmark audits undertaken by the new Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency, in the Summer of 2022.

The purpose of the audit was to assess the benchmark of where we are now at meeting these new standards and to set the journey for how we develop and improve our practice in line with the standards. Our award of early progress recognises that we are meeting the standards and were provided with recommendations for our journey of development of our practice.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team, Senior leaders and I, have been working tirelessly to implement the recommendations and we are now coming to the end of our implementation phase and I wish to personally thank everybody involved in Safeguarding in the Church, be you a children's liturgist ensuring the correct ratio of adult to children are in place, a Eucharistic Minister whom might report a concern about self – neglect in the home, or a Safeguarding Representative helping make sure our volunteer recruitment is done safely and passing on concerns to the Safeguarding Office, you are all grains of salt that together preserve the life of the most valuable – our Parishioners.

The recommendations of the audit included: having improved governance and visibility of senior leadership in Safeguarding; having a written Safeguarding Communication Plan; written processes for the management of allegations, management of subjects of allegations and the response to those who report being harmed; learning mechanisms are to be in place to learn from cases and from the experience of those who report being harmed and a policy to support those harmed is to be written; robust HR procedures including the safe recruitment of volunteers continues to form part of our policy for keeping a safe environment. Information on all policy and practice will be shared on the Diocesan website.

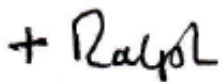
It is important that anybody who has contact with our churches, knows how to raise a concern about someone who may need extra help and who to speak to if they wish to make a disclosure of harm.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives and your Parish Priest provide a key link with the Safeguarding Office and you can also contact the Safeguarding Office directly. The Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator, Marie O'Donnelly (07909117964) will listen, signpost, liaise with and refer to statutory and voluntary sector partner agencies and support. The Assistant to the Safeguarding Coordinator, Jo Pearson (01142569753) will help with queries around practice, policy and the safe recruitment of volunteers.

I'd also like to let you know about a Working Group of the Bishops Conference known as the Isaiah Journey, who provide spiritual resources and promote the National Day of Prayer for Survivors Of Abuse, a service for communities to demonstrate to those who have suffered abuse, that in Hallam we are a church who cares who is listening and willing to give support and that most important of all we are a church that wishes to make atonement. The date this year is Tuesday 9 May 2023 and I invite all parishes to make use of the Isaiah Journey resources when published and to observe this immensely important prayerful day.

Finally, I wish to invite you to attend our Annual Safeguarding event on Saturday 25 March 2023 to be held at St Joseph's in Wath upon Dearne where you can meet the Safeguarding Team and listen to key speakers on a number of topics relevant to Safeguarding. Further details will be announced once finalised. I do hope to see many of you there.

Yours sincerely in Christ, the Redeemer,



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



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/>

Church 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 the next session on the "Big Picture" Bible Study

Join us for the next meeting on **Thursday 26th January 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](#)

Prayer Resources for Download

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

[Parish Community Prayer Booklet](#)

January is the month of Mary the Mother of God

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

[Pray the Holy Rosary](#)

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

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