
Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Achile Unameh

Parish Deacon: Rev. Tony Strike

Parish Secretary: Ann Fleet

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PARISH BULLETIN OF SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH

Mass Information w/c 17th December 2023

Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday



Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 16th December - 6:30pm - Vigil Mass - People of the Parish - (Rosary at 6pm)

Sunday 17th December- 11:00am Mass - Gaudete Sunday - Gerard Patrick Ruane

Monday 18th December - With Congregation - 8am Kirk Edge Monastery

Tuesday 19th December - With Congregation 8am Kirk Edge Monastery - Groark & Howgate Family

& Penitential Service/Confessions at 6pm in Church

Wednesday 20th December - With Congregation - 10:00am in Church - For the Sick

Thursday 21st December - With Congregation - 8am Kirk Edge Monastery - St Peter Canisius

Friday 22nd December - With Congregation - 8am Kirk Edge Monastery

Saturday 23rd December - With Congregation - 8am Kirk Edge Monastery - St John of Kanty

Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy will take place during Sunday Mass. Whether you're new to children's liturgy or have been many times before, please check our webpage for details.

Interested in getting involved? Speak with Fr Michael after Mass. For more information and to sign-up to the family mailing list, visit: **[children's liturgy webpage](#)**

Confessions:

Please make an 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 17th December 2023

For the Sick:

We pray for all those who are sick, that God may grant them health and strength. We remember: *Mary Ahern, Barbara Beatson, Pip Carrington, Fr Michael O'Connor, Wesley, Sonia Holland, Robert Ainsworth, Ann Saunders, Leah, Emma, Paige, Kevin Noone, Isaac Achemu, Loretta Carr, Mike Nadin & Catherine Bartlett.*

May God bring them healing mercies.

For the Dead:

Please pray for all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: 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, Eileen Foley, Alice Brown, Anne Leach, Marie Hodgkinson, Alan Elliot, Bill Donlon, Monica Addy, Violet Brown, Charles Coyle, Muriel Bentley, Michael Buckley and Maureen Unsworth.

May they rest in peace.



Celebrate Christmas at Sacred Heart Church

Mass Times Over Christmas:

Penitential Service: Tuesday 19th December: 6pm
Saturday 23rd December - Vigil Mass: 6.30pm (Rosary at 6pm)
Sunday 24th December - Fourth Sunday of Advent: 11am
Christmas Eve Mass Times: 4pm (Family Mass) & 8pm Vigil (Carols at 7:30pm)
Christmas Day Mass Time: 11am
Boxing Day - Tuesday 26th December - Feast of St Stephen: 10am
Wednesday 27th December - Feast of St John: 10am
Thursday 28th December - Feast of The Holy Innocents: 10am
Saturday Vigil 30th December: 6.30pm (Rosary at 6pm)
New Year's Eve - Sunday 31st December - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph: 11am
New Year's Day: 11am

For the Children's Christmas Eve Mass we would like the children to be involved in the Mass. We will also be inviting children up to act out the nativity and to help lead the singing. Please could we ask that any children who would like to take part in the acted nativity to arrive 15 mins early so that our liturgists can help organise the group and to get the main characters dressed in outfits. We welcome all children to come to church dressed up as nativity characters (e.g., shepherds, angels, Holy Family). We have chosen carols that children have been practising at Sacred Heart school – we would love to have a children's choir helping lead the singing (led by our choir leaders and organist). Please let us know when you arrive if you're happy to sit together in the choir area.

God bless and we look forward to celebrating Christmas together.



Christmas Offertory Collections:

As is customary in England and Wales, each year Christmas and Easter offerings constitute a personal offering in support of the priest. The Bishop has kindly extended this generous gesture to us all this challenging year. Please see below Bishop Ralph's message to us:

"All of the collections (including electronic giving) which are taken on each of the days within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord together with its contributions made by Standing Order will constitute the personal offerings of the faithful for their priests at Christmas this year. God bless - from Bishop Ralph"

We know that times are still difficult but we would ask you to please be as generous as you are able this year to contribute towards the Christmas collections. We are blessed in these times of priest shortage to have, not only our own Parish Priest but that the Parish Priest we have is Fr Michael. Many thanks in anticipation of your continued generosity.

[Click here to give to Fr Michael's Christmas collection online.](#)

Offertory Collection:

Baskets Collections:

**10th December 2023 - £427.18
Church Heating Fund - £5.00**

Tap to donate:

**10th December 2023 - £60 Offertory
Church Heating Fund - £10**

The average monthly standing orders for January - September were £2,138.44 per month.

If you are able, please consider setting up a regular or monthly donation. You can set-up a standing order with your bank or by using our tap-to-donate system:

[Standing Order / Bank Transfer](#)

You can make a donation or set up a standing order directly to our bank account using the details below. You can do this through your online/mobile banking or by asking in your bank branch.

Sort Code: 40-41-07
Account Number: 21094319

Tap to Donate Online

You can set-up a regular offertory donation using our Tap to Donate system (powered by Give a Little) in a couple of clicks from your phone, computer or tablet.

You can Gift Aid your donation by ticking the box when you donate. Please be assured that the card processing (Sum Up) is the same that is used by businesses across the UK to safely process card payments and it is bank grade secure.

In whatever way you support and donate, thank you very much for your generosity.

Tap to Donate

GIFT AID

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/>

Parish Community Christmas Greetings Card

We have our Christmas card tree in the porch this year ready to be decorated with your cards for friends and family in the parish. If you wish to make a donation for your card(s) this will go towards the Christmas Offertory for Fr Michael. You can put cash/cheques in an envelope into the Offertory collection or make a donation online or via the tap to donate machine. Thank you.



The Sacrament of Confirmation **Preparation for Confirmation 2024**

Bishop Ralph Heskett will come to Sacred Heart Church to confirm candidates on Saturday 18th of May 2024 during the 6.30pm Mass. We would very much like to offer our young people in Year 9 and 10 (13/14-16 years old) the opportunity to prepare for this sacrament. Sessions are scheduled to start on 21st of February 2024. A registration form can be found on the parish website or by contacting Petra Klompenhouwer, one of the catechists on youthshc@gmail.com.

PARISH NOTICES

Christmas Stall for Rustenburg - We still have some things left from the Christmas Fair and so we will be selling in the Hall after Mass on Sunday (17th December). Please come and support us and maybe get the gift you have been looking for! All the proceeds are being donated to this year's Advent Charity - The Rustenburg Project. Sr Maire will be happy to take further donations for this and, of course, explain to you what the money will be spent on. THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Carol Singing - Hillsborough Arcade - Carols are being sung in the Arcade, Hillsborough, on Saturday 16th December at 11am, everyone welcome.

Parish Christmas Children's Disco – Sunday 17th December 2023. The disco is now **sold out** - thanks for everyone's support!

After 'The Letter' - Parish Proposed Action Plans

On Saturday 11th of November 2023 'The Letter' movie was screened in the Parish Hall. At the end of the movie, we spent time thinking about what actions we can take as a parish to look after our common home. Please see the noticeboard at the back of the church for further information

Teas & Coffees after Mass

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!

Check out the [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).

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SVP

If you are sick, elderly, lonely and you would like to be visited by a member of the SVP, please contact Fr Michael via the Presbytery Number: 0114 234358 or text SVP on 07342362226.

St Vincent's Furniture Project

St Vincent's Furniture Project (the Furniture Store) has been helping locally in Sheffield for 36 years. We urgently need beds furniture and household equipment such as crockery, and bedding that is clean and in reasonable condition. We aim to provide decent living conditions for people who are often in desperate need. We collect and deliver the donated items for free, and we change lives. In the longer term might you be able to help us by volunteering, or with a standing order donation. You can make all the difference. Can you help? Reach us on 0114 270 3990 and www.svp.org.uk/sheffield-furniture-store Thank you!

Carmel Care needs Volunteers

Do you have a couple of hours to spare each week? Would you like to join our welcoming friendly team at Carmel Care? We are looking for volunteers who can help us serve lunch and chat to our guests.

For more information please contact Janet Kent 07927657462 jkent@hallam-diocese.com

Free Wellbeing Course for Women

A free six-week course for a happier and more relaxed you. Starting for six weekly sessions from Wednesday 22nd November 2023 online at 10am.

Join us to explore;

Emotional Self-care – Emotional self-care allows us to take time to benefit our health and well-being. Thinking about putting your own needs first - building your resilience. Being more assertive and setting boundaries, communicating more effectively at home and work. Stress and relaxation techniques – learning new skills for a more relaxed you. Build resilience and recover from

trauma – To move forward in your life. Come and join us for these relaxed, friendly and supportive sessions! For more information and to book in please contact Janet Kent on 07927657462 jkent@hallam-diocese.com

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024

The 2024 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop Ralph, will take place from Friday 28th June to Thursday 4th July 2024.

Further information is available at the back of the church and booking forms can also be downloaded from the pilgrimage website www.hallam-lourdes.com

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 prayer & reflection

We will be following a 4 week cycle, which includes an excellent new Bible Study course on the 4th Thursday of the month.

- 1st Thursday - Rosary
- 2nd Thursday - Lectio Divina
- 3rd Thursday - Evening Prayer
- 4th Thursday - Bible Study

Join us for the next meeting on **Thursday 21st of December starting at 7.30pm for 30-45min of prayer via zoom (*Please note that there is a waiting room and you will be let in once the meeting starts*)**.

[Click Here to Join](#)

LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9210301020?pwd=MVF0dThLcHYwLzlRSVUwK2IybjZHUT09>

If you wish to dial in using your phone please use one of the numbers below and use the meeting ID.

+44 208 080 6592; +44 330 088 5830; +44 131 460 1196; +44 203 481 5237; +44 203 901 7895; +44 208 080 6591.

Meeting ID: 921 030 1020

Information on how to join a zoom meeting can be found here: <https://zoom.us/> under resources or support.

The month of December Devotions for the Holy Season of Advent

<https://www.salvemariaregina.info/Prayers/Advent.html>

Prayer Resources for Download

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

[Parish Community Prayer Booklet](#)

December is the month of The Divine Infancy

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:

[Church Services TV](#)

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage your subscription](#)

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