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PARISH BULLETIN OF SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH

Mass Information w/c 22nd December 2024 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**



Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 21st December - 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (Rosary at 6pm) - Alan Elliott
Sunday 22nd December - 11:00 am Mass - **Fourth Sunday of Advent** - People of the Parish
Monday 23rd December - No Mass - St John of Kanty
Christmas Eve- 4pm Family Mass (Carols at 3:45pm) - Miranda & Marilena
Christmas Eve Vigil- 8pm (Carols at 7:30pm)
Christmas Day - Nativity of the Lord: Mass Time: 10am - Francis & Charlet
Thursday 26th December - Feast of St Stephen: Mass Time: 10am - Mary and Thomas Green
Friday 27th December - No Mass - St John
Saturday 28th December - No AM Mass - The Holy Innocents

Please note, there are no longer any masses held at Kirk Edge Convent

No Children's Liturgy

We just wanted to let you know that Children's Liturgy is taking a break over Christmas so there will be no session this Sunday (22nd). We'll be back in touch soon with all the dates for Children's Liturgy running in the New Year.

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 22nd December 2024

For the Sick:

We pray for all those who are sick, that God may grant them health and strength. We remember:

Pip Carrington, Fr Michael O'Connor, Wesley, Sonia Holland, Robert Ainsworth, Ann Saunders, Leah, Emma, Paige, Loretta Carr, Catherine Bartlett, Babs Parker & John McConnon

May God bring them healing mercies.

For the Dead:

Please pray for all who have died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Alan Elliott, John Whiston, Marilena Ferrari, Ann Kirwan, Thomas James Green & Arthur Askham

May they rest in peace.

Offertory Collection

Baskets:

14th & 15th December - TBC

Tap to Donate:

14th & 15th December - £100.00

The average monthly standing order donations for 1st January - 30th November was £2,164.00

"A branch of the Diocese of Hallam - A Registered Charity"

Many thanks for your generosity.

Donations and Gift Aid

If you are a taxpayer, you can increase your donations to Sacred Heart by 25%, simply by completing a Gift Aid Declaration (GAD). You only need to do this once.

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.** To be able to claim that 25p for every £1 you donate, the church needs to keep a record of how much is donated by each Gift Aider. All tax payers are encouraged to make their donations under gift aid and the information you provide is in the strictest confidence. There are a few options available to make your donations under gift aid.

Single Donations under Gift Aid

If you wish to make a single gift aided donation by cash or cheque, please use the envelopes available at the back of church for single donations. Alternatively, if you wish to make a single gift aided donation by debit or credit card please use the Tap to Donate tablet at the back of church and choose to gift aid your donation. This method may also be used for regular donations by using the tablet each time you wish to donate.

Regular Donations under Gift Aid

If you wish to make regular gift aided donations (e.g. weekly or monthly) by standing order, cheque or offertory envelope please complete a Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) form which is available at the back of church.

Please note that you may choose the following donation options on the form:

- a) "past 4 years", which enables the parish to claim for previous as well as future donations;
- b) "future donations", which enables the parish to claim for future donations. Please do not select "today" since this is for one-off donations rather than regular donations.

You may also choose to make your donations by:

- a) Standing order - this is the preferred option since your donation is transferred directly from your bank account to the parish bank account.
- b) Cheque
- c) NE (offertory envelope)

Please ensure the form is signed and dated and hand your completed GAD to Fr. Michael or leave it at the presbytery.

Once you have completed your form, if you selected to pay by standing order, please set up a standing order with your bank for the regular amount you wish to donate. This can usually be done via online banking or via a banking app or by visiting your bank.

The Parish bank details are:
Diocese of Hallam Sacred Heart Sheffield
Sort Code: 40-41-07
Account Number: 21094319

If you opted to donate by offertory envelope these will be provided to you in due course.
If you would like more information, please speak to Fr Michael or phone or email the parish administrator (details are at the top of this bulletin).

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



Parish Christmas Celebrations

Sunday 22nd December - Please join us in the hall after the 11am Mass



Celebrate Christmas at Sacred Heart Church

Mass Times Over Christmas:

Penitential Service & Confessions - Friday 20th December: 6pm
Saturday 21st December - Vigil Mass: 6.30pm (Rosary at 6pm)
Sunday 22nd December - Fourth Sunday of Advent: 11am
Christmas Eve Mass Times: 4pm Family Mass (Carols at 3:45pm) & 8pm Vigil (Carols at 7:30pm)
Christmas Day - Nativity of the Lord - Mass Time: 10am
Boxing Day - Thursday 26th December - Feast of St Stephen: 10am
Saturday Vigil 28th December: 6.30pm (Rosary at 6pm)
Sunday 29th December - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph: 11am
New Year's Day: 10am

The list for readers and ministers over the Christmas Masses is up on the noticeboard at the back of church. Please put your name down if you would like to volunteer.

A message from The Children's Liturgy Team

Dear Families

As in previous years the Family Christmas Eve service will be taking place on 24th December at 4:00pm, with Carols from 3:45pm. We would like to ask the children of the parish to take the important role of telling the Christmas story. We are looking for readers, greeters, singers and actors and there is space for everyone to get involved.

If your child would like to get involved you will need to arrive at church at 3:30pm to collect a costume (if required) have a quick run through so everyone knows what they need to be. Please email Liz (Children's liturgist) by Friday 20th December at: liz.yoxall@gmail.com. Please state what part they would like to play or if they are open, please just state ANY, children taking part in other roles may also be part of the children's choir throughout the rest of mass or volunteer for the offertory or greeting roles. We will let you know by email what part your child has been allocated. Please note the suggested age range for some of these parts when volunteering. If more than one child volunteers for each part, we will draw names from a hat and allocate the part at random from the volunteers. If your child does not want to take an active role, they are still welcome to come to church dressed as angels and shepherds and participate from their seats.

Readers - Age 8 and up

Children's Choir - Age 8 and up - must be able to sit well with the adult choir and parent must be seated close by.

Greeters - Any age - Help our adult greeters welcome and hand out orders of service.

Offertory procession - Age 8 up

Children Age 6 and up - Mary, Joseph, Angel Gabriel, Inn Keeper, Sheep, Donkey.

All age groups - Angels, Shepherds.

We ask that parents and carers use common sense when involving younger children, any age is welcome, as long as they can follow instructions on where to stand we would love to have them involved, alternatively why not ask an older sibling to volunteer with them to help guide them to their place.



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.

Please click here to give to Fr Michael's Christmas collection online

Parish Community Christmas Greetings Card

We have our Christmas card tree & cards at the back of church 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.

Opening of the Jubilee Year 2025 - Saturday 28th December, 12.30pm

The rite of the Opening of the Jubilee Year will take place on Saturday 28th December, at which Bishop Ralph will preside. The celebration will start at the Sheffield Anglican Cathedral at 12.30pm, from which there will be a procession to St Marie's Cathedral for the opening Mass. All from across the Diocese are encouraged to come and celebrate the beginning of this special year, in which all are invited "to an intense experience of the love of God" and "a lively experience of grace and hope" (Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 6)!

Hallam  Bridge



Latest Edition of the Hallam Bridge

For the latest news from around the Diocese check out the Hallam Bridge. You can view the news and also subscribe to it here <https://hallam-diocese.com/bridge/>



The Sacrament of Confirmation **Preparation for Confirmation 2025**

Bishop Ralph will be coming to Sacred Heart on **Saturday 24th May 2025** to confirm this year's candidates. We invite young people in year 9 and above (13/14 years old or older), who want to complete their membership of the church to come forward for preparation for the **Sacrament of Confirmation**.

Sessions will take place about once a month on **Saturday** afternoon starting **8th February 2025 at 1-4pm**. An online information session for parents/guardians is on **Wednesday 29th January 2025 at 7-8pm**.

Registration for the Confirmation programme to prepare our young parishioners who want to be confirmed is open until 12 January 2025.

A registration form including more information can be found on the website or by emailing: youthshc@gmail.com an information letter can also be found via this link: <https://forms.gle/KAQcWao4TQdCvysBA>



Sign up to easyfundraising today to turn your online Christmas shopping into free donations for Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Sheffield. Plus, this month you can WIN up to a £200 donation for us every day in the Advent Calendar prize draw. Join today:
<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/shccsheffield/40K0RZ/c2s/hsk0eLvQ/CE000/facebook/>



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 2343580 or text SVP on 07342362226.

St Vincent's Furniture Project

Sheffield Furniture Store is a Community Support Project of the St Vincent de Paul Society England & Wales and has been operating in the Sheffield area since 1987.

We collect then redistribute recycled furniture and household items to people who are disadvantaged because of poverty, deprivation and other circumstances in our community.

Could you support our work with a donation of your unwanted furniture? We offer a free collection for those in the Sheffield area.

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!



The lucky winners for last Saturday's draw was Malc & Ann Fleet, bonus ball number 3.

Bonus Ball Subscription

The next quarterly payment for anyone who paid for 13 weeks is now due.

Could you please make your payment to Malc Fleet on Saturday or Andrew Hartley on Sunday.

Many thanks to everyone for your support.

Good Luck for this Saturday.

Further Notices

Extended Advent Confessions at St Marie's Cathedral: There will be two Priests hearing Confessions at St Marie's Cathedral from Thursday 19th – Saturday 21st December and Monday 23rd – Tuesday 24th December, starting at the usual time of 11.30am.

Christmas Day Evening Mass at St Marie's Cathedral: There will be a 6.30pm evening Mass on Christmas Day (Wednesday 25th December) at St Marie's Cathedral.

CAFOD World Gifts

World Gifts are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of families and communities living in poverty. Please visit their website for further information: <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

The recent vote on the Terminally ill (End of Life) Bill

"Parliament recently voted on the Terminally Ill (End of Life) Bill which will proceed to the next stage. The Bill will face much more scrutiny at its next stage. There will be future opportunities to campaign against it. 275 MPs voted against it and many of those voting in favour said that they have reservations and may not support it in future unless changes are made. As the Bill passes through Parliament we can continue to act. We can continue to advocate and pray for the sanctity of life, the protection of vulnerable people from the risk of coercion to end their life or from being made to feel a burden and for more funding and access to end of life care. Further updates are available at https://righttolife.org.uk/news#latest_news "

Mens' Spiritual Exercises, 31 March – 5 April 2025

A 5-day version of the Ignatian Exercises offered specifically for men (whether lay or ordained), this retreat will be preached by the Benedictine Monks of St Joseph's Abbey, France. Founded in 1988, this community has retained its charism of a specific apostolate to men and of engaging them through a shortened version of the Ignatian Exercises. One-to-one direction will be offered alongside the talks. Priests are welcome to attend and concelebrate or celebrate their own Mass. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-spiritual-exercises/>

Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope

The Holy Father has announced that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, something which happens every 25 years. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope," and it will be a year of hope.

Please pick up your Pilgrim Passport from the Church, which details designated pilgrimage places and all the events taking place across the diocese throughout 2025. The Jubilee banner displayed in Church shows the icon CAFOD commissioned from Ethiopia for the Jubilee Year, unveiled and blessed at Adoremus on 14 September, reminding us the Jubilee is a global event.

Deacon Tony is going on pilgrimage to Rome for the Jubilee, in February, to walk through the Holy Doors at St. Peter's Basilica, and will take particular prayer requests with him from the parish.

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage in Kent 15th - 19th September 2025

Pilgrimages have been organised by St Mary's Penistone, Sheffield over many years and the next is a five day stay in Kent with visits to the different National Shrines of St Jude and St Augustine.

There will be Masses at each Shrine with Fr Henry [St Mary's] celebrating. There will also be a tour of Canterbury Cathedral. A full free day is also included.

The cost per person including coach travel and half board en suite accommodation at a Best Western Hotel in Faversham is £495 [There is no supplement for single occupancy] Different pick up points can be arranged within the Diocese] For further information or to reserve places contact Brendan Lally of St Mary's [07949241108]

Safeguarding: For matters relating to the safeguarding of vulnerable persons in our parish, or for information relating to DBS recruitment procedures, please email safeguarding.sdhth@hallam-diocese.com or text / phone 0780 117 7483. Our Safeguarding Representative is Dominic Maloney. In emergency situations where vulnerable persons are at imminent risk of harm, please phone 999.

Teas & Coffees after Mass

Each Sunday after the 11 am 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! **A few more helpers would be very much appreciated.**

Church Maintenance

Church maintenance is carried out throughout the year by parish volunteers.

If you would like to offer your help please speak to Malc Fleet at the Vigil Mass on Saturdays or alternatively, you can send us an email at info@sacredheartsheffield.co.uk

The volunteers are able to carry out any minor work but for more serious issues we have to hire professionals which comes at a cost to the parish, so if there are any skilled tradesman out there who we might need to call upon could you please give your details to Father Michael.

If you would like to make any donation towards the cost of maintaining the church please either pass it directly to Fr Michael or put it in the Offertory basket at Mass. Please mark any donations **'For The Church Maintenance Fund'** - please include your name and address so we can claim Gift Aid. You can also donate **online** by clicking the button below or by using the **donation tablet** at the back of church.

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

The next meeting will be the Romans Course this evening (please see below).

There will be no Prayer Group on Boxing day - Thursday the 26th December but will be back on Thursday the 2nd of January 2025.

The proposed schedule for the coming year is:

Week 1: Lectio

Week 2: Evening Prayer

Week 3: Rosary

Week 4: The Letter to the Romans (Bible Society) *Please see the information below

**Please join us for The Letter to the Romans Course on
Thursday, 19th December 2024
Time: Online 7:30 PM (GMT)**

Explore the letter to the Romans

Join *The Romans Course* at Sacred Heart Hillsborough:

Once a month on a Thursday: 26-09; 21-10; 21-11; 19-12; 23-01; 20-02; 20-03; 24-04; 12-06

Time: Online 7.30pm

Venue: [MS Teams](#)

Other information: [Participants guide](#)
(please ensure you have a copy of this).

biblesociety.org.uk

Please ensure you have a copy of the participants guide.

Could you please download and print a copy by clicking on the following link:

https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/resources/The_Romans_Course_Official/PDF_guides/small_group_materials/participants_full.pdf

It would be a great help if you could download and print the guide but if you don't have access to a printer, please let us know as soon as possible by emailing us on info@sacredheartsheffield.co.uk

MS Teams Link: [Parish Prayer Meeting](#) | [Microsoft Teams](#) | [Meet-up-Join](#)

Prayer Resources for Download

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

[Parish Community Prayer Booklet](#)

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception

[Pray the Holy Rosary](#)

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

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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