

St. Vincent's Parish

40 PICKMERE ROAD, SHEFFIELD, S10 1GY

PARISH PRIEST: REV. FR. PADDY WALSH

"He has sent me to bring good news to the poor." Lk 4:18

SUNDAY, 3rd DECEMBER 2023

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 3 DECEMBER

The First Sunday of Advent 9:30am (Mass): People of the Parish 6:00pm (Mass): Jenny Beach (Recently Deceased)

Monday, 4 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday / St. John Danascene, Priest, Doctor of The Church 10:30am (Mass at St. Michael's, Rivelin): For all the dead of the cemetery and the Catholic faithful buried at Crookes Cemetery

Tuesday, 5 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday

6:30pm: Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

7:00pm (Mass): Special Intention Confessions after Mass

Wednesday, 6 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday / St. Nicholas, Bishop 9:00am: Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament 9:30am (Mass): Christina Baker (Anniversary)

Thursday, 7 DECEMBER

St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of The Church 9:00am: Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament 9:30am (Mass): Sr. Julia Duignan (Intentions)

Friday, 8 DECEMBER

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00am: Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer) and Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament **9:30am (Mass):** Tina Leadley (Recently Deceased)

6:00pm: Office of Vespers (Evening Prayer)

Saturday, 9 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday / St. John Cuahtlatoatzin
Confessions 10:00 – 10:45am
Mass at St. Vincent's Mission Hub (Check
their website for Mass times)

SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER

The Second Sunday of Advent
9:30am (Mass): Elizabeth Loftus (Recently Deceased)

6:00pm (Mass): People of the Parish

Telephone: 0114 268 0716
Parish Office Email: crookes@idnet.com
Website: www.stvincentschurch.com
Week 1 of the Psalter

Catholic Chaplain urgent call: NGH: 2434343. Hallamshire Hospital: 2711900. Ask for the Catholic Priest Chaplain on duty (day or night).

S.V.P: If anyone in the parish would like assistance with anything please ring, 07904664898.

Live Simply Pledge for December: I will (where possible) respond to appeals in the Bulletin to donate items to charities, e.g., St Wilfrid's, CAFOD

Interested in Catholicism: 5th December – 7:45pm

Of your charity please pray for the anniversaries:

John Archbould (3/12/65), Anne Frances Rooke (4/12/98), Winifred Poolman (4/12/03), Denis Finnigan (4/12/94), Michael Frain (4/12/f), Fr Reginald Bessler (5/12/14), Eamon Gavaghan (5/12/02), Joseph Patrick McGrail (5/12/83), Sr. Pius Sister Of Mercy (5/12/84), Lillian Shaw (5/12/90), Fr Constandine Dolan (6/12/81), Frances Elizabe Brown (6/12/53), Ellen J. Stainrod (6/12/84), Albert Peter Kenny (6/12/89), Lottie Cunningham (6/12/93), Patrick Murphy (6/12/95), Nora Delaney (7/12/01), Henry Wragg (8/12/02), Arthur Gill (8/12/86), Harry Boyle (8/12/90), Ali Rose (8/12/18), Helen Weighell (8/12/21), Kia-jo Rose (8/12/18), Fr. John Sergeant (8/12/18), Fr. Michael Walsh CM (8/12/91), Marcelle Mattli (8/12/20), Joseph Jeffcock (8/12/94), Mabel Gardner (9/12/08), James Crosby (9/12/44), Douglas Joseph Markham (9/12/86), Marie Josephine O'Neill (9/12/88), Kathleen V Warner (9/12/88) and all other anniversaries that occur at this time.

Lately Dead: Tina Leadley, Rev. Msgr. Peter Kirkham

The collection for last Sunday, 26th November was £477.05 plus standing orders. The electronic giving device has been installed in the Narthex. **Thank you for your continued generosity.**

Standing Orders: Should you want to set up a standing order, there is a form to fill in either on the website or it can be collected from the parish office. The bank details of the parish are: HSBC UK, 49-63 Fargate, Sheffield. South Yorkshire. S1 2HD. Name of Account: Diocese of Hallam St Vincent of Paul Sort code: 40-41-07 Account Number: 81095099

News Extra

Please pray for the sick: Elizabeth Dodson, Melony Oldfield, Mick McKenna, Oona Kirkland, Alison, Veronica Sowerby, Debbie, Felix, Lee Reilly, David Baker, Maura O'Hara, Terry Finn, Johnathan Elbel, Valerie Ashforth, Pat Lintott (O'Connor), Hugh Lafferty, Anne Bright, Goretti Bradshaw, Marie Vintin, Fr Jim Shryane, Fr Michael O'Connor, Minnie Sandiford, Anna Lanera, Paddy and Tom McGrath, Andrew Booth, Rebecca Smith, Michael, Eva Rajesh, Matilda & Family, Bridget Maughan, Theresa Maughan, Jack Hague, Tony, John Jackson, Mary Prenter.

Grant them, O Lord, your healing and peace.

St. Vincent's Parish Live Simply Prayer:

Father, source of light and goodness help us to tread lightly on your world, and to share with each other the fruits of your creation.

Acting justly, loving tenderly and living simply. Showing humility and gratitude for all that you give. Lord of heaven and earth.

Parish Film Night - Save the date! Friday 15th
December - Showing of 'The Letter' at 7 pm. A
story of Pope Francis' invitation to an African
refugee, a young Indian student, a community
leader from the Amazon and a Hawaiian scientist
couple - to share their experience of our changing
climate. Glorious and moving scenes of our common
home. Bring some Christmas treats to eat - there will
be hot and cold drinks, and mulled wine provided.

Did someone say Christmas?: We are forming a small choir to lead in the Midnight Mass as we will be singing the Latin Proper's (Kyrie, Gloria, Credo Sanctus, Agnus Dei etc.). If interested please see either Fr. Walsh in the sacristy after Mass, Josh after the Sunday evening Mass, or send an email into the Parish.

Practices will take place on Fridays – 6pm till 7:30pm

Parish Council and Finance Committee

Vacancies: There are two vacancies on the Parish Council and one vacancy on the Parish Finance Committee. If you think you would like to serve on either of these groups please get in touch or speak to Fr. Walsh after Mass. Anyone is welcome to be on these committees and it is open to all!

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers. A second collection for this appeal will be held this week.

Living Simply:

Our parish is aiming to do enough to earn a CAFOD Live Simply Award. The Pope, in his letters Laudate Si', Laudate Deum and many speeches, has called on us all to live more simply and to make changes which will help rescue our beautiful world. Each month the Parish Live Simply Group asks you to make a pledge: this month it is to ask for a donation to a charity rather than a birthday or Christmas present for yourself. To show that you support the parish effort, please tick the Living Simply Pledge sheet in the narthex. And then, do something very practical. Look out for the Living Simply notice in the bulletin each week and read about the Award on the parish website

www.stvincentschurch.com/live-simply.html

Parish Panto: It's Panto time!! This year the Pantomime is 'Dick Whittington and the Yellow Brick Road' The commitment is as follows: Thursday 14th Dec at 7.30 pm for castings. Rehearsals will be on Thursday 4th, Fridays 12th, 19th and 26th January. Dress rehearsal is on Thursday 1st February (all in the hall from 7.30pm) Performances will take place Friday 2nd February at 7.30 pm and Saturday 3rd February at 2pm and 7.30pm. Sign-up sheet for Panto now at the back of Church. Please sign up if you want a part or can help in any way.

Cake Sale next Sunday: Next Sunday morning (10th December) Maria will be running a cake sale in aid of Mary's Meals. A charity which feeds 2.4 million children every day! Please do support this generously.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Recommissioning for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion will take place during both Sunday masses this week, 3 December (First Sunday of Advent).

Advent Talks: This year the parish will be having a series of Advent talks on Mondays from the 27th of November at 7pm. Next talk by Matthew Hazell on the Infancy of Jesus this Monday. Information can be found on posters in the narthex. Snacks and drinks (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic) will be provided. So if you're sat at home wondering what to do on these cold and dark evenings, please do come and join us!

No one alone this Christmas!: This year Josh and Fr. Paddy will be hosting and cooking Christmas dinner at St. Vincent's (arrive at 2pm for 3pm Christmas Dinner) for anyone who would be alone on Christmas day. This is completely free of charge; please just let us know if you would like to come as we will need to know how many to cook for.

Parish Christmas Card Competition: This year we will be launching a Christmas Card competition for the children in the parish. Children have up until the second Sunday of Advent (10th December) to submit their design either by email: crookes@idnet.com or in the sacristy after Mass. Entries should be made on A4 white paper with your name written on the back. The winners design will be printed as our parishes Christmas card and Prizes are up for grabs!

COP Climate Conference: Pope Francis asks us to pray for the Dubai Climate Change Conference, COP28 which he is now too unwell to attend himself. The conference is bringing together world leaders in Dubai from 30 November to 12 December to find agreement on policies aimed at limiting the rise in global temperature and dealing with its consequences. Pray for political solutions and for personal ecological conversion.

Synod Update: You will be able to find the latest update of the ongoing Synod in the Hallam Bridge Paper at the back of the church, or online at https://hallam-diocese.com/synod-on-synodality-from-the-bishops-conference-plenary-resolution/

Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary



9:00am: Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer) and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am (Mass): Celebration of Holy Mass
6:00pm: Office of Vespers (Evening Prayer)

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is the doctrine that the Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin; that is the twist in our nature that makes our will tend not to follow what it knows to be right. It was this grace that enabled Mary to give a true and considered "Yes" to the request, conveyed by the Angel Gabriel, that she should consent to be the mother of the incarnate God.

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was almost universally believed over the centuries but was only formally defined as a doctrine of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1854.

This week's top tip for getting the most out of Holy Mass:

People like to grumble. Yet, the word "Eucharist" means thanksgiving and the meaning doesn't change because we don't always feel thankful for it. God loved his Son, but when Jesus was hanging on the cross, Jesus didn't feel the love: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matt 27:46). Likewise, the Eucharist is a thanksgiving even if we don't feel grateful for it or about going to Mass.

Our faith was built on secret gatherings to celebrate the Lord's supper and to spread the Gospel when lives were at risk for gathering to celebrate faith. In many places in our world, lives are still at risk for practicing our faith. But in places such as the UK, we get to celebrate Mass freely. A change in perspective is changing our thinking from I have to go to Mass, to I get to go to Mass. On Sunday, let's proclaim, "Thank you, Lord, that I get to go to Mass today." If I am not grateful to be there, I ask for the grace to be grateful about getting to go to Mass.

This Sunday's Response to the Psalm:

God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Parish Key Contacts:

Parish Pastoral Council:

The Parish Council has a key role in working with the parish priest to serve the people of the parish. The members of the Council aim to represent different aspects of the parish community and they meet about once a month. It should be possible to catch one of them after Mass on Sunday. Posters detailing the members can be found in the narthex and in the hall. Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself if you are new to the parish, have something to raise, or have a question to ask.

Contact: Russell Brynes (Chair) T: 07775 573443 E: russellbrynes@gmail.com Maria Mawson (Secretary) T: 07584 040199

Parish WhatsApp Group:

There is a parish WhatsApp group, which any member of the parish can join. Regular items are uploaded to it, such as the weekly bulletin and Fr. Walsh's homily, as well as ad hoc items of interest. If you would like to be added please contact one of the group administrator(s) via Fr. Walsh.

Around the Diocese:

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

Vacancies in the Hallam Diocese: Any vacancies for jobs around the diocese in Schools or Parishes can be found at: https://hallam-diocese.com/about-doh/vacancies/

Hallam Diocese Lourdes Pilgrimage: The next Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 28 June- 4 July 2024. Booking Forms can be downloaded from the pilgrimage website www.hallam-lourdes.com or be picked up at the back of church.

Saint of the Week: St. Ambrose of Milan (7th December)

Ambrose was born in Trier (now in Germany) between 337 and 340, to a Roman family: his father was praetorian prefect of Gaul. Ambrose was educated at Rome and embarked on the standard cursus honorum of Roman advocates and administrators, at Sirmium, the capital of Illyria. In about 372 he was made prefect of Liguria and Emilia, whose capital was Milan.

In 374 the bishopric of Milan fell vacant and when Ambrose tried to pacify the conflict between the Catholics and Arians over the appointment of a new bishop, the people turned on him and demanded that he become the bishop himself. He was a layman and not yet baptized (at this time it was common for baptism to be delayed and for people to remain for years as catechumens), but that was no defence. Coerced by the people and by the emperor, he was baptized, ordained, and installed as bishop within a week, on 7 December 374.

He immediately gave his money to the poor and his land to the Church and set about learning theology. He had the advantage of knowing Greek, which few people did at that time, and so he was able to read the Eastern theologians and philosophers as well as those of the West.

He was assiduous in carrying out his office, acting with charity to all: a true shepherd and teacher of the faithful. He was unimpressed by status and when the Emperor Theodosius ordered the massacre of 7,000 people in Thessalonica, Ambrose forced him to do public penance. He defended the rights of the Church and attacked the Arian heresy with learning, firmness and gentleness. He also wrote a number of hymns which are still in use today.

Ambrose was a key figure in the conversion of St Augustine to Catholicism, impressing Augustine (hitherto unimpressed by the Catholics he had met) by his intelligence and scholarship. He died on Holy Saturday, 4 April 397.



