



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, 10th DECEMBER 2023

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER

The Second Sunday of Advent

9:30am (Mass): Elizabeth Loftus (Recently Deceased)

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

Monday, 11 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday / St. Damasus I, Pope

No Mass at St. Vincent's

Tuesday, 12 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday / Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:30pm: Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

7:00pm (Mass): Mike Grimsley (Recently Deceased)

Confessions after Mass

Wednesday, 13 DECEMBER

St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr

9:00am: Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

9:30am (Mass): Intentions of Jackie

Thursday, 14 DECEMBER

St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of The Church

9:00am: Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

9:30am (Mass): John Walsh (Repose of the Soul)

Friday, 15 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday

No Mass at St. Vincent's

Saturday, 16 DECEMBER

Advent Weekday

Confessions 10:00 – 10:45am

Mass at St. Vincent's Mission Hub (Check their website for Mass times)

SUNDAY, 17 DECEMBER

The Third Sunday of Advent

9:30am (Mass): Mary Greatorex (Anniversary)

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

Telephone: 0114 268 0716

Parish Office Email: crookes@idnet.com

Website: www.stvincentschurch.com

Week 2 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: If you have a combi-condensing boiler turn the 'flow' temperature down to 55 degrees for maximum efficiency. (BUT water storage tanks, e.g. in an airing cupboard, must stay at minimum 65 degrees for water safety).

Live Simply Pledge for November: I will ask for a donation to a charity instead of a birthday present & Christmas presents.

Of your charity please pray for the anniversaries: and all other anniversaries that occur at this time.

Hilda Cunningham (10/12/99), Mary Potter (10/12/95), Julia Mary Flynn (11/12/65), Frank Shelton (11/12/94), Alex Dimba (11/12/99), Amy Beer (11/12/85), Kevin Connolly (11/12/15), Daniel Hayes (11/12/88), Bridget Woodhams (12/12/01), Mary Hayes (12/12/00), Mary Anne Nell (12/12/75), Mary Ann Marshall (12/12/85), William Vincent Donlon (13/12/13), Beatrice Fiddler (13/12/86), Frances Loversuch (14/12/00), Bishop Gerald Moverley (14/12/96), Evelyne Fox (14/12/89), Sylvia Lehmann (15/12/12), Winifred Dennis (15/12/86), Alex Dimba (16/12/99)

Lately Dead: Tina Leadley, Rev. Msgr. Peter Kirkham, Julia Anne Creswick

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

The collection for last Sunday, 3rd December was £305.80 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 Friday 15th December: Come to see 'The Letter' - 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 world. Featuring glorious and moving scenes of our common home - a film of repentance and hope for Advent. Mulled wine and mince pies, hot and cold drinks available. 6.30 pm for prompt 7pm start. Bring your tea if you haven't had a chance to eat it!

Did someone say Christmas? : This year the Parish will be having a Midnight Mass in addition to a 5pm Vigil Mass, and the usual 9:30am Christmas Day Mass. 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

St Justin Society would like to thank everyone who contributed to their fund raising at the Bazaar last weekend. Special thanks to all those stall holders who donated their takings. We raised an amazing amount of £550 which will be distributed at our meeting in January. Our sincere thanks to you all.

Live Simply Award: The Pope in his letters Laudato Si', Laudate Deum and many speeches, calls on us all to live more simply and to make changes which will help rescue our beautiful world. Our parish has been working for a year to do enough to earn a Live Simply Award from CAFOD. Each month we put a different pledge sheet in the narthex and on the parish WhatsApp -Please look for and tick the current Live Simply Pledge sheet in the narthex, or give it the 'thumbs up' online. This will form part of our evidence for the award. Read about the award on the parish website

<http://www.stvincentschurch.com/.live-simply.html>
And look out for the weekly Living Simply tip in the bulletin.

Parish Panto: It's Panto time!! This year the Pantomime is 'Dick Whittington and the Yellow Brick Road'. Castings will take place on this Thursday 14th Dec at 7.30 pm. Please come along if you would like a part in the Panto. If you cannot make it please let Pete or Pauline know on 2682234 before castings. Panto Players commitments will be rehearsals on Thursday 4th, Fridays 12th, 19th and 26th January; dress rehearsal 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. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex until after 6 pm Mass, for anyone who is willing to take part or assist in any way.

Advent Talks: This year the parish will be having a series of Advent talks on Mondays at 7pm. **Next talk by Sr. Mary-John and Sr. Monika on Mary, Ark of the Covenant 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.

Children's Christmas Eve Mass: St. Vincent's will be having a children's Christmas Eve Mass on the 24th of December at 5pm. If your child would like to do a reading, or dress up, please contact Orla Wilson: orlawilson63@outlook.com

Christmas Masses:

24th of December

Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent – 9:30am

Vigil Mass of The Nativity of Our Lord – 5:00pm

Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament – 11:00pm

*Holy Mass on the Solemnity of The Nativity of Our Lord (The Midnight Mass with Latin Propers) –
Midnight*

25th of December

Holy Mass on the Solemnity of The Nativity of Our Lord – 9:30am

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

"If Angels could be jealous of humans, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion"— St. Maximilian Kolbe

"There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us." — St. Jean Vianney

"The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white host." — The Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen

The Eucharist is a love story of how Jesus offers His whole self, His whole heart, for you His beloved. In fact, the Mass is a wedding feast. Revelation describes how Jesus is the Groom coming for His bride (you and me). We become one flesh when we consume the Eucharist. It's consummation. There is nothing more intimate and personal than this. It is the greatest privilege.

He chooses you as His preferred dwelling place. Jesus says in John 6:56, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood, abides in me and I in them." It's a mutual inter-dwelling of you in Jesus and Jesus in you. This is monumental.

The Mass is the only place where this depth of intimacy can occur, and Adoration is the opportunity to celebrate and revere that miracle.

Saint of the Week: St. John of the Cross (14th December)

John is a saint because his life was a heroic effort to live up to his name: "of the Cross." The folly of the cross came to full realization in time. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34b) is the story of John's life. The Paschal Mystery through death to life strongly marks John as reformer, mystic-poet, and theologian-priest.

Ordained a Carmelite priest in 1567 at age 25, John met Teresa of Avila and like her, vowed himself to the primitive Rule of the Carmelites. As partner with Teresa and in his own right, John engaged in the work of reform, and came to experience the price of reform: increasing opposition, misunderstanding, persecution, imprisonment. He came to know the cross acutely—to experience the dying of Jesus—as he sat month after month in his dark, damp, narrow cell with only his God.

Yet, the paradox! In this dying of imprisonment John came to life, uttering poetry. In the darkness of the dungeon, John's spirit came into the Light. There are many mystics, many poets; John is unique as mystic-poet, expressing in his prison-cross the ecstasy of mystical union with God in the Spiritual Canticle.

But as agony leads to ecstasy, so John had his Ascent to Mt. Carmel, as he named it in his prose masterpiece. As man-Christian-Carmelite, he experienced in himself this purifying ascent; as spiritual director, he sensed it in others; as psychologist-theologian, he described and analysed it in his prose writings. His prose works are outstanding in underscoring the cost of discipleship, the path of union with God: rigorous discipline, abandonment, purification. Uniquely and strongly John underlines the gospel paradox: The cross leads to resurrection, agony to ecstasy, darkness to light, abandonment to possession, denial to self to union with God. If you want to save your life, you must lose it. John is truly "of the Cross." He died at 49—a life short, but full.

In his life and writings, John of the Cross has a crucial word for us today. We tend to be rich, soft, comfortable. We shrink even from words like self-denial, mortification, purification, asceticism, discipline. **We run from the cross.** John's message—like the gospel—is loud and clear: Don't—if you really want to live!

This Sunday's Response to the Psalm:

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.

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.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month. From time to time, the Holy Father may add a second prayer intention related to current events or urgent needs, like disaster relief. The second prayer request will help mobilize prayer and action related to the urgent situation.

The Holy Father has entrusted these intentions in a particular way to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, an organization that works to encourage Christians to respond to the Pope's appeal and to deepen their daily prayer. You can find more information about the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network on their website. (The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network will also publish any urgent prayer intentions of the Holy Father as soon as they are received from the Holy See.)

In December, we pray with Pope Francis that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of society's attention, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their participation.

'Creating a fully accessible parish requires... helping parishioners to develop attitudes and acts of solidarity and service towards persons with disabilities and their families. Our aim should be to speak no longer about "them", but rather about "us".' – Pope Francis



facebook.com/stvincentscrookes



[@stvincentsparishcrookes](https://www.instagram.com/stvincentsparishcrookes)