

Our Lady of Beauchief & Saint Thomas of Canterbury
Meadowhead, Sheffield, S8 7UD
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Email: olstchurch@gmail.com Website: www.olstsheffield.org.uk
Chapel of Ease: English Martyrs, Baslow Road, Totley S17 4DR
Parish Priest: Father Clement Abah

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School
Chancet Wood Drive, Sheffield S8 7TR
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The Month of January is devoted to the Holy Name of Jesus

*Baptism
of the Lord*

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)
Sunday, 11th January 2026

*Baptism
of the Lord*

Saturday (Totley)

5.00 p.m. People of the Parish

Sunday

9.15 a.m. Sheila Hurst RIP

11.15 a.m. Anne-Marie Byrne & Family

Monday St Ailred of Rievaulx, abbot
St Benedict (Benet) Biscop, abbot

No Mass

Tuesday St Hilary, bishop, doctor

10.00 a.m. (Totley) November Dead List

Wednesday *Feria*

10.00 a.m. November Dead List

Thursday *Feria*

No Mass

Friday *Feria*

12.00 p.m. November Dead List

Saturday St Anthony, abbot

10.45 a.m. November Dead List

Next Week's Masses

Saturday - Totley

5.00 p.m.

Sunday - Meadowhead

9.15 a.m. People of the Parish

11.15 a.m. Peggy and Pat McGloin

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 10.00am – 10.40am

Rosary - 10.00am

Sacrament of Confession

Saturday 10.00am - 10.40am

Pray for our sick: Anne McPhee, Oliver Wragg, Elizabeth Watson, Paul Smith, Philomena McNally, Brenda Charles, Anne-Marie Fletcher, Helen Aulton, Stephen Bingley, Molly Upton, and Sue Jarman.

Lately dead: Nuala Jones (mother of Simon), Sheila Hurst (mother of Catherine and Andrew) **RIP**

Responsorial Psalm:

R: The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Offertory: Loose plate and envelopes total for 4 January 2026 was £384.70. Thank you.

Come to Mass with no cash? You can donate by card on the machines in the porch and by the side door. You can gift-aid too!

Events for the Coming Week

Monday SVP Meeting on Zoom
Wednesday 6.15pm Rainbows and Brownies
Friday 12.30pm Lunch Club follows Mass

Registered Charity No 512021

A Time for Growth

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings the Christmas season to a close. We will then be moving into that season the church calls “**Ordinary Time**” until Ash Wednesday on 18 February.

In this context, we must not rely on some of the dictionary definitions of “ordinary”, such as average, run-of-the-mill, undistinguished, mediocre, and indifferent. In the Church’s “Ordinary Time”, the word derives from the Latin *ordinalis*, meaning “numbered” or “ruled”.

It is a season when we are being neither single-mindedly penitent nor overwhelmingly joyful. It is, nevertheless, a time for learning, for growth and new life (symbolised by the green altar cloths and vestments), for giving thanks for and being active participants in the everyday life of Jesus.

This is most certainly **not** a season for mediocrity or indifference.

Parish Youth Club – Friday 30th January, 6–8pm

We’re excited to launch our new Parish Youth Club for young people in secondary school (Year 7 and above). It’s a space to come together to pray, play, and spend time with Scripture in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Our first session will take place in the parish rooms on **Friday 30th January from 6–8pm**.

Parents/Guardians must complete the consent form before their child can attend by scanning the QR code. The youth group will be supervised by parishioners who hold an up-to-date DBS check.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer your support, please contact Josh Neal via Liz Mason.



Parish WhatsApp Community

We will be launching our new Parish WhatsApp Community after the weekend Masses next week. This will be an announcements-only group for sharing parish news and updates, so members will not be able to post messages.

To join, you must be over 18 and agree to the group guidelines, which you will be asked to read before signing up.

We are also looking for someone to help with sign-ups after the 11:15am Mass. If you are able to support with this, please contact Liz Mason.



RCIA - Journey In Faith Programme 2025-2026 Thursdays at 6.00pm

Our parish Journey in Faith programme is a weekly course for all who wish to become a Catholic, for adult Catholics yet to receive their First Holy Communion or for Catholics who wish to learn more about their faith. Please come along.

Parish Outreach meeting this Monday 12 January.

At 7.30pm All welcome to join in planning for the year ahead and making decisions about the disbursement of funds raised by CCC and the Raffle. The needs are great so please pray for wise, effective and just decisions. Thank you. Please contact david.angela.wood@gmail.com for the Zoom link if you can join us online.

Restored Lives is an 8-week programme to help people recover from relationship breakdown due to separation or divorce. There is no time limit for when that happened. St Vincent’s Church, Crookes is offering this face-to-face programme starting Monday evening 19 January.

Dates are: 19/26 January, 2/23 February 2026, 2/9/16/23 March. **Timings:** 7pm-8.45pm.

Please see <https://www.restoredlives.org/> for more information. **Total cost** of 8-week programme to cover materials and refreshments: **£15**. If £15 is an issue for you, please let us know in your email, as we want to offer the course to anyone who wants to attend, and funding may be available. Please email restored.lives.sheffield@gmail.com to book your place.

If you notice anything on or around the church premises which has the potential to cause harm or requires repair please let Liz Mason, Fr Clement or Simon Jones know as soon as possible so that appropriate action can be taken promptly.



Grace Foodbank

Our regular 3rd Sunday collection of Groceries in church for our local Foodbank here in S8 is this coming Sunday, 18th January. Or you can donate at any time at shops eg Sainsbury, Archer Rd. **We are currently shortest of:** breakfast cereal, tinned potatoes, meat, fish, peas/carrots/sweetcorn, fruit, rice pudding, pasta. Our shelves are nearly empty, and we are grateful for every tin and packet that you can donate. Thank you.



'Twas The Night AFTER Christmas by Jerry Genovese aka Mr. G

'Twas the night after Christmas, and all through the house lay the empty gift boxes, from me and my spouse. The stockings that hung from the chimney with care, are now to be found, at Heaven knows where.

The toys, and the games, and the bright colored sox, now lay to the side, while kids play with THE BOX! The turkey and dressing, and all the desserts, still bulge at your waistline. to the point where it hurts.

The tree that was bright, and so perfectly trimmed, now looks kind of tired, now looks kind of dimmed. The cards that were taped all around the porch door, are now one by one, winding up on the floor.

And the fire that roared with the crackling of barks, has now dwindled down, to a few gentle sparks. All the an-tici-pation, and the thrill of it all, will eventually lead to the bills on the wall.

But I have no regrets as I look 'round the room, and see my whole family, with their faces in bloom. And I say to myself, "Thank the Lord up above, " For having this Christmas with the people I love, And I wish that this feeling, of love and good cheer, Will remain with us all, every day, every year!

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises: Mens' Retreat, 4 & 11 February 2026

A fantastic opportunity to experience St Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises in a 5-day, shortened form. The retreat will be guided by the monastic community of St Joseph's Abbey, Flavigny (France), who were founded with the specific charism of offering this version of the Exercises and with a particular apostolate to men. The retreat is open to men in all states of life, who wish to seek God's will through a deepened detachment from the world. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-retreat-spiritual-exercises-of-st-ignatius>

When then song of the angels is stilled,

when the star in the sky has gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are
back with their flocks,
then the work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
to heal those broken in spirit,
to feed the hungry,
to release the oppressed,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all peoples,
to make a little music with the heart.
And to radiate the Light of Christ,
every day, in every way,
in all that we do, and in all that we say.
Then the work of Christmas begins.

(Howard Thurman 1899 - 1981)

Lost Property left in church - there are a number of items in the lost property box in the far corner of the porch, including woolly hats, scarves, umbrellas and a pair of spectacles.

Our Parish Safeguarding representatives are: Angela Holman and Claire Parsons.
Email address: safeguarding.olst@hallam-diocese.com



Reflecting on our Baptism

The Solemnity of The Baptism of the Lord, which we celebrate today, is the last of three great manifestations or revelations of the Christmas season: **Christmas**, when God comes among us with the Good News for the poor, the outcast and the sinner; **Epiphany**, when God comes among us with a message of salvation for all the people of the world, not just for one select group; **The Baptism of Jesus**, when God is seen as specially present in Jesus and working in him and through him.

It is an opportunity for us to reflect on our own baptism. That is not something which happened a long time and which “made” us Catholics. It is not just a ceremony lasting a few minutes which produces magical effects; it is the beginning of a lifelong journey; of a process of growing into the Body of Christ as its members. Our baptism is essentially a community experience, not just a private or a family event.

It involves active participation in the life of the Church and not just passive membership. Each one of us is called to be a living witness to the Gospel: to be the salt of the earth, a city on a hill, a lamp radiating light for all. Our baptism is a never-ending call to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. So let us today renew our faith in and our commitment to follow Jesus. Let us re-affirm our readiness to carry on his work. Without our co-operation, much of God’s work will never get done.

This Tuesday we celebrate the feast day of **Saint Hilary of Poitiers**, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. In the early days of the Christian Roman Empire in the 4th Century, he was elected - against his will - Bishop of Poitiers in 350, and fought long, theological battles against the Arians, who denied the divinity of Christ, at a time when their heresy was threatening to overrun the Western Church. This brought him into conflict with emperors and some fellow bishops, and resulted in his exile for four years. He continued his work during and after his exile, dying around 368.

Christ said his coming would bring not peace but a sword (Matthew 10:34). The Gospels offer no support for us if we fantasise about a sunlit holiness that knows no problems. Christ did not escape at the last moment, after a life of controversy, problems, pain and frustration. Hilary, like all saints, followed in his Master’s footsteps.

Prayer for the Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord (*today*)

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptised
in the River Jordan
and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him,
solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
grant that we, your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen

This Week’s Readings THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD A)

First Reading: *Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7*

Responsorial Psalm: 29

Second Reading: *Acts 1-34-38*

Gospel: *Matthew 3:13-17*

Next Week’s Readings Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading: *Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6*

Responsorial Psalm: 40

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:1-3*

Gospel: *John 1: 29-34*

This Week’s Ministries 10/11 January 2026

Readers	5.00 p.m.	H Simmerson, A Southeran
	9.15 a.m.	S Jones, F Green
	11.15 a.m.	J McNally, M Pybus
Communion	5.00 p.m.	C Udall, V Coomer
	9.15 a.m.	H Grady, P Ashby, D Winter
	11.15 a.m.	K O’Brien, P Orkamfat, E Williamson

Next Week’s Ministries 17/18 January 2026

Readers	5.00 p.m.	D Fletcher, D Hilliard
	9.15 a.m.	R Portaluri, L Grady
	11.15 a.m.	I Paterson, M Paterson
Communion	5.00 p.m.	K Durkin, S Davey
	9.15 a.m.	B Ayanleke, R Gasser, M Mahon
	11.15 a.m.	M Harrison, J McNally, P Corkell
Welcomers	9.15 a.m.	Volunteer needed
	11.15 a.m.	E Williamson