

Our Lady of Beauchief & Saint Thomas of Canterbury

Meadowhead, Sheffield, S8 7UD

Telephone: 0114 274 7257

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

Telephone: 0114 274 5597 Email: enquiries@st-tc.co.uk Website: www.st-tc.co.uk

The Month of December is dedicated to Immaculate Conception



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 8th December 2024 (C)



Saturday (Totley)

5.00 p.m. People of the Parish

Sunday

9.15 a.m. Parents and relatives of Maureen Gasser

11.15 a.m. Michael Robinson

Monday THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

10.00 a.m. People of the Parish

Tuesday (Totley) St John Roberts
Our Lady of Loreto

10.00 a.m.

Wednesday St Damasus I, pope

10.00 a.m.

Thursday Our Lady of Guadalupe

No Mass

Friday St Lucy, virgin and martyr

12.00 p.m. Doreen Dorrell

Saturday St John of the Cross, priest, doctor

10.45 a.m.

Next week's Masses

Totley

5.00 p.m. People of the Parish

Meadowhead

9.15 a.m. Arthur and Mary Willcock

11.15 a.m. Peggy 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: Pat Durkin, Brenda Charles, Theresa Greensmith, Stephen Bingley, Philomena McNally, Sue Jarman, Anne-Marie Fletcher, Molly Upton, Pauline Souflas, Patricia McGuone, Helen Aulton, Sheila Hurst, Teddy Howes and Paul Smith.

Responsorial Psalm: 24

R: *What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.*

Offertory: Loose plate and envelopes total for 1st December 2024 is £266.47 Thank you.

Come to Mass with no cash? You can make donations by card on the machines in the porch or at the side door table. You can gift-aid too!

Events for the Coming Week

Monday SVP Parish Rooms (Time TBC)

Friday Lunch Club after Midday Mass

Registered Charity No 512021

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.

St Thomas of Canterbury School Carols - The children at St Thomas of Canterbury School will be putting on a performance of traditional Christmas carols at Our Lady & St Thomas at 2.00pm on Friday 13th December, and parishioners are warmly invited to join us.

Please come and support our school and our children. Remember, they are the future of our church and faith. We should all encourage them as much as we can! We hope to see you there!

Please note there will be Mass on Monday, 9th December at 10.00am for the Immaculate Conception.



Church Decorating and Cleaning at Meadowhead, will take place at 10,00am on **Monday, 23rd December**.

If you can spare half an-hour or so to help with the preparations it would be much appreciated. The more the merrier and the quicker it all gets done!



Light the Advent Candle

Light the Advent candle two
Think of humble shepherds who
Filled with wonder at the sight
Of the child on Christmas night.

Chorus:

Candle, candle burning bright
Shining in the cold winter night
Candle, candle burning bright
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Local traditional Sheffield Carols

7.30 – 9pm at the
Abbey Hotel,

Wednesday 11th,
Mondays 16th &

23rd, and Boxing Day 4.30-6pm.

Come and share the joy of the
Good News.



WREATH MAKING WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY 12th DECEMBER

O.L.S.T. PARISH HALL



AFTERNOON SESSION 1.30 'til 3.30

EVENING SESSION 6.30 'til 8.30

£10 per person: (All profits to Outreach), Includes wire wreath base, fresh greenery, fir cones, dried orange slices, lotus heads, wires & ribbons. Learn how to “wire up” and attach everything to your base. Light refreshments & mince pies provided.

Book a place by contacting Barbara Richardson:-
b_rich54@hotmail.com 07725 023708

Advent Retreat at Castlerigg Manor, (Age 15-Young Adult)

Bookings will close for the Advent Retreat at Castlerigg on December 11th at Midday. The open retreats at Castlerigg give teens and young adults a great way to make friends, deepen their faith, and have some fun and they usually prove very popular. The weekend costs £65 but anyone who might struggle with this is invited to get in touch. Further details – director@castleriggmanor.co.uk.

Sign up at castleriggmanor.com >> what's coming up.



Christmas Memory Tree - Once again our Christmas Trees are to be Memory Trees. You will be able to write your message on the stars in representation of your memories of loved ones. Next week, stars will be available, so please leave them in the appropriate basket and they will then be hung on the tree later. Your intentions will be remembered at all Masses throughout Christmastide. The stars are available for £1 and the proceeds will go to The Hallam (Bethlehem)

Friday Lunch Club - Please note that the last Friday Lunch Club for this year will be on 13th December and we will reconvene on 10th January 2025.

Many thanks to all the people who answered our plea for helpers and soup/cake makers. The club wouldn't run without all your support and that of the existing team members.

We hope that you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing all the team members and our lovely customers in the new year.

Times of Christmas Masses



Christmas Eve - 5pm with Nativity - Meadowhead
Christmas Eve - 9.30pm Carols and Readings
Christmas Eve - 10pm - 'Midnight' Mass - Meadowhead
Christmas Day - 8.30am Totley
Christmas Day - 10.00am Meadowhead



Our Parish Safeguarding representatives are:

Angela Holman Email address: safeguarding1olst@hallam-diocese.com

Claire Parsons Email address: safeguarding2olst@hallam-diocese.com

Coffee, Cakes & Crafts - 2024 Parish Outreach Raffle Prize Winners - Prize Ticket No Name

1. £100 01301 L Muriro
 2. Hamper 02028 Kon Fojut
 - 3 Framed Picture & Box of Celebrations 01380 Nikolay
 4. Bottle of Port 01174 Renato Portaluri
 5. Handcare Heroes set 01175 Renato Portaluri
 6. Robin Tealight Lamp 00125 Kinsella
 7. Trivial Pursuit & Bottle of Chianti 00213 Perryman
 8. Jigsaw & Box of Quality Street 01392 Campos
 9. Child's Coat & Box of Roses 01428 Elizabeth Tyas
 10. Crystal Ball Gin 00840 Declan Brennan
 11. 3 Miniature Liqueurs & Dairy Box 01984 Viv Coomer
 12. Candlelit Bathing Set 01074 ?(no name on the stub)
- Christmas Cake – Sylvia Portaluri**

Mass for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

A “signed” Mass has been arranged by Caritas at St Marie’s Cathedral Sheffield for Sunday December 15th at 3pm. This will be fully signed by Jennifer Harris (BSL interpreter) along with one of the priests of the parish. Prior to Covid, there was a well attended Mass for this group of people and we are hoping to schedule a number of such Masses throughout the Diocese. All are invited.

Annunciation

I was alone at the well.
I was doused in shadow and in deed.
My yoke lay on the ground, waiting.
I cannot say what I mean.
I was come upon.
I was going to carry the water to my
espoused man,
Joseph, of the house of David.

Gillian Allnutt

GIVE TO LIVE 100 CLUB

RESULTS FOR OCTOBER

1. 36 Kath Young
2. 84 Alan Southeran
3. 75 Fr Christian

RESULTS FOR NOVEMBER

1. Kath Embley
2. Graham Smith
3. Fr Stephen

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)! The Eucharistic celebration will take the form of a stational Mass. A stational Mass of the Diocesan Bishop, also known as a Pontifical Mass, where all the Priests concelebrate with the Bishop; with the Deacons and the other Ministers carrying out their proper service. Pilgrim Passports with all details of all celebrations throughout the year will be available shortly.

A statement from Bishops’ Conference following Friday’s vote in parliament in favour of the assisted suicide legislation:

“We are disappointed that MPs have voted in favour of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill progressing through parliament. We believe that this bill is flawed in principle and also contains particular clauses that are of concern. We ask the Catholic community to pray that members of Parliament will have the wisdom to reject this bill at a later stage in its progress.”

Advent Offertory Collections.

As usual we are invited to make additional practical offerings as part of our preparations for Christmas for those in need in our area at this time;



2nd Sunday (8th) BISCUITS & CHOCOLATES for SVP to distribute locally.



3rd Sunday (15th) MEN’S CLOTHING eg new sm/med pants, vests, socks, footwear, warm hats, gloves, (no scarves) for BEN’S CENTRE for people on the streets in Sheffield



4th Sunday (22nd) Collection of MONEY for Caritas Hallam.



Tomorrow, Monday 9 December, we celebrate the Solemnity of the **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** (transferred from its traditional date of the 8th, which this year falls on the Second Sunday of Advent).

In proclaiming the Immaculate Conception of Mary as a dogma of the Church, Pope Pius IX expressed precisely and clearly the long-held belief that Mary was conceived free from the stain of original sin. This privilege of Mary's derives from God's having chosen her as Mother of the Saviour, thus she received the benefits of salvation in Christ, from the very moment of her conception. This great gift to Mary, an ordinary human being just like us, was fitting because she was destined to be Mother of God. The purity and holiness of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a model for all Christians.

Saturday, 14 December, is the feast day of St John of the Cross. Born in Castile in 1542, he enrolled with the Carmelites and was ordained priest in 1567. Influenced by Teresa of Avila, he undertook the task of reforming the Order - which resulted in persecution and imprisonment. In the darkness of the dungeon, his spirit came into the Light. He expressed the ecstasy of mystical union with God in the *Spiritual Canticle*. He went on to write *Ascent of Mount Carmel*, on the ascetic life in pursuit of mystical union with Christ. John's life and his writings emphasise the gospel paradox, "if you want to save your life, you must lose it".

Prayer for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Father, we rejoice in the privilege of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception, which preserved her from the stain of sin by the power of Christ's redeeming death, and prepared her to be the Mother Of God. Grant that through her prayers we ourselves may come to you, cleansed from all sin.

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

Pope Francis's Prayer for December For Pilgrims of Hope

Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith; helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Thought for the Week



*A hug is a handshake
that comes from
the heart*



Prayer for the Second Sunday of Advent

Almighty and merciful God, let neither our daily work nor the cares of this life prevent us from hastening to meet your Son.

Enlighten us with your wisdom and lead us into his company.

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
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)**

First Reading: *Baruch 5:1-9*

Responsorial Psalm: *126*

Second Reading: *Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11*

Gospel: *Luke 3:1-6*

**Next Week's Readings
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)**

First Reading: *Zephaniah 3:14-18a*

Responsorial Psalm: *Isaiah 12*

Second Reading: *Philippians 4:4-7*

Gospel: *Luke 3:10-18*

This Week's Ministries 7/8 December 2024

Readers	5.00 p.m.	A Southeran, H Simmerson
	9.15 a.m.	F Green, C Farragher
	11.15 a.m.	A Willcock, M Pybus
Communion	5.00 p.m.	V Coomer, K Durkin
	9.15 a.m.	A Tucker, A Tucker, P Ashby
	11.15 a.m.	S Campos, H Stones, P Corkell

Next Week's Ministries 14/15 December 2024

Readers	5.00 p.m.	D Fletcher +1
	9.15 a.m.	R Portaluri, C Perryman
	11.15 a.m.	M Richardson + 1
Communion	5.00 p.m.	J Brook, S Davey
	9.15 a.m.	M Ayanleke, C Farragher, M Mahon
	11.15 a.m.	J McNally, P Orkamfat, M Harrison
Welcomers	9.15 a.m.	N Parsons,
	11.15 a.m.	A Willcock