

The shepherds went in haste,  
and found Mary  
and Joseph and  
the Infant lying in  
a manger.



**An Act of Spiritual Communion.**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if you were already there,  
and I unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
*(Saint Alphonsus Liguori)*

**Prayer to St. Michael**

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in our daily battle; be our safeguard against  
the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O  
Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God thrust  
down into hell  
Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl throughout  
the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

✠ *Our Lady of Lourdes* ✠ *Pray for Us*  
✠ *St. Theresa* ✠ *Pray for Us*  
✠ *St. Anthony* ✠ *Pray for Us*



**Confessions**  
**Available after every weekday and**  
**Saturday Vigil Mass or by advanced**  
**booking.**

**Exposition of the Blessed**  
**Sacrament**  
**30 minutes before Weekday Mass**  
**Anointing of the sick**  
**In cases of emergency only.**

**THE HOLY FAMILY: JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

As we are still basking in the joy of Christmas season, the Church presents to us the ideal family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Hence, a family comprises Father, Mother and Child/ren. A family is a miniature of the church and society at large. A healthy family is a healthy society and a bad family is a bad society. It is also a mini church where a child attends his/her first church. Again, a holy family is a holy church and a faithless family is a faithless church. Family is a place where true love exists. It is not just a house where we sleep and rest but a home where peace and love reign. It is a place where one is free to express him/herself without molestation and insult. Family is a place where one is corrected out of love and not out of wickedness and hatred. It is a place where each other is supported physically, morally, spiritually, psychologically without unnecessary and unhealthy competition. Family is everything! No other structure can replace a family. It is the centre of our affection round which our hearts' best wishes entwine. Be that as it may, we are presented today with the Holy Family of Mary, Jesus and Joseph as a mirror for us to look and reflect upon. We need to reflect on the values that existed in this Holy Family and re-assess our own family values. Take note, we all are products of family, no one, of course, is an island! No wonder, the feast of Holy Family is being celebrated within the Christmas octave to demonstrate that Jesus Himself came from a family. A family should be a happy place where husbands and wives, parents and children, siblings live together and contribute their share, each playing their respective roles. Unfortunately, it is not always the case. Often times we allow the devil to enter into our families by our bad attitudes and cut the string that binds us together as a family. Therefore, husbands and fathers should look up to the man Joseph. The Bible calls him a just man because he was a God-fearing man. He never joked with his faith and trust in God. Again, he cared and provided for his family sacrificially. He patiently and persistently carried the weight of the load of his family. Little wonder, fathers and husbands are called the head of the family. Wives and mothers should look up to our Blessed Mother Mary. She was called 'full of grace' because of her docility to the will of God. She was a virtuous woman, who respected her husband. She was not a thorn in the flesh of Joseph. Parents should look up to Mary and Joseph who trained their Child Jesus very well. They trained Him in the way of the Lord and He never departed the way of the Lord. Children should look up to our Lord Jesus and obey their parents. Hence, the book of Sirach says, "Whoever honours his father atones sins, and whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure" (Sir 3:3). We

need to make our families as exemplary as that of the holy family by imbibing and exercising the virtues of love, peace, understanding, obedience, respect, forgiveness, meekness and prayer. A family that prays together stays together. We pray for unity and love in our families today so that holiness and peace will reign and heaven at the end. I wish you a merry Christmas!

FR BEDE  
—Matthew 2:23, ESV



**St Theresa's and Our Lady of Lourdes with St Anthony's**

Parish Priest: Fr. Bede Dike | Parish Office Tel: 0114 248 6102



Office Email: [lol.church@btinternet.com](mailto:lol.church@btinternet.com)

Website: <https://ourladyoflourdes-sttheresa.hallam-diocese.com/>



**January Devotion: The Holy Name of Jesus**

**The Holy Family, Yr. A**  
**28th December 2025**  
**Psalter Week 1**



**Saturday, 27th December,**

**6.00pm, Our Lady of Lourdes** – Patrick Heenan RIP (Anniversary)

**Sunday, 28th December,**

**8.30am, St Anthony's** – Maria & Aubrey Roberts RIP

**9.45am, Our Lady of Lourdes** – Unity and Peace in Families

**11.00am, St. Theresa's** – Unity and Peace in Families

**Monday, 29th December, 10.00am, Our Lady of Lourdes**

St Thomas Becket, Bishop, Marty — Peace in the World

**Tuesday, 30th December, 10.00am, Our Lady of Lourdes**

6th Day in the Christmas Octave — Thanksgiving

**Wednesday, 31st December, 10.00am, St. Theresa's, Requiem Mass**

7th Day in the Christmas Octave

**Thursday, 1st January,**

**Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

**9.45am, Our Lady of Lourdes** - Thanksgiving

**11.00am, St. Theresa's** – Thanksgiving

**Friday, 2nd January, 10.00am, Our Lady of Lourdes**

Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors—November Memorial List

**Saturday, 3rd January (First Saturday), 10.00am, St. Theresa's** (Preceded by Exposition, Rosary, and Confession at 9.30am)

The Most Holy Name of Jesus —Our Lady's Intentions

**Next Weekend's Masses (2nd Sunday of Christmas, Yr. A)**

**Saturday 3rd January**

**6.00pm, Our Lady of Lourdes** - Thanksgiving

**Sunday 4th January**

**8.30am, St. Anthony's** - Jack Mather & Rachel RIP

**9.45am, Our Lady of Lourdes** - Charles & Maureen Lynch RIP

**11.00am St. Theresa's** - People of the Parishes



**Sanctuary Lamp Intentions**

**Our Lady of Lourdes:** Joyce & John Hannon RIP  
**Sponsor:** The Mellor Family

**St. Anthony's:** Thanksgiving  
**Sponsor:** St. Anthony's Parish

**St. Theresa's:** Thanksgiving  
**Sponsor:** St Theresa's Parish



**Sunday Readings:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Sirach 3:2-6,12-14.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Colossians 3:12-21.  
Gospel Matthew 2:13-15,19-23.



**Responsorial Psalm: 128.**  
*Blessed are all who fear the LORD,  
and walk in his ways.*

**Gospel Acclamation, Col3:15,16.**  
*Alleluia, alleluia.*

*May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia.*

**Ignatian Spiritual Exercises: Men's 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>

**Love & Beauty in St John's Spiritual Canticle, 20 - 22 February 2026**

2026 marks the centenary of the declaration of St John of the Cross as a Doctor of the Church. In honour of this anniversary, Fr Matthew Blake, OCD will offer a weekend reflecting on the themes of love and beauty in the most celebrated poetry of the great Spanish mystic.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/love-beauty-in-st-johns-spiritual-canticle/>

**Weekend Cash Collections 20th/21st December**

Our Lady of Lourdes..... £382.81  
 St Anthony's..... £186.80  
 St Theresa's .....£461.55  
 Thank you.



**Safeguarding Representatives**  
 St. Theresa's—Debi Stringer  
 OLOL—Tessa Taylor



**School News**

St John Fisher School news:  
[www.st-johnfisher.org](http://www.st-johnfisher.org)  
 St Theresa's School news:  
[www.st-theresas-sheffield.co.uk](http://www.st-theresas-sheffield.co.uk)

If you know anyone who is sick or housebound and would appreciate a visit from Fr. Bede, please email or call the Parish Office so that this can be arranged. Parish Office contact details are on the front of the bulletin.



**St Wilfrid's Centre is looking to recruit a new Director. Please see our website [stwilfridscen-tre.org](http://stwilfridscen-tre.org) for the job description, person specification and application form. The closing date is midnight Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026**



**LOLOL 100 Club Winners**

September—No. 40  
 October—No. 33  
 November—No. 30  
 December—No. 74



Congratulations to all winners!

**Support for St. Wilfrid's Centre**

Tinned ham, chocolate biscuits and crisps for light lunches and snacks



Food Donations

**Foodbank**

We are now supporting the Gleadless Foodbank in their new premises, and they are very happy to accept all donations. Their current ask is for tinned meat and fish, but any items are gratefully received. Thank you.



**IN THE MOOD OF GRATITUDE!!!**

Dear Friends in Christ, as the year 2025 is winding down, it is that time of the year we look back and appreciate God for His blessings and love. We also appreciate those who in one way or the other touched our lives positively throughout the year. It is in that mood of gratitude that I humbly and sincerely appreciate God for His blessings more especially for the gift of life. Again, I appreciate each and every one of you my wonderful and amiable Parishioners. You are truly great! I thank you for keeping to your faith throughout the course of the year despite all odds and challenges. I thank you also for being supportive to the Church both spiritually, physically, financially and otherwise. Your effort and support cannot be under-estimated. I pray that God will continue to bless you and give you the grace to sustain your faith till the end and may He grant you your good heart desires. May He grant healing to the sick, strength to the Housebound and eternal rest to the dead. In the same vein, I wish to appreciate those who have been at the fore-front of the daily running of our Churches: The Parish Secretary, The Parish Council members, The Social and Fundraising Committee; The Finance Committee; The Sacristans; Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers; The Choir; The Organists; Lay Readers; Flower Decorators; Catechists; Cleaners; Altar Dressers; Money Counters; Offertory Collectors; weekday Masses Attendees etc. You all are amazingly awesome. I can never take your efforts and sacrifices for granted. May God continue to grant you the strength to keep on doing your good works untiringly.



I wish to seize this medium also to thank you all for the special love you showered me at Christmas: Christmas Cards, gifts, prayerful wishes and money. I am eternally and supremely grateful. May you never lack!!!

I confidently pray that the year 2026 will usher in blessings, good health, strong faith and abundant favours from God for you and your entire family members. Amen. I wish you all a prosperous and happy new year 2026.

Remember, God loves you and so do I.

FR BEDE



**Explore the Whole Bible Story**

A friendly, welcoming Bible journey for our parish. If you've ever started reading the Bible only to get stuck – or just want to deepen your faith – this group could be for you.

**Why Join?**

- Build confidence and deepen understanding in reading Scripture, including Mass readings.
- Deepen your personal engagement with the Word of God.
- Learn more about the Catholic faith in a relaxed setting.

**When and Where**

Thursdays, 6.30–8.00 pm  
 Community Hall

Date	Theme	Narrative Books
13 Feb	Intro to the Bible Timeline	
20 Feb	Early World	Genesis 1-11
27 Feb	Patriarchs	Genesis 12-50
6 Mar	Egypt and Exodus / Desert Wanderings	Exodus, Numbers
13 Mar	Conquest and Judges / Royal Kingdom	Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 Kings 1-11
20 Mar	Divided Kingdom / Exile and Return	1 Kings 12-22, 2 Kings, Ezra, Nehemiah
27 Mar	Maccabean Revolt/ Messianic Fulfilment 1	1 Maccabees, Luke 1-21
10 Apr	Messianic Fulfilment 2 and The Church	Luke 22-24, Acts

**What to Bring**  
 Any Catholic Bible (we'll be using the RSV Second Catholic Edition).

**Interested?**  
 We're keeping the group small so everyone has a chance to share.

Scan for more info and to contact Sam and Laurie:



**Please note there will be no Children's Liturgy on the weekends of 27th/28th December and 3rd/4th January. Thank you.**

**Planning a Celebration?**

Why not book one of the Parish Halls?

For bookings at Our Lady of Lourdes please contact Mark on 07852164838 or via email

[lol.churchhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:lol.churchhallbookings@gmail.com)

For bookings at St Theresa's Hall please contact Debi on 075778 97291



The bulletin for January has been sponsored anonymously. Thank you.



These QR Codes can be used to make an offering using your smartphone. Simply scan the relevant QR code and follow the on screen instructions.

OLOL/St. Anthony's



St. Theresa's



**Please pray for all the elderly, the sick and the housebound of our three churches including those named below.**

Rita O'Hara, Clare Roberts, Jennie Heenan, Caitlin Rose Goss, Beryl Stafford, Jean Grove, Liliana Poole, Jean White, Shirley Foster, Sean Kilcoyne, Avis Hurst, Gloria Andrews, Chena Drakesmith, Marj Hall, Melvin Hanlon, John Carroll, Joan Hill, Claire Lawson, Patricia Foster, Christopher Browne, Mr. Shannon, Margaret Betson, Paul Manning, Annabel Taylor, John Nicholson, Philomena Walker, Lesley Osborne, Gail Hook, Elizabeth Dodson, Gemma Thomas, David Dowling, Fr. David Stafford, Ursula & Paul Parker, Tessa Taylor.



**Please pray for the repose of the recently deceased souls & those whose anniversaries occur about this time.**