

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*When a profound silence covered all things  
and night was in the middle of its course,  
your all-powerful Word, O Lord,  
bounded from heaven's royal throne.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
splendour of faithful souls,  
graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory,  
and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

FIRST READING Sirach 24:1-2. 8-12

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Wisdom will praise herself  
and will boast in the midst of her people.  
In the assembly of the Most High she will open her mouth,  
and in the presence of his forces she will boast:  
'Then the Creator of all things commanded me,  
and the one who created me gave my tent a resting place.  
And he said, "Make your dwelling in Jacob  
and in Israel receive your inheritance."  
From eternity, in the beginning, he created me,  
and for eternity I shall not cease to exist.  
In the holy tabernacle I ministered before him,  
and so I was established in Sion.  
In the beloved city likewise he gave me a resting place,  
and in Jerusalem was my dominion.  
So I took root in an honoured people,  
in the portion of the Lord, his inheritance.'  
The word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 147:12-13. 14-15. 19-20.  
R. John 1:14

R: *The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*

Or *Alleluia.*

1. O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!  
O Sion, praise your God!  
He has strengthened the bars of your gates;  
he has blessed your children within you. **R.**
2. He established peace on your borders;  
he gives you your fill of finest wheat.  
He sends out his word to the earth,  
and swiftly runs his command. **R.**
3. He reveals his word to Jacob;  
to Israel, his decrees and judgements.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his judgements. **R.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-6. 15-18

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.  
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has  
blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly  
places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the  
world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love  
he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus  
Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his  
glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.  
For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord  
Jesus and your love towards all the saints, I do not cease to give

thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of  
our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit  
of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the  
eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the  
hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious  
inheritance in the saints.  
The word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL cf. 1 Timothy 3:16

R: *Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Glorify to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations.  
Glorify to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world.

R: *Alleluia.*

GOSPEL John 1:1-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

(for shorter form read between > <)

> In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and  
the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things  
were made through him, and without him was not any thing made  
that was made. In him was life and the life was the light of men. The  
light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <  
There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came  
as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe  
through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about  
the light.

> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the  
world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him,  
yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own  
people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who  
believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,  
who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the  
will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have  
seen his glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father, full  
of grace and truth. <

John bore witness about him, and cried out, 'This was he of whom  
I said, "He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was  
before me."'

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For  
the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through  
Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only begotten God,  
who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make  
on the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son,  
for by it you show us the way of truth  
and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*To all who would accept him,  
he gave the power to become children of God.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

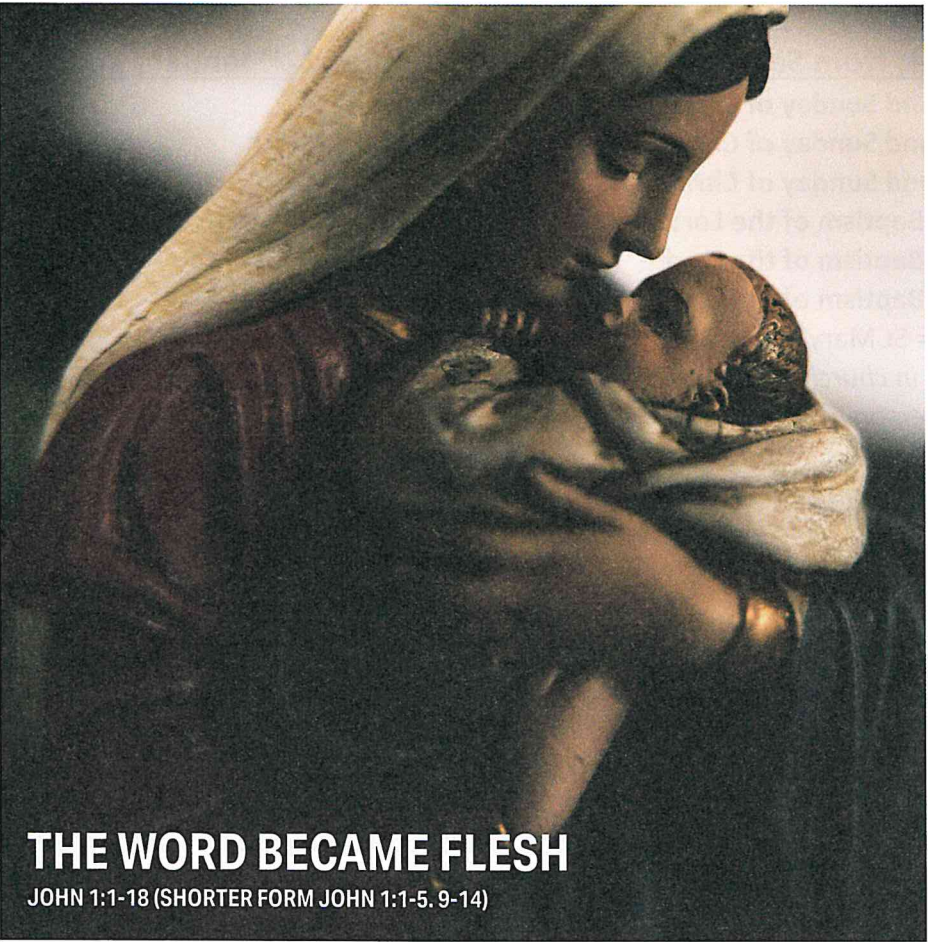
Lord our God, we humbly ask you,  
that, through the working of this mystery,  
our offences may be cleansed  
and our just desires fulfilled.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

# Sunday Message

2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

## THE WORD

Year A • 4 January 2026 • Psalter Week 2



John's Gospel begins not with a story of shepherds or wise men, but with a great mystery:  
"In the beginning was the Word." These words remind us of the first line of the Bible – "In the  
beginning, God created..." John wants us to know that Jesus was there from the very start.

He is the eternal Word of God – not just sent by God, but truly God Himself.

John says that everything was made through Jesus. He is the source of life and light for all  
people. But when He came into the world, many did not recognise Him. Some even rejected  
Him. Still, for those who welcomed Him, He gave a new gift – the chance to become children  
of God.

The most powerful line is this: "The Word became flesh and lived among us." God chose to  
become one of us – not distant or above us, but right here, walking our roads, sharing our  
troubles. In Jesus, we see what God is really like – full of grace and truth.

This passage is not just about who Jesus is, but about how close God wants to be to us. He  
doesn't shout from far away. He comes near – in love, in mercy, and in person. ■

### DO

Take five minutes today in quiet prayer, thanking  
Jesus for coming close to us – and ask Him  
to help you see His light in someone you meet  
today.

### LEARN

God became one of us in Jesus, so that we  
could come to know Him, receive His love, and  
live as His children.

## REFLECT

"In the beginning was the Word." With  
these opening words, St John takes us  
beyond Bethlehem, beyond time itself.  
He draws us into the mystery of Christ  
– the eternal Word, who was with God,  
and who is God. This is no ordinary birth  
story. This is a proclamation: the Creator  
has stepped into His creation.

"The Word became flesh and dwelt  
among us." God has come close. Not  
as a thunderclap from the heavens,  
but wrapped in human skin, lying in a  
manger. The eternal enters time, not to  
overwhelm us, but to walk with us – to  
teach, to heal, to weep, and to redeem.

Many missed Him. "He came to his own  
and his own received him not." That line  
echoes still. It's possible to miss the  
presence of God even in the middle of  
religion, even at Christmas. But, "to those  
who did receive him... he gave power to  
become children of God."

This Gospel invites us not just to admire  
Jesus, but to receive Him – into the  
clutter and complexity of our lives. In the  
Word made flesh, we see God's glory:  
not distant, but tender, truthful, and full  
of grace. Let us make room for Him – not  
just in church, but in our hearts. ■

## SAY

St John, beloved disciple,  
you saw the glory of the Word  
made flesh.  
Help me to love Jesus as you did,  
to stay close to Him in light and in  
darkness,  
and to share His love with others  
through gentle words and faithful  
living.  
*Amen.*





St. Jude's Parish, Worksop-Oldcotes, in the Diocese of Hallam  
*Incorporating the Churches of St. Helen's, St. Mary's, and St. Joseph the Worker*  
 Parish Priest: Fr Desmond Edozie Tel: 07901 202244 Email: frdesmond2014@gmail.com  
*St. Jude's Parish Office:* Tel: 01909 730315  
 Parish Email: [stjudesworksopoldcotes@gmail.com](mailto:stjudesworksopoldcotes@gmail.com) Website: [www.stjudeshallam.co.uk](http://www.stjudeshallam.co.uk)  
 Parish Deacon: Rev. Peter Hunt Tel: 01909 475687 Email: [hunts2017@gmail.com](mailto:hunts2017@gmail.com)  
 Religious: Sr. Elizabeth Buckley Tel: 01909 808858 resident at St. Mary's, Worksop  
 Chair of Finance Committee: Tony Slatcher Tel: 07736 968168 Email: [tonyslatcher@hotmail.com](mailto:tonyslatcher@hotmail.com)  
 Chair of Property Committee: Gio Kelsey-DiCabria Tel: 07312147448 Email: [gdicabria@mac.com](mailto:gdicabria@mac.com)  
 Diocese of Hallam: St. Jude's Parish REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 512022

**Please pray for all the elderly, the sick and the housebound of our Parish and those named below**  
 Pat Buckley, Ray Tuffield, Lynn Babiash, Helen Maggio, Graham Lister, Ray & Chris Carter, Richard & Sheila Cummins, June Downs, Sally Burton, Barry Oliver, Dr Philip Hobson, Jean Kinnell, Kathleen Lake, Teresa Warden, Pat Hughes, Josie Thompson, Shaun Kenny, Elsie Robinson, Eddie Humes, Maisie Coney, Phyllis Burton, Anita Clarkson, Alex Carlin, Christina Martin, Mel McCluskie, Pam Little, Robin Clarkson, residents of our Nursing and Care Homes, and patients in Bassetlawn Hospital. Please email the Parish Office if anyone needs to be added or removed. Thank you.  
***N.B.*** In order to comply with GDPR legislation, please ensure that named individuals and/or family members have given their consent for their names to be published in the bulletin and on our website. Many thanks.  
**Please pray for the souls of the recently deceased & those whose anniversaries occur about this time.**

### **Masses for all three churches from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

03 Saturday Vigil	<b>6pm JW</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Christmas</b>	Vera Carroll RIP
04 Sunday	<b>9am SH</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Christmas</b>	People of the Parish
04 Sunday	<b>11am SM</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Christmas</b>	Nellie Jackson RIP
10 Saturday Vigil	<b>6pm JW</b>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>	Karol Cieslak RIP (anniversary)
11 Sunday	<b>9am SH</b>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>	People of the Parish
11 Sunday	<b>11am SM</b>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>	Michal Szarelis RIP

**KEY:** **SH** = St Helen's Church **SM** = St Mary's Church **JW** = St Joseph the Worker Church

*Mass intention request slips are available in church with envelopes and from the parish website.*

*Please use these slips and add **RIP** if the person is deceased or email with details. Many thanks.*

### **Sanctuary Lamp Intentions for this week**

*This week each seven-day Sanctuary Lamp candle will be lit continuously for the following intentions*

<b>Church</b>	<b>Intention</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
St Joseph the Worker	November Memorial List	St Jude's Parish
St Helen's	Pat & Francis Buckley	Anonymous
St Mary's	November Memorial List	St Jude's Parish

*Sanctuary Lamp intention request slips are available in church with envelopes and from the parish website.*

*Please use these slips, or email, and add **RIP** if the person is deceased. Many thanks.*

**Holy Mass in Polish every Sunday** at 4pm in the Church of St. Joseph the Worker, 101 Wingfield Avenue, Worksop, S80 0SF. Please see [www.parafia-mansfield.co.uk](http://www.parafia-mansfield.co.uk) for details or contact Fr. Kazimierz Bidzinski on 01623 626470.

**Holy Mass Syro-Malabar Rite** in St. Joseph the Worker Church. For the current Mass Times, please contact :-  
 Fr. Jom Mathew Kizhakkarakattu: The Presbytery of St. Joseph the Worker, 101 Wingfield Avenue, Worksop, S81 0SF.  
 Email address: [Jomkm@csmegb.net](mailto:Jomkm@csmegb.net) or mobile 07888 170451. National website: [www.eparchyofgreatbritain.org/](http://www.eparchyofgreatbritain.org/)

**Flame of Love Rosary** will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 6.30pm at St Helen's Church.

**Prayer Group** meeting every Thursday following morning mass, in St. Joseph's Church Hall, Worksop. All welcome.

### **The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intentions - January – For Prayer with the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Please email [stjudesworksopoldcotes@gmail.com](mailto:stjudesworksopoldcotes@gmail.com) to subscribe to the weekly bulletin. You may unsubscribe by request at any time.

**OFFERING** – The offerings last week for the Parish will be published at a later date. Many thanks for all your kindness and generosity.

### **NOTICES:**

**Please kindly remember in your prayers** Mr Agbo Emeka and Attah Mirian Ifechukwu who are getting married on 17<sup>th</sup> January in Nigeria.

The **Parish Office** will be closed from 24<sup>th</sup> December until 6<sup>th</sup> January. If you need to contact the office, please either email or phone and leave a message.

**Thank you** all for your Christmas cards, offerings, gifts and good wishes. May Almighty God bless us in the New Year 2026 with love, peace and prosperity

**Date for Diary** – Confirmation will be on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 6.30pm.

The latest issue of **Hallam Bridge** is now available. If you would like a copy of this, please contact the parish office. You can subscribe on <https://hallam-diocese.com/bridge/> to receive a copy as soon as it is released.

**Mary's Meals** – We have heard from Leftover Currency and the total donation to Mary's Meals came to £123.42. A breakdown of the currency was sent and everything has a value even old, out of circulation and unexchangeable currency. The boxes will remain at the back of the churches for the time being and will be emptied periodically. Thank you so much