

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
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Chair of Finance Committee: Tony Slatcher Tel: 07736 968168 Email: finance@stjudeshallam.co.uk
Diocese of Hallam: St. Jude’s Parish REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 512021

Masses for all three churches from Saturday 12th September to Sunday 20th September 2026

12 Saturday	6pm JW	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wilson & Mary Allison RIP
13 Sunday	9am SH	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
13 Sunday	11am SM	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Bethany & Callum private intentions
15 Tuesday	10am JW	Funeral of Albert Patrick Holland RIP	
16 Wednesday	10am SM	Ss Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop	November Memorial List
17 Thursday	9.30am JW	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
17 Thursday	10am JW	St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop	November Memorial List
18 Friday	10am SH	Weekday in Ordinary Time	November Memorial List
19 Saturday	6pm JW	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Florence Szarelis RIP
20 Sunday	9am SH	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
20 Sunday	11am SM	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Tres Haggerty 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

Church	Intention	Sponsor
St Joseph the Worker	Wilson & Mary Allison RIP	Allison Family
St Helen’s	Private Intentions	Anne Barnett
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 OSF. Please see 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 OSF. Email address: Jomkm@csmegb.net or mobile 07888 170451. National website: www.eparchyofgreatbritain.org/

Flame of Love Rosary at St Helen’s Church starting again on 16th September at 6.30pm.

Prayer Group meeting every Thursday in St. Joseph’s Church Hall, Worksop at 10.30am .

The Pope’s Monthly Prayer Intentions – September – For the care of water
Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Please email stjudeworksopoldcotes@gmail.com to subscribe to the weekly bulletin. You may unsubscribe by request at any time.

Please pray for all the elderly, sick and housebound of our Parish, and those named below

George Graver, Gerard Devenney, Sarah Packer, Pat Buckley, Ray Tuffield, Lynn Babiash, Helen Maggio, Graham Lister, 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, Alex Carlin, Christina Martin, Mel McCluskie, Pam Little, residents of our Nursing and Care Homes, and patients in Bassetlaw 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 and those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

OFFERING – the total collection last week was **£626.17**. The **Second Collection** for **Needy Parishes Fund** last week totalled **£228.54**. The next **Second Collection** is on **20th September** for **Home Mission Sunday**. Many thanks for all your kindness and generosity.

The funeral of **Albert Patrick Holland RIP** will be held on **Tuesday 15th September 2026 at St Joseph the Worker at 10am**. Followed by Committal at **Babworth Crematorium at 11.30am**. May he rest in peace. Please also pray for all who have died recently, for people grieving and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

For any donations towards St Helen’s upgrade/decoration, payment options are: in the collection basket at the back of church; by cheque made out to St Mary & St Joseph or via bank transfer – account: Diocese of Hallam St Mary & St Joseph, sort code: 40-41-07, account no: 41413465 marked for St Helen’s upgrade. Thank you very much for all donations already received.

Mary's Meals - Mary's Meals serves nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries. Your unwanted foreign currency (coins and notes) and old British coins and notes can turn into meals for hungry children. As the main holiday season is over the boxes will return to the back of all three churches by the end of September. Please place any unused currency in the boxes and they will be emptied periodically up until the end of November, approximately. The collections earlier this year raised £280 for Mary's Meals which is wonderful and will help feed the children. Thank you so much to those who donated. There is more we could do for Mary's Meals and if anyone, in any of the 3 parishes, would like to be a Parish volunteer and help please let Fr Des or Deacon Peter know. Thank you. .

Leeds Walsingham Way is a NEW Joint Diocesan Camino for the Year of St Francis of Assisi! Full information and links for Day Pilgrims to sign up for any of the days walking through Leeds or Hallam Dioceses here: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/day-pilgrims-invited-to-join-new-diocesan-walking-pilgrimage/>. ALL welcome to join for Mass: Camino begins **Saturday 12 September with 8am Pilgrims’ Mass at Leeds Cathedral**, followed by walk to Wakefield; **8am Sunday Mass at St Austin’s, Wakefield**, followed by walk into Hallam; **Tuesday 15 September 8am Mass at St Marie’s Cathedral, Sheffield**, followed by walk to Padley Martyrs’ Chapel.

Marriage Help - Communication failure is a major cause of marital breakdown - 1,000's of couples have found **Retrouvaille** helped their relationship. Retrouvaille is not counselling but a programme to help married couples work through conflicts more effectively. We focus on helping restore trust and hope. Bookings close 18th Sept. www.Retrouvaille.org.uk +44 7887 296 983

St Peter in Chains, Doncaster is hosting a **Day of Prayer on 24th October**, promoting the Shrine of Our Lady of Doncaster (see poster at back of church for details). A nine-week novena in preparation for the day begins on 22nd August asking Our Lady of Doncaster and the four beatified martyrs of the Diocese of Hallam (Blesseds Nicolas Garlik, Robert Ludlum. John Anne, William Richardson) to intercede for us.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.*

COLLECT

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.
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.

FIRST READING Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.
Anger and wrath, these are abominations,
and the sinful man will hold them fast.
The one who seeks vengeance will be paid vengeance from the Lord,
and he who keeps a record will have his own sins recorded.
Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done,
and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.
Does one person harbour anger against another
and yet seek for healing from the Lord?
Does he have no mercy towards someone like himself
and yet pray concerning his own sins?
If he himself, being flesh, maintains wrath,
who will make atonement for his sins?
Remember the end of your life and cease from enmity,
remember destruction and death
and be true to the commandments.
Remember the commandments
and do not be angry with your neighbour;
remember the covenant of the Most High
and overlook error.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 9-10. 11-12. R. 8

R: *The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.*

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion. **R.**
3. He will not always find fault;
nor persist in his anger for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong his mercy for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 14:7-9

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters: None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we

are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 13:34

R: *Alleluia, alleluia.*

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

R: *Alleluia.*

GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: Peter came up and said to Jesus, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

'Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, "Pay what you owe." So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord,
and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings,
that what each has offered to the honour of your name
may serve the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.*

Or

*The chalice of blessing that we bless
is a communion in the Blood of Christ;
and the bread that we break
is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray,
take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sunday Message

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year A • 13 September 2026 • Psalter Week 4

TO FORGIVE WITHOUT LIMIT

MATTHEW 18:21-35

Peter asks Jesus how many times he should forgive someone. Jewish tradition said that God forgives three times and punishes on the fourth. Since human beings couldn't be more forgiving than God, forgiveness was, therefore, limited to three times.

Peter must have thought that forgiving someone seven times was more than generous, since it went far beyond what Jewish tradition taught. But Jesus says it's not enough; the Christian must forgive seventy times seven – in other words, never stop forgiving.

Jesus always showed mercy. As Pope Francis put it, the only people Jesus condemns are those who think they don't need it. 'Jesus does not say, "Blessed are those who plot revenge,"' Pope Francis said. "He calls 'blessed' those who forgive and do so 'seventy times seven.' All of us have been looked upon with divine compassion. If we approach the Lord with sincerity and listen carefully, there may well be times when we hear his reproach: 'Should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?'"

In other words, we must forgive because God has forgiven us. We must never stop forgiving. ■

REFLECT

What can we Christians say about forgiveness?

1. People are basically good. We have an innate goodness. The creation story in Genesis tells us God saw all that God had made and found it very good. In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis uses a beautiful word to describe God's relationship with creation: All is a caress of God. When we see people as good, then we will treat them differently.
 2. God forgives us first. That's the story of salvation. No matter how often God's people strayed, God never gave up on them. As Pope Francis puts it in his memoir *Hope*, we children get up to all kinds of things, we make mistakes, we sin, but when we ask for pardon, God's mercy embraces us and forgives us, always. God never tires of embracing and forgiving us. It is we who sometimes grow tired of asking for pardon. God never tires of forgiving us.
 3. In receiving forgiveness, we give the past over to God – and let it go. We all know people who find this hard to do. They keep revisiting past sins. Crucified by scruples, they worry they didn't confess properly last time or didn't include everything. The scrupulous aren't free. They've been so badly damaged by some event that they've been stuck ever since. Forgiveness sets us free, but not if we can't let go of the past. The challenge is to give the past over to God and live the present in love.
 4. In order to live the present in love, we must be able to forgive ourselves. We can find that hard to do, especially if there's something in our past we feel especially guilty about. If I can't forgive myself, it's going to be hard to forgive others. If God can forgive me, then I must forgive myself.
 5. Pope Francis described forgiveness as 'a human right. The ability to be forgiven is a human right. We all have the right to be forgiven.' In his letter on marriage and the family, *Amoris laetitia* (The Joy of Love), he says that pastors must 'avoid judgements which do not take into account the complexity of various situations' and must 'be attentive to how people experience distress because of their condition.' All of us have been looked upon with divine compassion, he writes. 'We should hear God saying to us, "Should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?"'
- Being compassionate, he continues, doesn't mean watering down church

DO

Is there somebody you need to forgive or with whom you need to be reconciled? Perhaps you could seek them out this week.

SAY

'The Lord is compassion and love'

PRAY

For the Christian, there can be no limit to mercy and forgiveness. Pray for the strength to forgive always.

LEARN

Mercy was at the heart of Jesus' ministry.

Forgiveness sets us free.

We must think of ourselves as an army of the forgiven.

teaching. Jesus proposed a demanding ideal, but 'never failed to show compassion and closeness to the frailty of individuals like the Samaritan woman or the woman caught in adultery.'

6. Conversion is always a work in progress. Pope Francis had a word for it: gradualism. In *Amoris laetitia*, he says that no one drops down from heaven perfectly formed; 'families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love... All of us are called to keep striving towards something greater than ourselves and our families, and every family must feel this constant impulse.'

My true self is something I must keep striving toward, turning from my old life to one like Christ's. My conversion is ongoing. I must work at being a better me, seeking to love more, forgive more, be kinder, more compassionate, more tolerant. I'll never be perfect, but I must keep trying. That's gradualism.

7. Forgiveness sets us free. To forgive is to stop wasting energy on resentment and grudges. In forgiving, I liberate myself to live. As Lewis Smedes put it in *Forgive and Forget*, 'To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover that the prisoner was you.' ■