

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: frdesmond@stjudeshallam.co.uk
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Parish Email: office@stjudeshallam.co.uk Website: www.stjudeshallam.co.uk
Parish Deacon: Rev. Peter Hunt Tel: 07961626764 Email: dcnpeter@stjudeshallam.co.uk
Religious: Sr. Elizabeth Buckley Tel: 01909 808858 resident at St. Mary’s, Worksop
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 24th October to Sunday 1st November 2026

24 Saturday	6pm JW	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
25 Sunday	9am SH	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Pat & Francis Buckley 59 th Anniversary
25 Sunday	11am SM	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	John Griffin RIP
28 Wednesday	10am SM	Ss Simon & Jude, Apostles	Melissa Louise Mattewman Private Intentions
29 Thursday	9.30am JW	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
29 Thursday	10am JW	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Elizabeth Senfuma & Godffrey
30 Friday	10am SH	Weekday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
31 Saturday	6pm JW	All Saints	In thanksgiving for recovery of health
01 Sunday	9am SH	All Saints	People of the Parish
01 Sunday	11am SM	All Santa	Trevor Perry 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	November Memorial List	St Jude’s Parish
St Helen’s	November Memorial List	St Jude’s Parish
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 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 or mobile 07888 170451. National website: www.eparchyofgreatbritain.org/

Flame of Love Rosary is held at St Helen’s Church on a Wednesday at **2pm**.

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

The Pope’s Monthly Prayer Intentions – October – For Mental Health Ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Please email stjudesworksopoldcotes@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
Rebecca Handley, 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 will be available when the Parish office reopens. Many thanks for all your kindness and generosity.

Please note the Parish Office will be closed until 9am Tuesday 27th October 2026.

Please could all parishioners who have a **Red APF Missio Box** bring to **St Helen’s** and give to **Sally Burton** to be emptied. For parishioners of **St Joseph and St Mary’s** please return to **Heidi** to be emptied. Thank you.

Christmas goods, cards, etc will be available from **October** in all three churches.

Our new **November Memorial List 2026 to 2027 from 1st November 2026 to 31st October 2027** will replace the current list. Names previously submitted are not automatically renewed each year. If you would like to include any loved ones who have passed away in this new list to be remembered in masses throughout the whole of this Memorial Year, please fill in a slip available from church and return to Fr Desmond with your kind donation by Sunday 25th October 2026 at the latest to guarantee inclusion in the posters in church and online. Many thanks.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation registration forms are available now from church and we would be grateful if you would return the completed forms by 29th November 2026.

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.

The **Holy Family School** is holding a **Table Top Sale** to help raise funds for the school. If anyone in the Parish is interested in either attending or having a table at the event on **Friday 6th November from 2.45pm to 4pm**. To book at table or for more information please email hfta@hfcps.co.uk

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.

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. www.Retrouvaille.org.uk +44 7887 296 983

The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst is preparing three opportunities for people to deepen their faith and prepare for an important new chapter in life: **Retreat: Be Still and Know that I am God – 20-23 November; Marriage Preparation Weekend – 8-10 January 2027 and Men’s Retreat: Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius – 26 Feb-3 March 2027 or 5-10 March 2027**. If you would like more information, please contact the Parish Office.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
increase our faith, hope and charity,
and make us love what you command,
so that we may merit what you promise.
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 Exodus 22:21-27

A reading from the Book of Exodus.
Thus says the Lord: ‘You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a money-lender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbour’s cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIALPSALMPsalm 18(17):2-3a.3b-4.47,51ab.R.2

R: I love you, LORD, my strength.

- I love you, LORD, my strength;
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. *R.*
- My God, my rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my saving strength, my stronghold.
I cry out, ‘O praised be the LORD!’
and see, I am saved from my foes. *R.*
- The LORD lives, and blest be my Rock!
May the God of my salvation be exalted.
The LORD gives great victories to his king,
and shows merciful love for his anointed. *R.*

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians.

Brothers and sisters: You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much

affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 14:23

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?’ And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look, we pray, O Lord,
on the offerings we make to your majesty,
that whatever is done by us in your service
may be directed above all to your glory.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*We will ring out our joy at your saving help
and exult in the name of our God.*

Or

*Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
as a fragrant offering to God.*

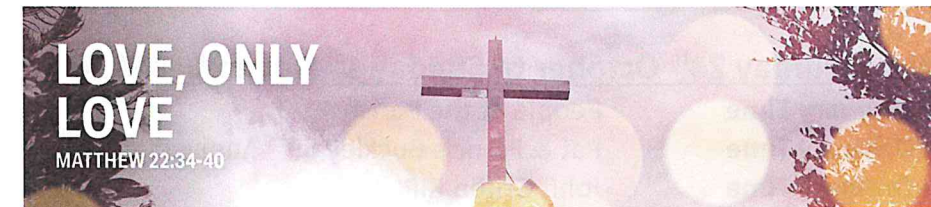
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray,
perfect in us what lies within them,
that what we now celebrate in signs
we may one day possess in truth.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday Message

THE WORD

Year A • 25 October 2026 • Psalter Week 2



The Pharisees prided themselves on strict observance of the law. So meticulous were they in keeping it, they had worked out that the biblical law contained 365 negative commandments (one ‘thou shalt not’ for every day of the year) and 248 positive commandments (one for every bone in the human body).

In addition to this written law, they believed that God had given Moses another set of laws that weren’t written down but were passed down by an unbroken chain from Moses to them.

Some Pharisees taught that every commandment was to be observed with the same attention to detail. Others taught that the commandments ranged from serious to relatively minor. This debate provides the background to today’s Gospel. By asking Jesus’ opinion, his opponents are also inviting him to line up on one side or the other in the debate.

Jesus answers by quoting a verse from the Book of Deuteronomy that every member of his audience would know (Deuteronomy 6:5). It was part of the prayer they said twice each day, the Shema Yisrael (‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one...’). He then adds a verse that ‘resembles this’ – the command to love your neighbour as yourself (Leviticus 19:18). On these two verses, he says, hang the whole of the Law and the Prophets, that is, God’s entire revelation to his people. This is the law that matters. ■

REFLECT

We use the word ‘love’ with easy abandon today. Think of the casual way we throw it around. We love our bed, our favourite TV soap, our new shoes. We love salt with our chips, sugar in our tea, and a trip to the cinema. I love everything that’s bad for me, according to my cardiologist. Love is desire, obsession, addiction, commitment, lust, service; love is whatever we want it to be.

But if we Christians want to know what love truly is, we need only look to God. God is love, St John tells us. God not only loves, God is love. And where there is love, there is God.

In her book *Reading Genesis*, Marilynne Robinson points out that this Godly love is what distinguished the God of Israel from other Middle Eastern gods of antiquity. The Babylonians and others believed in multiple gods; Abraham and his descendants were unique in being monotheists, in believing there is but one God, who had created them in his very own image. We are not images of angels or lesser gods but of the creator himself. This was a radical way of thinking.

The other gods of antiquity were remote, distant, and indifferent to the happenings here on earth. The God of Genesis is a

benign God who forgives Cain for the murder of his own brother, forgives his people time and again, and is personally invested in them, unlike the apathetic or vengeful gods that other peoples worshipped. Israel’s God is slow to anger, rich in mercy, abiding in love.

God, Robinson says, has a lofty view of humankind, expressed poetically in Psalm 8: ‘What is man that you are mindful of him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honour.’

God loves, and God is love. But, when we say this, we’re not describing an up in the sky kind of love. We’re describing the kind of concrete love that Jesus showed.

People practise this kind of love every day. Think of parents who care for children with special needs. Or grandparents who pick up the pieces when their child’s marriage collapses. Or groups like the St Vincent de Paul, who help the most needy. All of these put love into practice every day.

I like to break down the great commandment into its three parts. We are to:

DO

This week visit someone who is lonely or who lives alone.

SAY

‘Lord, help me to love you
and my neighbour to the best
of my ability.’

PRAY

Pray for your parish community, that all will grow in love of God and one another.

LEARN

Love of God and neighbour is the mark of the Christian.

At the heart of our faith is that knowledge that God loves us without reservation.

* love ourselves. Healthy self-love comes from knowing I am made in God’s own image. Healthy self-love is not the same as selfishness or narcissism. It is to see myself the way God sees me, as one made in God’s own image. Therefore, I am unique, lovable, irreplaceable. Many of us find it hard to love ourselves. Young people, influenced by social media, find it so hard to love themselves. But if we are to love God and others, we must learn to love ourselves.

* love our neighbour. To love is to will the good of another. It is to go out of our way for others. ‘Feed the poor.’ That’s love. ‘Break bread with those no one will sit with.’ That’s love. ‘Respond with patience to someone who gets on my nerves.’ That’s love. Love of neighbour means never being bystanders. More than anything else, God will judge us on whether we loved others.

* love God. God created us out of love, and sustains us lovingly each day. We return God’s love through a life of prayer, worship and good works.

St Paul instructed the Ephesians to ‘live a life of love.’ Three little words beginning with the letter L. Easy to remember. Hard to do. That’s how we keep the great commandment. ■