The Parish of St Joseph with

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Second Sunday of Lent (A) 5 March 2023
Rev Fr Mark McManus Parish Priest Rev Mr Simon Hegarty Deacon stjosephsdeacon@outlook.com

Please remember in your prayers all the sick and housebound, especially: Mary Cooper, Margaret Dakin, Madge Wolstenholme, Fr Bill Bergin, Tom & Joyce McGowan, Heidi Howson, Audrey Rodgers, Sylvia Hayden, Janette Taylor, Sonia Prince, Reece Wilson, Jason Barron, Liz Moran, Elizabeth Dodson, Pat Collett, Eunice Mannion, Sue & Frank Rodgers, Jonathan Dempsey, Andy Mitchell, Marie Montgomery, John Carroll, Lol Hodges, Rita & Vin Todd, Georgina Shirt, Maria Tarnowski, Elizabeth Barron, Martin Humphreys, Susan De Couto, Jacqueline Wagland, Sr. Teresa Paschal, Tom Bryant. If you would like anyone included on this list, and the individual concerned or a family member has consented to it, simply write the person's name down and hand it in. Thank you.

During Lent

- On **Sundays, after** the **10.00am Mass**, there are **Stations of the Cross**. Please sign-up if you are willing to lead.
- On Mondays in Lent the morning Mass will be at 7.15am.
- On **Saturdays in Lent** there is **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**, from 10.00 to 10.50am (concluding with **Benediction**) and **Confessions** are will also be available (N.B. except on 18 & 25 March).
- Stations of the Cross: I encourage people to feel free to pray this Lenten devotion before or after Mass should you wish. It is a lovely sight to see people meandering around a church in prayer and a simple prayer at each Station is all that is required (there is no set or series of necessary prayers that you must say).
- This year the feast day of St Joseph falls on a Lenten Sunday and so it is deferred until the following day. There will be a **Mass** therefore for the **Solemnity of St Joseph**, along with St Joseph's School, on **Monday, 20 March**, at 10.00am.
- At 1.30pm on 5 April, the **Wednesday of Holy Week**, **St Joseph's School** will perform their **Passion Play**. All welcome.

The next meeting of St Joseph's **SVP** is **this Thursday**, 9 March, at 7.30pm in the undercroft.

First Holy Communion preparation: the next meeting for the children will be on Saturday, 25 March, from 9.30am until 12 Noon in the Y4 classroom at St Joseph's School. Please remember the children in your prayers.

The **Piety Stall** has a selection of suitable items for Lent and, looking ahead, also cards, etc., in anticipation of Easter.

The annual diocesan Safeguarding event: 'Hidden Harms...from Social Distancing to Social Solidarity' will take place on Saturday 25 March, from 9.45am – 4.00pm at St. Joseph's, Wath-upon-Dearne, (there is a Mass of the Annunciation at 9.00am for those who wish to attend). The event is open to all safeguarding representatives, parishioners and volunteers. Refreshments and a free lunch will be provided. To book a place contact Jo Pearson on 2566453 or jpearson@hallam-diocese.com

Financial matters

Offertory envelopes for the new tax year, commencing in April, are available to collect from this weekend in the church.

To save on costs, especially as our bank charges have risen significantly (particularly for banking cash — *especially coins* — and cheques) **please consider making a regular contribution to the parish via standing order**.

Alas, **the effects of inflation and above-average costs** in some critical areas of our expenditure, (e.g. our gas price increased by 400%) **has eaten into the value of our giving** over the past twelve months. I would therefore respectfully ask you, where possible, to **please also consider an increase in your regular giving**. If, for example, twenty people gave 50 pence more per week then that would see an increase of £520 per year to the parish. As they say: 'Every little helps.'

Finally, if anyone pays UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax and has not completed a Gift Aid declaration, but would like to know more about the scheme, then they can e-mail or speak to Tony Brodrick or Fr M. Forms are available at the back of the church. As always, thank you for your understanding and for your continuing support.

A Prayer for Ukraine

Almighty and Great God, accept our gratitude for your boundless mercy towards us. Hear the supplication of our afflicted hearts for the land and people of Ukraine, as they confront foreign aggression and invasion. Open the eyes of those who have been overtaken by a spirit of deception and violence, that they be horrified by their works. Grant victory over the powers of evil that have arisen and bless Ukraine with your gifts of liberty, peace, tranquillity, and good fortune.

We implore you, O Merciful God, look with grace upon those who courageously defend their land. Remember the mothers and fathers, the innocent children, widows and orphans, the disabled and helpless, those seeking shelter and refuge, who reach out to you and to their fellow human beings looking for mercy and compassion. Bless the hearts of those who have already shown great generosity and solidarity, and those who prepare to receive their Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Ukraine's greatest time of need. Bring us together as your children, your creation, and instil in us your strength, wisdom and understanding. May you be praised and glorified, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Mass Intentions	
Sunday 5 March	8.45am
Second Sunday in Lent	For the People
	10.00am
	Leanne Wainwright
	followed by Stations of the Cross
Monday 6 March	<u>7.15am</u>
Lenten weekday	Leonard Cooper
Tuesday 7 March	10.00am
Lenten weekday	Celebrant's Intention
Wednesday 8 March	November Memorial Dead List
Lenten weekday	
Thursday 9 March	10.00am
Lenten weekday	Fr John Windle
Friday 10 March	9.00 – 9.55am Exposition
Lenten weekday	40.00
	10.00am
	Peter Wolstenholme
Saturday 11 March	10.00am Exposition & Confessions
Lenten weekday	10.50am Benediction
Vigil Mass of Sunday	5.00pm
-	Karen Vernals
Sunday 12 March	8.45am
Third Sunday in Lent	Sydney & Ellen Mason
	10.00am
	For the People
	followed by Stations of the Cross

Last week's collection was £705.39 (£412.00 in offertory envelopes, £292.69 in loose). Many thanks for your continuing support!

This week St Joseph's Sanctuary Lamp burns for:

For victims of abuse

Please pray for Karen Vernals *RIP*, for all who have died recently & for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.