

The Parish Church of St Giles
with St Mary's, Pontefract



Advent Sunday
3rd December 2023

10.15 a.m.

We welcome you to this celebration of Parish Mass
for the First Sunday Of Advent

The setting for today's Mass is Missa de angelis

People of all denominations who are in good standing with their own church are welcome to come and receive communion. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come to the altar carrying this order of service.

Please let clergy or a churchwarden know at the beginning of the service if you need a gluten-free host.

5 minutes before the service begins, a bell will ring to signal that a period of quiet reflection is kept during which you may wish to use this prayer.

**Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness.**

**Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.**

**Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.**

Amen

A bell is rung to begin our worship.

Parish Giving

It costs us at least £2,000 per week to carry out our ministry, mission and basic maintenance of this lovely building. One off cash donations can be made in the box in reception just by the entrance door into church. Contactless payments can be made using our free-standing contactless giving machine located in church. It is also possible to donate using our QR code which links to a safe and secure 'Give a little' payment portal which is compliant with GDPR, PCI & PCI-DSS.

1. Open your phone camera 2. Scan the QR code 3. Click the link displayed 4. Donate



The Gathering

Hymn (11)

**O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem Thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone
far from the face of God's dear Son.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
who madest all in earth and sky;
creating man from dust and clay:
to us reveal salvation's Way.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

**O come, O come, Adonai,
who in Thy glorious majesty,
from Sinai's mountain, clothed in awe,
gavest Thy folk the ancient law.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

**O come, Thou Root of Jesse! Draw
the quarry from the lion's claw;
from those dread caverns of the grave,
from nether hell, Thy people save.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

**O come, Thou Lord of David's Key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
safeguard for us the heavenward road,
and bar the way to death's abode.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

**O come, O come, Thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls Thy healing light;
dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
and pierce the shadows of the tomb.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!



**O come, Desire of nations, show
Thy kingly reign on earth below;
Thou Corner-stone, uniting all,
restore the ruin of our fall.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Cologne ;
based on ancient Advent Antiphons
tr. T ALacey

✠ In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said

Invitation to confession

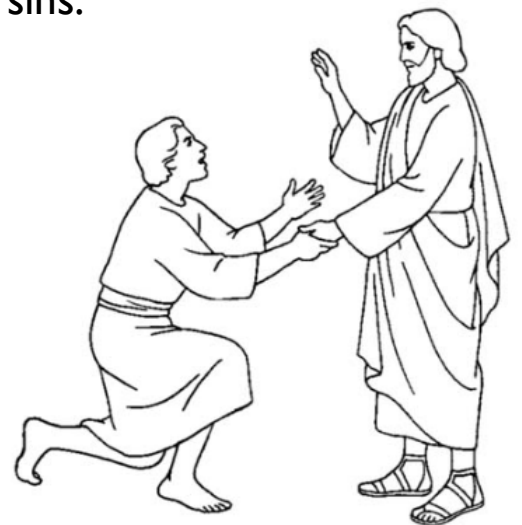
When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Penitence

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.



Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The president says

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie Eleison

Christe Eleison

Kyrie Eleison

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

The Collect for Advent Sunday

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence -
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil -
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,



those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.
This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

My brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia

Gospel Reading

Mark 13.24-37

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

'Then they will see `the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake- for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

A Prayer for the Benefice

Faithful God,

**During this vacancy, fill us with vision and joy
and keep us faithful in prayer, word and worship.**

Guard and grow our church as we serve you together.

**Help us to share responsibility, grow in faith,
love one another, care for those in need,
reach out to others, and welcome newcomers and visitors.**

**Sustain those in interim leadership,
and bless our next Vicar as he prepares to join us.**

**Ever-living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
may we see your kingdom come here in Pontefract,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Watchful at all times,
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence
before our Maker and Redeemer.

After each prayer: Lord, in your mercy
 hear our prayer.

We pray for those for whom prayers have been requested:

Joe; Beryl; Marion; Richard; Marion; Beryl; Cath Godridge; Janis Gallagher;
Mary Sambrooks; Linda Sambrooks; Pat Steele; Pam Newbert; Brian Ward;
Cath Godridge.

We pray for those who have recently died:

Mike Berridge; Jean Ham; Elma Mangnall; Sandra Barker.

Those whose year's mind falls at this time

Ann Knox; Lorna Brooks; Bernard Crosland; Fr. Roland Taylor

At the end:

Merciful Father
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

St Giles 3:16 Return.

Advent Preparation

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.

May we be obedient to your call
and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

*The first candle of the Advent wreath is lit,
and then we say together:*



**Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
born in David's city of Bethlehem,
born like him to be a king:
be born in our hearts this Christmas-tide,
be king of our lives today.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

cf Luke 1.78,79

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Altar

Offertory Hymn

**Hark, what a sound, and too divine for hearing,
stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?
Is it the music of His people's prayer?**

**Surely He cometh, and a thousand voices
shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb.
Surely He cometh, and the earth rejoices,
glad in His coming who hath sworn: I come!**

**This hath He done, and shall we not adore Him?
This shall He do, and can we still despair?
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before Him,
Cast at His feet the burden of our care.**

**Through life and death, through sorrow and through sinning,
He shall suffice me, for He hath sufficed.
Christ is the end, and Christ was the beginning,
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.**

Frederick William Henry Myers (1843-1901)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory.

Amen

Prayer over the Gifts

Pray, my brothers and sisters that this my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice
at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good
and the good of all his church.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Let us pray.

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
to proclaim your glory,
for ever praising you and singing,

Sanctus & Benedictus

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Osanna in excelsis.*

*Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Osanna in excelsis.*

*Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with Blessed Mary, Giles and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As we look to the coming of our Saviour, we pray in the words he taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei.
Dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The president and people receive communion.

Organ Voluntary

Hymn (13)

**O quickly come, great Judge of all;
For, awful though thine advent be,
All shadows from the truth will fall,
And falsehood die, in sight of thee:
O quickly come, for doubt and fear
Like clouds dissolve when thou art near.**

**O quickly come, great King of all;
Reign all around us and within;
Let sin no more our souls enthrall,
Let pain and sorrow die with sin:
O quickly come, for thou alone
Canst make thy scattered people one.**

**O quickly come, true Life of all,
For death is mighty all around;
On every home his shadows fall,
On every heart his mark is found:
O quickly come, for grief and pain
Can never cloud thy glorious reign.**

**O quickly come, sure Light of all,
For gloomy night broods o'er our way;
And weakly souls begin to fall
With weary watching for the day:
O quickly come, for round thy throne
No eye is blind, no night is known.**

Lawrence Tuttiet (1825 – 97)

Choir Anthem

Sleepers, wake! - Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Let us pray.

**O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Notices are given.

Acclamation

With love and compassion,
come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy,
come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,
come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,
come, Lord Jesus.

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

May God the Father, judge all-merciful,
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.
Amen.

May God the Son, coming among us in power,
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.
Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,
joyful in hope and constant in love.
Amen.

And the blessing ...
Amen.

Hymn (9)

**Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of His train:**

Alleluia!

God appears on earth to reign.

**Every eye shall now behold Him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold Him,
pierced and nailed Him to the Tree,**

**Deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.**

**Those dear tokens of His passion
still His dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to His ransomed worshippers:**

**With what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**Yea, Amen! Let all adore Thee,
high on Thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for Thine own:**

O come quickly!

Alleluia! Come Lord, come!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.

The clergy and people depart.

Organ Voluntary

Today's service sheet is sponsored in memory of

Ann Knox

In loving memory of a dear
Wife, Mum and Nan
Forever in our Hearts

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