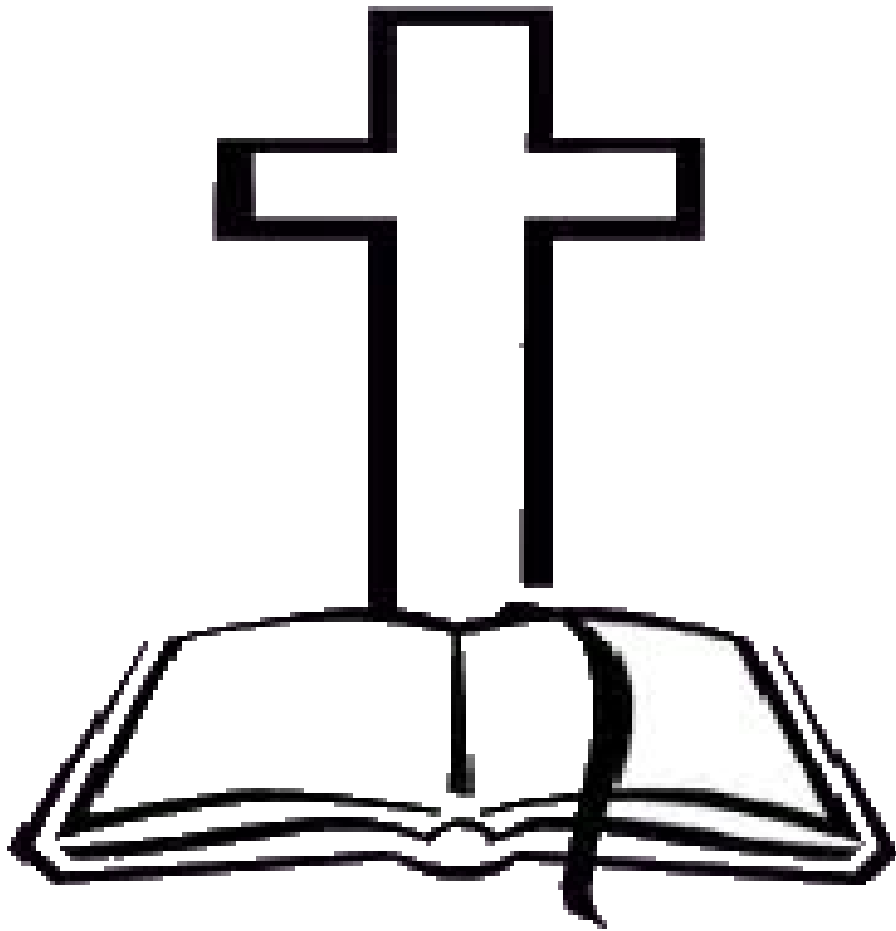


The Parish Church of St Giles  
with St Mary's, Pontefract



The Second Sunday before Advent  
19<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 10.15 a.m.

We welcome you to this celebration of Parish Mass  
for the Second Sunday Before Advent

The setting for today's Mass is A Kilcreggan Mass - Peter Nardone (b.1965)

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.

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
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 (339)

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art;  
be Thou my best thought in the day and the night,  
both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.**

**Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word,  
be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee Lord;  
be Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;  
be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.**

**Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;  
be Thou my whole armour, be Thou my true might;  
be Thou my soul's shelter, be Thou my strong tower:  
O raise Thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:  
be Thou mine inheritance now and always;  
be Thou and Thou only the first in my heart;  
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright Sun,  
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;  
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Ancient Irish hymn c. 8<sup>th</sup>  
trans. Mary Byrne (1880-1931), and versified by Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)

†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 introduction and welcome may be said.*

## Exhortation

Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
as we gather at the Lord's table  
we must recall the promises and warnings  
given to us in the Scriptures.  
Let us therefore examine ourselves and repent of our sins.  
Let us give thanks to God  
for his redemption of the world through his Son Jesus Christ,  
and as we remember Christ's death for us,  
and receive this pledge of his love,  
let us resolve to serve him in holiness and righteousness  
all the days of our life.

## Invitation to confession

You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,  
and are in love and charity with your neighbours,  
and intend to lead a new life,  
following the commandments of God  
and walking from henceforth in his holy ways:  
draw near with faith,  
and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;  
and make your humble confession to almighty God.

## Prayer of Penitence

**Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*The president says*

The Lord enrich you with his grace,  
and nourish you with his blessing;  
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;  
the Lord accept your prayers,  
and † absolve you from your offences,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

**Amen.**

## Gloria in Excelsis

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.*

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**



**IN EXCELSIS DEO!**

# The Collect for the Second Sunday before Advent

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son was revealed  
to destroy the works of the devil  
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:  
grant that we, having this hope,  
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;  
that when he shall appear in power and great glory  
we may be made like him  
in his eternal and glorious kingdom;  
where he 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 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Alleluia

## Gospel Reading Matthew 25.14-30

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off

at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon



## Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**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; give wisdom  
to those involved in the process of appointing  
our new Vicar, and prepare the heart of the right person.**

**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

Let us pray to God the almighty, the King of creation.

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

Today we pray for Krissy Buckley and her family on the occasion of her celebration of the sacrament of baptism,

*We pray for those for whom prayers have been requested:*

Joe; Brenda; Richard; Catriona; Angela; Rachel; Mark & Joe; Janet Hickling; Linda Mumford; Richard Fletcher; Janis Gallagher; Mary Sambrooks; Linda Sambrooks; David Murray; Owen Murray; Ellen Adamosky; Margaret Kidger; Rhys Williams; Angela Hyomes; Pat Steele; Christine Campbell; Sally Brown; Oliver Harrop; Ann Walker; Pam Newbert; Brian Ward; Ellen Mangnall.

*We pray for those who have recently died:*

Karen Copithorne; Mike Berridge.

*Those whose year's mind falls at this time*

Maud Rita Hill; Joan Mary Lemmon; Terry Bridgett; Eric Tonks.

*At the end:*

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

*St Giles 3:16 Return.*

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

May the God of peace sanctify you:  
may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness  
that you may be blameless before him  
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with his saints.

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.*

1 Thessalonians 5.23; 3.13



## Preparation of the Altar

### Offertory Hymn (271)

**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
His the sceptre, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph,  
His the victory alone!  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
'Jesus out of every nation  
hath redeemed us by His blood.'**

**Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us;  
faith believes nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received Him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget His promise:  
'I am with you evermore'?**

**Alleluia! Bread of angels,  
Thou on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful**

*flee to thee from day to day.  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.*

*Alleluia! King eternal,  
Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne.  
Thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
in the Eucharistic Feast.*

W Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

To you we come, Father of lights,  
with angels and saints,  
where heaven and earth unite.  
May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread.  
**Amen.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

# The Eucharistic Prayer

*Please be seated.*

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,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For you are the hope of the nations,  
the builder of the city that is to come.

Your love made visible in Jesus Christ  
brings home the lost,  
restores the sinner  
and gives dignity to the despised.

In his face your light shines out,  
flooding lives with goodness and truth,  
gathering into one in your kingdom  
a divided and broken humanity.

Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation  
we glorify your name,  
for ever praising you and singing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
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.**



Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

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

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
give us your peace.**

## Giving of Communion

*The president says the invitation to communion.*

This is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

## Giving of Communion

*The president says the invitation to communion.*

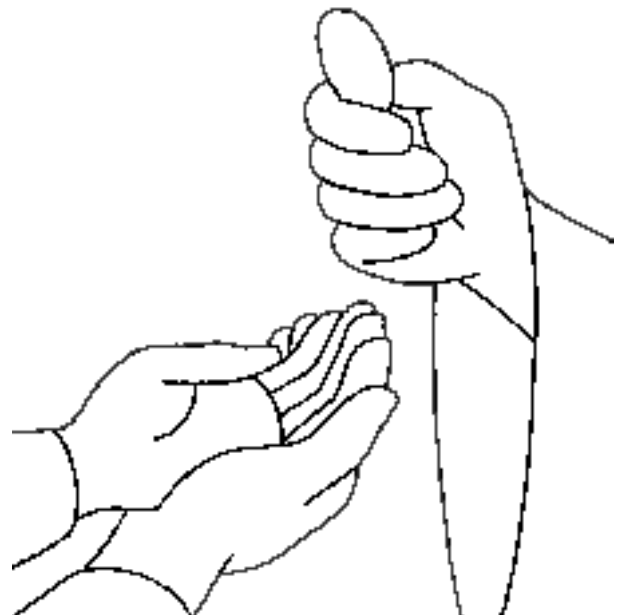
I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia.  
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.  
**Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.  
Alleluia.**

*The clergy and people receive communion.*

## Organ Voluntary

Hymn (70)

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
and purge away my sin;  
from earthborn passions set me free,  
and make me pure within.**





**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
with care and woe oppressed;  
let me Thy loving servant be,  
and taste Thy promised rest.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
amid the battle's strife;  
in all my pain and misery  
be Thou my health and life.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity  
point Thou the heavenly way.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
when flows the tempest high:  
when on doth rush the enemy  
O Saviour, be Thou nigh.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
that, when the flood is passed,  
I may the eternal brightness see,  
and share Thy joy at last.**

Synesius of Cyrene, 5<sup>th</sup>; tr A W Chatfield (1808-1896)

## Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.*

Let us pray.

**Gracious Lord,  
in this holy sacrament  
you give substance to our hope:  
bring us at the last  
to that fullness of life for which we long;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.**

*Notices are given.*

# The Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

God, who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ,  
keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

## Hymn (449)

***Soldiers of Christ, arise,  
And put your armor on,  
Strong in the strength which God supplies,  
Through His eternal Son;***

***Strong in the Lord of Hosts,  
And in His mighty pow'r,  
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts  
Is more than conqueror.***

***Stand then in His great might,  
With all His strength endued;  
And take, to arm you for the fight,  
The panoply of God,***

***Leave no unguarded place,  
No weakness of the soul,  
Take every virtue, every grace,  
And fortify the whole.***

***From strength to strength go on;  
Wrestle, and fight, and pray;  
Tread all the powers of darkness down,  
And win the well-fought day.***

**That, having all things done,  
And all your conflicts past,  
Ye may o'ercome through Christ alone,  
And stand entire at last.**

Charles Wesley (1707 – 88)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The clergy and people depart.*

Organ Voluntary

**Copyright acknowledgement** (where not already indicated above):

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England material from which is included, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 Common Worship: Times and Seasons material from which is included, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2006*

The Scripture quotations contained herein are from The New Revised Standard Version Bible, Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA.

Used by

permission. All rights reserved.

*Christian Copyright Licence No. 169304*

All songs covered by CCLI have been reproduced under the CCL Licence No. 169304

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Giles, Pontefract

is a charity registered in England and Wales (1135106).