|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| St Francis logoHis week personal | Franciscan | |
| **Church of St Francis of Assisi**  277 Sandygate Road, Sheffield S10 5SD  Telephone 0114 263 0383  Email: [stfrancisrcsheffield@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisrcsheffield@gmail.com)  Website: [www.stfrancisrc-sheffield.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisrc-sheffield.org.uk)  Registered Charity No. 512021  Parish Priest: Fr Kevin Thornton  Parish Deacon: Stephen Parker | **THE 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  **Sunday 12th OCTOBER 2025**  Year C - Psalter week 4  (People of the Parish) |

**SUNDAY MASS** is at 11am each week. There is also Mass each weekday, normally at 10am. There is no Mass on Saturday.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (**CONFESSION**) is available on request. Contact Fr Kevin.

A basket will be passed around during Mass for the **OFFERTORY COLLECTION**. Alternatively, you can make your offertory donation directly to:

* Account name: Diocese of Hallam St Francis Sheffield
* Sort Code: 40-41-07.
* Account Number: 21094343

If you are able to Gift Aid your offering, please contact Edmund King at [edmundking42@gmail.com](mailto:edmundking42@gmail.com).

The **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION** for October is collaboration between different religious traditions. Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

**PLEASE PRAY** for Ann Bright, Kathleen Campbell, Colette Connolly, Jean Fahy, Olwyn Heyes, Brian H, JH, Paul Spragg and Veronica Sowerby, who are sick, and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Fairtrade **TEA, COFFEE AND BISCUITS** are available in the Assisi Hall after Sunday Mass.

**WEEKDAY MASSES** (all at 10am)

Monday 13th

Tuesday 14th

Wednesday 15th St Teresa of Jesus

Thursday 16th

Friday 17th St Ignatius of Antioch

This week, we **WELCOME HENRIETTA** to the Church family by Baptism. Please keep her and her parents Daniel and Holly in your prayers as she begins her Christian journey.

**Next Sunday is WORLD MISSION SUNDAY. There will be a basket in the narthex for donations to Missio, the Pope’s charity for World Mission.**

The Parish Pastoral Council wants to hear from everyone connected with St Francis - whether you’re a regular at Mass, come occasionally, or don’t feel very involved at the moment. Please take a few minutes to fill in our **PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE**, which will help shape future plans and ensure every voice is heard. You can complete it online at [tinyurl.com/StFrancisParishSurvey2025](https://tinyurl.com/StFrancisParishSurvey2025), or pick up a paper copy from the narthex or a welcomer. All responses are anonymous and appreciated.

The weather’s turning chilly and families are struggling. The **S2 FOODBANK** is calling for donations of good staple foods to help local families keep warm and well-fed this autumn. Cash donations are welcome too. Every penny goes to feeding people in the community. Donate online at <https://s2foodbank.org.uk/donate> or leave food in the trolley in the narthex. Thank you for your kindness.

The Live Simply campaign is asking us to consider the issue of **GIRL'S EDUCATION** - globally there continue to be significant inequalities between boys and girls in accessing and completing education. There is more information in the narthex and at [www.stfrancisrc-sheffield.org.uk/livesimply/](http://www.stfrancisrc-sheffield.org.uk/livesimply/).

St Vincent’s Church will be holding a **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING** from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday 11th October.

The **40 DAYS FOR LIFE PRAYER VIGIL** in Sheffield continues until Sunday 2nd November. If you would like to get involved in prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, please contact Rachel on 07368 297872.

Rehearsals for the **PARISH PANTOMIME** will take place at 7:20pm on Friday evenings starting on 17th October with dress rehearsal on Thursday 27th November and performances on Friday 28th and Saturday 29th November.

St Vincent’s Church are holding an **AUTUMN SERENADE** concert at 7:30pm on Friday 17th October in aid of the St Justin Society. Tickets are £10 including refreshments. Contact Steve Foley on 07711 326212 for tickets or more information.

St Marie’s Cathedral are running a **JOURNEY IN FAITH** course for those who want to become Catholic, for adult Catholics who have not been Confirmed, and for Catholics who want to learn more about the faith. Registration will take place at 3:30pm on Saturday 18th October.

There will be a day on **LECTIO DIVINA** from 10am to 3pm on Saturday 1st November at St Francis led by Deacon Stephen Parker. The day will be a gentle introduction to exploring lectio to enrich your spiritual life using scripture, music and art. Bring a packed lunch. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. For more details, contact Stephen on [gurric@sky.com](mailto:gurric@sky.com).

There will be a meeting to continue the development of **PASTORAL MINISTRIES** for the Diocese. at 7pm on Friday 7th November at the Hallam Pastoral Centre. Anyone interested in synodality is welcome but please complete the 4-week course at [www.youtube.com/@School-for-Synodality](http://www.youtube.com/@School-for-Synodality) before the meeting. Contact [formation-mission@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:formation-mission@hallam-diocese.com) for more information.

Bishop Ralph will celebrate our final Jubilee Mass this holy year for those who serve others across the diocese. Everyone who volunteers their time in service to others is invited to a Mass of **THANKSGIVING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS** at 11am on Saturday 15th November at Immaculate Conception Church, Rotherham. The National Jubilee Icon will also be on display. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

The Diocese have arranged an **ADVENT RETREAT** for young people aged 15+ from Friday 5th December (after school) to Saturday 6th December at Savio House, Bollington. See the poster in the narthx for more details or email [youth@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:youth@hallam-diocese.com) for a booking form.

There are blank **READING, WELCOMING AND TEA/COFFEE ROTAS** for October to December in the narthex. Please sign up. If you've not been involved before, please feel free to give it a try. If you are a new volunteer, please add your email address.

**CHURCH FLOWERS.** Fresh flowers in church enhance our weekly worship. We need new recruits to help with the flower arrangements, otherwise we may have to switch to artificial flowers. No experience is needed and support will be given. For more information, contact Paula Goodfellow-Coates on [paulagoodfellow@btinternet.com](mailto:paulagoodfellow@btinternet.com).

Please donate **SUGAR AND HOT CHOCOLATE** (to be made with hot water).for St. Wilfrid's Centre.

The **MASS READINGS**:

* 2 Kings 5: 14-17
* Psalm 98
* 2 Timothy 2: 8-13
* Luke 17: 11-19

**SCRIPTURE NOTE**

We see why the story of the cure of Naaman the leper has been chosen as our first reading today: in the Gospel reading we find another cure of a foreigner, and not an ordinary foreigner, but a hated foreigner. There was a cordial hatred between Jews and Samaritans: for the Jews, the Samaritans were a wretched hybrid race, who accepted only part of the Jewish Bible, and had their own ideas about the coming Messiah. Yet Luke has already recounted the story of the Good Samaritan, who succours the wounded traveller who had been neglected by Jewish priest and Levite. Now only a Samaritan comes back to thank Jesus for the cure from leprosy. Samaritans are the foreigners geographically nearest to Jesus, but hated by the Jews. If the Samaritans can set an example to the Jews, so can many other foreigners. In his initial proclamation Jesus promises salvation to the gentiles, and Luke misses no opportunity to show us gentiles ripe for salvation: the centurion of Capernaum who built the synagogue and whose son is cured, the guests for the banquet called in from highways and byways. Luke is preparing for his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, where the Good News will spread to the ends of the earth, even to Rome itself.

Christians believe that no race is superior to another. Why?

**REFLECTION** Gratitude

Once there was a young man who had never thought of giving blood. But then his father got very ill and was hospitalised. One day the son was sitting by his father’s bedside as he was getting a blood transfusion. As he watched the blood flowing into his father’s veins, he suddenly realised that someone had donated the blood that was now keeping his father alive. Straightaway he made up his mind to become a donor, and he was as good as his word. Many are willing to avail of the generosity of others, but few are willing to give something back. This is why gratitude is so important. It makes us want to give something back.

**PARISH PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, pour down on our Church your Holy Spirit, the fire of your love. Give us the courage, the wisdom and the faith to be salt for the earth and light for the world.

Help us to build warm and welcoming communities of faith in our families, our neighbourhoods, our Parish. May we carry the Good News by word and action into all our environments, especially those which are hostile and hurting.

Together with Mary, the first evangeliser we entrust all our efforts into the care of the Divine Spirit, who fills and renews the face of the earth.

Amen.