

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service has ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make straight a highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear; say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering his lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 84:9-14

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
And peace shall follow his steps.

Second Reading St Peter 3:8-14

A Reading from the second letter of St Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised; the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:1-8

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts, and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS – FOURTH WORLD DAY OF THE POOR “Stretch forth your hand to the poor” (Sir 7:32)

4. Encountering the poor and those in need needs constantly challenges us and forces us to think. How can we help to eliminate or at least alleviate their marginalization and suffering? How can we help them in their spiritual need? The Christian community is called to be involved in this kind of sharing and to recognise that it cannot be delegated to others. In order to help the poor, we ourselves need to live the experience of evangelical poverty. We cannot feel “alright” when any member of the human family is left behind and in the shadows. The silent cry of so many poor men, women, and children should find the people of God at the forefront, always and everywhere, in efforts to give the a voice, to protect and support them in the face of hypocrisy and so many unfulfilled promises, and to invite them to share in the life of the community. The Church certainly has no comprehensive solutions to propose, but by the grace of Christ she can offer her witness and her gestures of charity. She likewise feels compelled to speak out on behalf of those who lack life's basic necessities. For the Christian people, to remind everyone of the great value of the common good is a vital commitment, expressed in the effort to ensure that no one whose human dignity is violated in its basic needs will be forgotten.

5. The ability to stretch forth our hand shows that we possess an innate capacity to act in ways that GIVE MEANING TO LIFE. How many outstretched hands do we see every day! Sadly, it is more and more the case that the frenetic pace of life sucks us into a whirlwind of indifference, to the point that we no longer know how to recognise the good silently being done each day and with great generosity all around us. Only when something happens that upsets the course of our lives do our eyes become capable of seeing the goodness of the saints “next door”, of “those who, living in our midst, reflect God's presence” (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 7), but without fanfare. Bad news fills pages of newspapers, websites and television screens, to the point that evil seems to reign supreme. But that is not the case. To be sure, malice and violence, abuse and corruption abound, but life is interwoven too with acts of respect and generosity that not only compensate for evil, but inspire us to take an extra step and fill our hearts with hope.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT B 6/12/2020

<u>Saturday</u>	6.00pm	Brian Nuttall RIP
<u>Sunday</u>	9.30am	People of the Parish
<u>Sunday</u>	11.30am	People of the Parish
<u>Tuesday</u>	8.00am	<u>Holy Souls</u>
<u>Wednesday</u>	8.00am	<u>Holy Souls</u>
<u>Thursday</u>	8.00am	Brian Nuttall RIP
<u>Friday</u>	10.00am	Private Intention BLESSED SACRAMENT

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT YEAR B

SATURDAY	6.00PM	RICHARD ARCHER RIP
SUNDAY	9.30AM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
SUNDAY	11.30AM	MICHAEL PENNINGTON RIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Face Masks - All those who are attending churches must wear a face covering unless they are exempt from doing so. This is for the good of all who gather in the church for Mass as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from differing households who they do not normally meet.

HOSPITAL - In the meantime, Priests will only go into the hospital in response to a request from the hospital switchboard or ward staff. Anyone in the hospital that requires a visit from a Priest should please go through the nurse or switchboard. This will be in an emergency only. There will be no Holy Communion rounds until further notice.

To book seat(s) at Mass online, please visit our website

www.barnsleynorth.hallam-diocese.com

Follow the instructions. You can also call or email the parish office.

You can also access our weekly newsletter online.

**Thank you to all our parishioners for your generous offertory donations.
Thank you.**

PLEASE AFTER MASS

**WE ARE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCE –
FROM COMING INTO CHURCH TO LEAVING THE CHURCH**

St Teresa's

The Presbytery, 1 Bloomfield Rise, Darton S75 5AB

Blessed Sacrament

Matlock Road Athersley S71 3SG

St Mary Magdalene's

Prospect St. Cudworth S72 8JS

Priests: Fr. Peter Iwuoha CM

Fr Jude Lemeh CM

The Presbytery, Prospect Street, Cudworth S72 8JS

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2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*