

First Reading Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11
A Reading from the prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation....., he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Psalm Lk 1:46-50. 53-54

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy.

Second Reading St Paul 5:16-24
A Reading from the First letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Message of Pope Francis cont.
The present experience has challenged many of our assumptions. We feel poorer and less self-sufficient because we have come to sense our limitations and the restriction of our freedom. The loss of employment, and of opportunities to be close to our loved ones and our regular acquaintances, suddenly opened our eyes to horizons that we had long since taken for granted. Our spiritual and material resources were called into question and we found ourselves experiencing fear. In the new silence of our homes, we rediscovered the importance of simplicity and keeping our eyes fixed on the essentials. We came to realize how much we need a new sense of fraternity, for mutual help and esteem. Now is a good time to recover "the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world... We have had enough of immorality and the mockery of ethics, goodness, faith and honesty... When the foundations of social life are corroded, what ensues are battles over conflicting interests, new forms of violence, and brutality, and obstacles to the growth of a genuine culture of care for the environment" (*Laudato Si'* 229) In a word, until we revive our sense of responsibility for our neighbour and for every person, grave economic, financial and political crises will continue.

Alleluia, Alleluia
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor
Alleluia!

Gospel John 1:6-6, 19-28

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

A man came, sent by God. He came as a witness, as a witness to the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

6. A hand held out is a sign; a sign that immediately speaks of closeness, solidarity and love. In these months, when the whole world was prey to a virus that brought pain, death, despair and bewilderment, how many outstretched hands have we seen! The outstretched hands of physicians who cared about each patient and tried to find a cure. The outstretched hands of nurses who worked overtime, for hours on end, to look after the sick. The outstretched hands of the administrators who procured the means to save as many lives as possible. The outstretched hands of pharmacists who at personal risk responded to people's pressing needs. The outstretched hands of priests whose hearts broke as they offered a blessing. The outstretched hands of the volunteers who helped people living on the streets and those with a home yet nothing to eat. The outstretched hands of men and women who worked to provide essential services and security. We could continue to speak of so many other outstretched hands, all of which make up a great litany of good works. Those hands defied contagion and fear in order to offer support and consolation.

7. This pandemic arrived suddenly and caught us unprepared, sparking a powerful sense of bewilderment and helplessness. Yet hands never stopped reaching out to the poor. This has made us all the more aware of the presence of the poor in our midst and their need for help. Structures of charity, works of mercy, cannot be improvised. Constant organisation and training is needed, based on the realisation of our own need for an outstretched hand...

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT B 13/12/2020

<u>Saturday</u>	6.00pm	Richard Archer RIP
<u>Sunday</u>	9.30am	People of the Parish
<u>Sunday</u>	11.30am	Michael Pennington RIP
<u>Tuesday</u>	10.00am	Tony Brookes RIP St. Ter.
<u>Wednesday</u>	10.45am	Funeral Mass Irene Liversidge St. M.M.
<u>Friday</u>	11.30am	Funeral Service Anne Bamforth Bl. Sac.

FORTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT YEAR B

SATURDAY	6.00PM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
SUNDAY	9.30AM	TOM HOLLEY
SUNDAY	11.30AM	ANNE BAMFORTH 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 125 Club will run from January 2020 to December, can we please have subscriptions before the end of January. Thank you.

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

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CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

VIGIL MASS

6.00 pm – St. Teresa's

6.00 pm – St Mary Magdalene

7.00 pm Blessed Sacrament.

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

9.00 am St. Teresa's

10.00 am Blessed Sacrament