



caritas

diocese of hallam

promoting care and social action

The **Good Shepherd** Appeal 2024

Information Pack for
Primary & Secondary Schools

Lent – May 2024





Welcome to the Good Shepherd Appeal fundraising pack for 2024!

The Good Shepherd Appeal has a long-standing tradition in our Diocese, and is the **key fundraising initiative for Caritas Hallam** (formerly known as Hallam Caring Services). Caritas is the *social action* arm of the Diocese of Hallam, offering ‘cradle to grave’ help and support to the people of South Yorkshire.

Although Caritas also supports many different social action projects around the Diocese, the **Good Shepherd Appeal** primarily fundraises for the provision of **Counselling Services in Schools**.

These services are used *in schools by schools*, to benefit:

- **the children** of those schools,
- **the families** of those children, and
- **the staff** working with the children.

Have no doubt: your fundraising to support the work of Caritas Hallam is very much needed! The children and families of our own communities, need you. Please help us to raise these vital funds so that we can meet the ever increasing mental health needs of our communities.



Thank you!



Good Shepherd Appeal 2024 – *this year's theme:*



Every Day Miracles

For this year's Appeal, we encourage both Primary and Secondary Catholic Schools to:

- **Discuss** how God works miracles in our lives, every day, by using the people around us; that love is the 'currency' of miracles – when we step out in the name of love and service of others, God will use that to bring about positive changes to people's lives.
- **Explore** the lives of three Saints, all called Teresa: St Teresa of Ávila (1515-1582), St Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897); and St Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)
- **Fundraise** for the work of Caritas in the Schools and communities of our Diocese.

A full Resources Pack will be made available from 1st February 2024

As usual, we are recommending a 3 day plan during Lent focusing on:

Day 1 – Good Shepherd Learning

Day 2 – Good Shepherd Adoration

Day 3 – Good Shepherd Giving



Day 1 – *Good Shepherd Learning*

“Never worry about numbers.

Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you.”

(St Teresa of Calcutta)

The focus for Day 1 is to explore the idea of ‘every day miracles’, and to learn to recognise how God works miracles in our lives: almost always through the people we have around us.

We will be exploring:

- **How can we spot an ‘every day miracle’?**
- **What every day miracle stories can we share?**
- **How can we be an instrument of an every day miracle for others?**

We will be sharing Caritas stories of every day miracles. We will also be looking for inspiration from the saints, especially from:

- **St Teresa of Ávila** (1515-1582) – and her powerful prayer
- **St Thérèse of Lisieux** (1873-1897) – and her ‘Little Way’
- **St Teresa of Calcutta** (1910-1997) – and her love of those on her doorstep.





Day 2 – *Good Shepherd Adoration*

“Prayer is not asking.

**Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition,
and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”**

(St Teresa of Calcutta)



On this day, we are encouraging schools to engage with Adoration of Jesus-in-the-Eucharist, with a prayerful theme around blessing our schools and communities with the ability to love and serve one another, and blessing those in need with one of God’s ‘every day miracles’.



Schools are encouraged to contact their local priests to see how Adoration of Jesus-in-the-Eucharist can happen. It may be possible for priests to bring the Blessed Sacrament into schools, but equally, classes / year groups are encouraged to travel to local churches to experience Adoration in these sacred places.

Schools are also encouraged to allow their students to experience silence before the Blessed Sacrament.



Day 3 – *Good Shepherd Giving*



**“Not all of us can do great things.
But we can do small things with great love”**
(St Teresa of Calcutta)

What small things can you do, with love, to raise some vital funds for the every day work in Schools of Caritas Hallam?

On Day 3, we invite all schools to raise some money for the Counselling Services offered by Caritas Hallam to our families, schools and our wider communities. We hope that this fundraising enables your school communities to come together and witness some every day miracles while they are doing it!

Doing things with love, and in the service of others is a good place to start. We will, of course, be making some fundraising suggestions in our Resources Pack for Day 3, but we know that you will also get creative with your own ideas!

You can share your every day miracles with us by email to:

GoodShepherd@hallam-diocese.com



Good Shepherd Appeal Celebration

**“If we have no peace,
it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.”**
(St Teresa of Calcutta)

This year’s **Good Shepherd Appeal Celebration** is being planned by the Chaplains and RE Coordinators of the CMATs of St Clare and St Francis.

It is being held at St Peter-in-Chains, which will offer many schools an opportunity to go on pilgrimage to another part of our Diocese.

The date is yet to be confirmed, but we will aim for mid-May – as usual.

Other Key Dates:

- 1st-6th February: Resources Pack for Day 1, Day 2 and Day 3 become available
- 14th February: Ash Wednesday
- Lent: And time to hold your Day 1, Day 2 and Day 3 events
- 31st March: Easter Sunday
- 1st May: Time to start sending in your certificates of fundraising.

