

## Sacred Heart, Hull

*Southcoates Lane, Hull, East Yorkshire*



### **Part 1: Core data**

1.1 Listed grade: *Not listed*

1.2 Conservation area: *No*

1.3 Architect: Charles Donald Allderidge

1.4 Date(s): *1926-7*

1.5 Date of visit: *10 October 2007*

1.6 Name of report author: *Nicholas Antram*

1.7 Name of parish priest and/or contact(s) made on site: *Unaccompanied*

1.8 Associated buildings: *Presbytery (to west of the church) & parish hall (to the south)*

1.9 Bibliographic references:

*Middlesbrough Diocesan Yearbook 2007*

Carson, Robert: *The First 100 Years – A History of the Diocese of Middlesbrough 1878-1978*

Pevsner, N. & Neave, D.: *The Buildings of England, Yorkshire: York and the East Riding*, Penguin Books 1995

## **Part 2: Analysis**

### **2.1 Statement of Importance**

*A modest church, not unattractive but of little architectural merit.*

### **2.2 Historical background**

East Hull expanded greatly after World War One, such that Bishop Lacy erected a new parish of the Sacred Heart and a chapel-of-ease dedicated to St Francis. There were an estimated 2,000 Catholics in the new parish and Sacred Heart church was the gift of Frank Finn, J.P., K.C.S.G. (Lord Mayor of Hull and Catholic benefactor), in memory of his Catholic priest brother, Father William Finn, killed in the war.

### **2.3 Setting**

Southcoates is an Edwardian and later suburb about two miles northeast of the city centre. The church stands set back, on the south side of Southcoates Lane, close to its corner with Cundall Close. Southcoates Lane is quite wide, tree lined, with modest bay-fronted terraced housing. The church is set back behind a small garden of lawn and hedges, shared with the contemporary presbytery which stands to the west. The road frontage is enclosed by modern period-style railings and a timber-framed lychgate with tiled gabled roof, of rural character and looking somewhat out of place in its suburban setting.

### **2.4 Description of the building and its principal fittings and furnishings**

Sacred Heart church faces south but references here follow conventional liturgical orientation.

A modest red brick building with a sparing use of stone for window surrounds, wall copings etc. Slate roof of simple gabled form over nave, sanctuary (with small canted projection). Two prominent roof vents on the main ridge. Later aisles, sacristy etc with flat roofs and parapets. The west front has a castellated porch of oddly tall proportions, with a broad segment-headed five-light window above with flat tracery of minimally Gothic character. The gable above is taken up to a squared off top, with a statue in a corbelled-out niche with a canopy and cupola top. Plain mullioned windows at the lower level and to the side aisles. Foundation stone to the right of the porch. The canted sanctuary apse has large cross-windows to the outer flanks, the centre section blind.

Internally the pushing out of aisles has made the church quite dark. Heavy square piers support the main roof structure and these are plastered and have a stop-chamfer detail to the angles. The main roof has heavy arched trusses on corbels and a boarded roof, ceiled across at collar level. All is painted. Shallow transverse arches and flat painted ceiling to the aisles. West gallery. The sanctuary is simply and attractively furnished with a marble clad table altar and stone and marble communion rail with bold trefoiled arches. Plain octagonal stone font placed in front of the pews on the left-hand side. Octagonal canopy suspended over the altar. Small chapels at the east end of the aisles and a Lady Chapel at the west end of the north aisle. Stained glass with figures of saints in the east windows and decorative stained glass embellishments to other windows, none of it of significant quality.