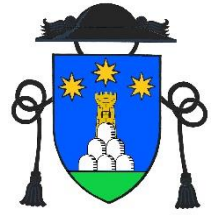




# THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton  
 Deacon: Rev. John Walsh  
 Presbytery: Clarence House, 2 Clarence Street, Halifax HX1 5DH  
 T: 01422 352141 E: office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk  
 Website: [www.stmaryshalifax.com](http://www.stmaryshalifax.com)  
 St Mary's Primary Academy: 01422 362365



## MASS SCHEDULE AND DEVOTIONS

**Perpetual Novena:**  
 Wednesday after 9:30am  
 Mass

**Holy Rosary:**  
 Saturday after 12:15pm  
 Mass

**Devotions to the Sacred Heart:**  
 First Friday of the month  
 after 9:30am Mass

**Our Lady's Lamp this week burns for:**

Ellerie Carroll (Sick)



**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**  
 Saturday 11:00am – 12:00pm  
 at St Mary's

**Confessions:**  
 Saturday - 11:00am-12:00pm – St Mary's  
 Sunday - 5:30pm–6:00pm – St Alban's  
 or on Request

**Marriages and Baptisms**  
 by appointment  
 See the priest after Mass

SUNDAY 8 <sup>th</sup> SPETEMBER	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30am 11:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Bryan & Sheila Greenwood Marie Finn Polish Mass People of the Parish
MONDAY 9 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	No Mass		
TUESDAY 10 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	7:00pm	St Alban's	Mr & Mrs Frank Matthews
WEDNESDAY 11 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Denis Smyth
THURSDAY 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FUNERAL SERVICE</b> The Most Holy Name of Mary	<b>12:00noon</b> 9:30am	St Mary's St Alban's	<b>Donald Anthony Skirrow</b> Brian Wilkinson
FRIDAY 13 <sup>th</sup> <i>Exposition from 8:00am- 8pm</i>	St John Chrysostom	7:00am	St Mary's	Gerard Newham
SATURDAY 14 <sup>th</sup> <i>Exposition from 8:00am- 7pm</i>	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Sunday Vigil	12:15pm 7:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Edward Hintze Tony Lennon

READERS ROTA			
	THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY
9:30am	Isaac Mellor	9:30am	Kieron Green
11:00am	Shaun Sandhu	11:00am	Nicholas Aigbogun
6:00pm	Judith Macdonald	6:00pm	Richard Siebierski

**PRAYER LIST:** Mary Staden, Frank Behan, David Stanton, Gerard James, David Sutcliffe, Gladys Megson, John Wallis, William Long, Sonya Box, Julie Simpson, Charlotte Fitzpatrick, Peter Smith, Julie Hall, Larry Byrne, Kathleen Hannan, Nancy McGrath, Eleanor Foran, Rita Baxendale and all the sick and housebound of the parish, their families and those who care for them.  
If you know of anyone in the parish who is ill or is housebound please let Fr Hilton or Deacon John know so that a visit can be arranged.

**MASSES RECEIVED:**

Margaret Toolan, Nat Smyth, Sheila Greenwood, Anne Smyth, Marjorie & Gordon Ellis, Denis Smyth, Bryan Greenwood, Adrian Sutcliffe, Tomasz & Irene Nalepa, B.CA Leisure Staff, Joy & Annie, Joseph & Lilly, Mary Brook, Maria (Health & Wellbeing), Ellerie Carroll (Sick)

**'40 HOURS' DEVOTION**

The extended period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, as requested by the Bishop, will take place this Friday and Saturday to pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

**Benediction will take place at 6:45pm on Saturday evening.**

**Friday 8:00am – 8:00pm | Saturday 8:00am – 7:00pm**

**Please make every effort to pop in and pray at least once over the two days.** The rota is there to ensure that the Lord is not left unattended, not to limit how many people are there.

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY – EDUCATION SUNDAY**

There will be a retiring collection today for the Catholic Education Service.

**200 CLUB AUGUST DRAW**

1st prize Barbara Gregson 26 | 2nd prize Patricia Ellison 12 | 3rd prize Jeanette Robert's 38

**S.V.P.**

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 24th September 6 pm St Alban's Parish Room

**NEWS FROM THE CATHOLIC CLUB**

The next entertainment will be the musical duo, The Bradley Brothers, on Saturday 14th September. 8 till late - all welcome.

**ANNUAL BATLEY TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION**

Monday 7 October 2024, 7:30pm. St Mary's Catholic Primary School processing to the nearby St Mary of the Angels' Catholic Church. Led by Mgr Paul Grogan, and the sermon preached by Fr Simon Lodge, the Torchlight Procession is a fine expression of our Catholic faith and gives honour to Mary, Mother of God. Refreshments will be served in the parish hall afterwards.

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY ACADEMY OPEN DAYS**

Come and See for new starter children for Sept 2025 are as follows: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Times 9.30am-11.30am and 1.15pm-3.00pm.

**NEWS FROM THE PARISH LADIES GUILD**

The next meeting of the PLG will be on Thursday September 12th at St Alban's church at 7pm.  
October 18<sup>th</sup> "The 3 Pitches", a trio of local ladies singing modern day songs. Light refreshments after.  
Tickets £7.50 each.

**PROGRESSING SUPPER FOR THE BETHLEHEM CARE TRUST**

The tickets for the supper are on sale today at the back of Church £25 each.

**RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS**

Last week's loose collection was **£662.39** Total Approx. **£1,356.39** (Inc. standing orders & card)

## FROM YOUR PARISH PREIST

You probably noticed that in last week's guest edition - '*From your Bishop*' - that in his letter regarding the Holy Year of Jubilee 2025, His Lordship wrote that he will be coming to St Mary's next year to say Mass and to impart to those present 'the Papal Blessing with the ascribed plenary indulgence'. Some of you may be wondering what this means and so perhaps this is a good opportunity to say a few words about what an indulgence actually is. This ancient practice of the Church is much misunderstood, primarily due to hundreds of years of protestant propaganda, or "misinformation" as I believe they call it these days. An indulgence is a spiritual gift that results in the remission of the temporal punishment due, to sin that has already been forgiven. Okay... what does that mean? Basically, indulgences are all about forgiveness and wiping away the consequences of sin.

There are two kinds of punishment attached to sin, eternal and temporal. If the sin is mortal (serious, grave) sin, we lose the friendship of God and with it the life of divine grace within. If we are not restored to grace before death by means of confession of mortal sin, our separation from God is eternal. It was to repair this kind of sin that Jesus became man and was crucified. As God His, sacrifice was infinitely meritorious, as Man He was able to represent us. Thus He could atone for our mortal sins, which are not just beyond our power of reparation, but infinitely beyond it.

Venial (less serious) sin, which has no 'eternal' punishment attached to it, also disturbs the right order within us and in the order of justice in general. We all experience these temporal (worldly) consequences of sin, both personally and socially. Sin changes us and like a pebble in a pond these changes have ripple effects beyond us. Not only must we be sorry for our sins, but we must be more thoroughly converted to the Lord, and demonstrate that conversion by our actions. So, while absolution in confession forgives the eternal *guilt* of sin, it does not necessarily remove all the *consequences* of it. For that which it does not repair, we must offer restitution through prayer, penance etc., or after death by being purified in purgatory.

What an Indulgence does is to take an occasion (a certain prayer, a penance, a charitable work or in our case a special occasion such as the Jubilee Year) and add to it the merits of Jesus Christ. This can either partially, or under certain conditions, totally remit the 'temporal punishment' due to our sins. That means that the consequences our sins are wiped out and any need for purgatory due to our sin is totally remitted. We can obtain an indulgence either for ourselves, or for the soul of someone in purgatory.

An example that perhaps illustrates these points might help. A child playing with a ball breaks a window at home. Contrite they go to their father, who forgives them. However, despite the forgiveness the window is still broken and still needs to be repaired. Since the child can't pay in full for a new window, the father requires them to forego some pocket money for several weeks, but the father, will pay the rest. This balances justice and mercy. To ask the child to do nothing, when it is possible for them to make some reparation, would not be in accordance with the truth, or even the child's own good. Yet, even this worldly debt is beyond the child's means. Therefore, from his own goodness the father generously makes up what the child cannot provide themselves. *This is indulgence*. Unlike protestant theologies that say "we are washed in the blood of the Lamb and there is nothing left to do," the teaching of the Church has always respected the natural order of justice, as Jesus clearly did in the Gospels, yet recognises that we cannot foresee or undo all the consequences of our own sin. God in His mercy will satisfy justice for what we cannot repair and in His love wipes away what is lacking in us... Indulgences are important, beautiful and another sign of God's merciful love.

God bless you all.  
*Fr Hilton*

Mass Offerings, Notices and News Items for the Parish Bulletin should be given to Fr Hilton or Deacon John by Wednesday evening. Notices and News Items but not Mass Intentions can be sent to John Coates (07842 066450 or [jbcoates@btinternet.com](mailto:jbcoates@btinternet.com)) again by Wednesday evening. The Parish Safeguarding Representative is TBC