



THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton

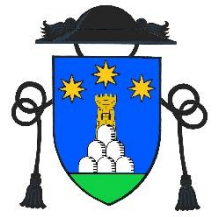
Deacons: Rev. John Walsh, Rev. Paul Coates

Presbytery: Clarence House, 2 Clarence Street, Halifax HX1 5DH

T: 01422 352141 E: office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Website: 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:

A private intention



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

The month of November is dedicated to: The Holy Souls in Purgatory

SUNDAY 24 th NOVEMBER	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Adrian Sutcliffe Mamerto Damolo, Ellie Chua & Romeo Garcia John Mikulec
MONDAY 25 th	St Catherine of Alexandria	No Mass		
TUESDAY 26 th	Feria	7:00pm	St Alban's	Joseph Patrick McCabe
WEDNESDAY 27 th	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Catherine Lopuszniak (A)
THURSDAY 28 th	Feria	9:30am	St Alban's	People of the Parish
FRIDAY 29 th	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Nat Smyth
SATURDAY 30 th	St Andrew the Apostle	12:15pm	St Mary's	Fr Hubert McNamara

READERS ROTA

	THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY
9:30am	Gabrielle Colleran	9:30am	Kieron Green
11:00am	Nicholas Aigbogun	11:00am	Joe Coneran
6:00pm	Judith McDonald	6:00pm	Richard Siebierski

PRAYER LIST: Tony Hintze Mary Staden Peter Staden, 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:

Rev. Paul Coates Intentions, Joseph McCabe, Tomasz & Irene Nalepa, John & Annie Stanton, Jim Hargreves, Mamerto Damolo, Ellie Chua & Romeo Garcia

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Frank Behan who has died and for all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To the Reverend Deacon Paul Coates who was ordained by Bishop Stock yesterday in St Mary's. A huge thank you to all those involved with yesterday's celebrations and to all who helped to make this event so special. Cleaners, flowers, choir, servers... you all know who you are.
We wish Deacon Paul every blessing in his new ministry and assure him of our love and prayers.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

NB: Christmas Mass Times will be slightly different this year. Please take away one of the flyers and put it on the fridge. Feel free to take some for friends and family.

THE PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Will take place on Thursday 19th of December at 6:30pm. This will be followed by a buffet in the Catholic Club. Get this in your diary and bring friends and family with you.

ADVENT DEANERY DAY OF CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be heard from 9:00am until 4:00pm in St Mary's on Saturday 14th of December.

PARISH LADIES GUILD

A big thank you to everyone who attended the parish ladies guild afternoon tea at the Catholic club, and contributed in any way to make it a huge success. It raised £1000. The only raffle prize not claimed was a blue ticket 726-730. Please see Jean Wilkinson to claim the prize.

200 CLUB NEWS

We have recently renewed our small lottery licence with Calderdale Council. As such, there are some administrative changes that need to be made to the 200 Club to ensure that we are complying with all regulations. The next draw, therefore will now take place in January and the prizes will roll over until then.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

There will be a second collection today for 'National Youth Sunday'

THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Will take place on Thursday 19th December at 3.30pm after school till approx. 5.30pm. Donations of cakes, buns, chocolates, alcoholic bottles, bric-a-brac and toys all needed for our stalls and tombola. All welcome to come and attend and support the school, volunteers also welcome to help out on any of our stalls too. Please contact the PTFA via email: ptfa@st-marys-halifax.calderdale.sch.uk or contact Joanna Binns (07932 595955) with any queries or if you would like to help

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

Last week's loose collection was **£633.83** Total Approx. **£1408.83** (Inc. standing orders & card)

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

The final Sunday of the liturgical year is dedicated to Christ the King. One of the earliest forms of Christian proclamation, from the very beginning, was "Jesus is Lord." This was meant to be a provocative statement, since Caesar was customarily described by Roman citizens as the "Lord of the world". The first Christians were saying that Jesus is the one who must in every sense command, direct, and order our lives, not some politician or earthly ruler.

This year in particular, it seems to me that this great feast has a renewed importance and resonance. At a time when conflicts rage, nations seem divided and the future of the world feels precarious, the proclamation of Christ as King offers us a reassuring perspective. Unlike prime ministers and presidents, who may wield power for personal gain or who can be swayed by the tide of opinion, Christ's kingship is grounded in love, justice and mercy. His rule is not marked by oppression or tyranny but by the gentle invitation to follow Him, to keep His commandments and to participate in His mission of the building up of the Kingdom.

In times of political strife and global unrest, we can find comfort in knowing that Christ reigns supreme, transcending the limitations and failures of human governance. We are reminded of His radical approach to leadership. He did not come to establish a kingdom through might or fear but rather through service and sacrifice. The ultimate demonstration of His kingship was not found in a throne or a crown but on the cross, where He laid down His life for humanity. This act of love serves as a powerful reminder that true authority is always rooted in humility and self-giving.

All that being said, the ultimate Lordship of Christ must, therefore, have profound consequences for our own lives as individuals. Is Jesus truly the King of your life? That's the hard question which this feast raises. To proclaim Christ as King is to acknowledge His authority over every aspect of our lives. It is to accept that His ways are higher than our ways and that His vision for humanity transcends the limitations of our understanding. When we ask ourselves if Christ is truly the King of our lives, we are called to examine the areas where we may be hesitant to fully surrender to His will. Are there parts of our lives where we cling to control or allow worldly influences to dictate our choices? Are there certain precepts or teachings of Jesus' that we reject or ignore? If there are, we need to work on this quickly – the Lord wants not just some of our love, but all of it, as He reminds us, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments". So, as you reflect on the question, "Is Christ truly the King of my life?" take a moment to invite Him into the depths of your heart. This invitation requires us to be vulnerable, to let go of our fears and insecurities, and to trust in His guidance. It is a call to surrender our lives to Him, allowing His love to transform us from within.

When we affirm Christ as King, we are reminded that He is ultimately in control. This does not mean that we remain passive or indifferent to the world around us. On the contrary, it compels us to engage with the world, to work towards justice and peace, and to be a voice of compassion in times of conflict. We are called to be the hands and feet of Christ, embodying His love in every interaction and decision.

As we celebrate this feast, let it serve as a reminder that we are part of a greater narrative—one that ultimately leads to restoration and peace. Christ the King reigns not only in heaven but also in our hearts and in the hearts of all who seek His truth. May we find reassurance in His promise that He is with us always, guiding us through the stormy seas of our time and inviting us to be beacons of hope in a world that so desperately needs it.

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) again by Wednesday evening. The Parish Safeguarding Representative is TBC