



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

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday 11:00am

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:

'The Pope and the Clergy'



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Saturday 11:00am –
 12:00pm

at St Mary's

Confessions:

Saturday

11:00am-12:00pm

at St Mary's

Sunday

5:30pm–6:00pm

at St Alban's

or on Request

Marriages and Baptisms

by appointment

See the priest after Mass

The month of June is dedicated to: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

SUNDAY 14 th JUNE	11 th Sunday on Ordinary Time	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Michelle Kirbyson Moore Canon Francis Sammons People of the Parish
MONDAY 15 th	Feria	No Public Mass		
TUESDAY 16 th	Feria	No Public Mass		
WEDNESDAY 17 th	Feria	10:00am (School)	St Mary's	Micheal and Timothy Child
THURSDAY 18 th	Feria	9:30am	St Alban's	Marjorie & Gordon Ellis
FRIDAY 19 th	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Rev. M. Murray (YB)
SATURDAY 20 th	Feria	12:15pm	St Mary's	In thanksgiving
	Vigil Mass	4:00pm	St Mary's	Polish Mass

READERS ROTA

	THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY
9:30am	Lily Hymas	9:30am	John Greenwood
11:00am	Tim Widdop	11:00am	Albina Karuna
6:00pm	Judith MacDonald	6:00pm	Rachel Fitzpatrick

PRAYER LIST: Sadie Mills, David Stanton, Kathleen Durkin, Tony Hintze, Mary Staden, Peter Staden, David Sutcliffe, William Long, Julie Simpson, Charlotte Fitzpatrick, Peter Smith, Julie Hall, Sonya Box, Kathleen Hannan, Nancy McGrath, Eleanor Foran, Michael McDonnell 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/Paul know so that a visit can be arranged.

MASSES RECEIVED

James Baldwin, Mary Dernnison x 3, Donor's intention x 2, Mick Parker R.I.P., Isabelle Hughes R.I.P., Micheal and Timothy Child, Thanksgiving x 2, Donors of the Bethlehem Care Hospice Trust, Michelle Kirbyson Moore, Ken & Rose Wedding Ann. & Annie Rothery & Rose O'Callahan, VP R.I.P

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATION MASS & PARISH PARTY

There will be a special Mass to celebrate all our children who have made their First Confession, First Communion or been Confirmed this year on Sunday 21st of June at 11:00am followed by a party at the Catholic Club. At the Mass our children will be presented with their certificates and gifts. All are welcome to attend.

CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE CATHOLIC MISSION AND PROVISION IN HALIFAX

As we reflect upon the future mission and pastoral provision of the Catholic community in Halifax, parishioners are warmly invited to attend a consultation evening.

Date: Wednesday 17 June | **Time:** 6.30pm – 8.30pm | **Venue:** Sacred Heart, Sowerby Bridge

This will be an opportunity for us to come together in prayer, reflection and conversation as we consider the challenges and opportunities before us, listen to one another, and discern together how best to sustain and strengthen Catholic life and mission across our town for the future. Your presence, voice and prayerful participation are important as we seek to move forward together. All are welcome.

CANON MARTIN KELLY SILVER JUBILEE

Canon Martin Kelly celebrates his Silver Jubilee (25 years) as a priest this month and would like to extend an invite to the parishioners of St Mary's to a special Mass to celebrate the occasion. The Mass will take place on Friday 26th June at 7:00pm at St Patrick's church, Huddersfield.

MONSIGNOR PAUL OWENS RUBY JUBILEE

Similarly, Monsignor Paul Owens celebrates his Ruby Jubilee (40 years) as a priest this year and since he is retired from full time parochial ministry, I have invited him to celebrate his anniversary here at St Mary's. There will be a special Mass on Friday 24th of July at 7:00pm followed by a party at the Catholic Club. All are warmly invited to attend.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL

The School Summer Fayre will be taking place on Friday 10th July. The PTFA are again after donations of any alcoholic bottles or bric-a-brac and unwanted gifts for our two tombolas. All welcome to come and attend and support the school, volunteers also welcome to help out. Please contact the PTFA via email: ptfa@st-marys-halifax.calderdale.sch.uk or contact Joanna Binns: JBinns@st-marys-halifax.calderdale.sch.uk with any queries. Thank you for your continued support.

PARISH DONATIONS

I am very grateful to all of you for the regular financial contributions which you make to the parish. I would, however, really appreciate it if those parishioners who currently donate through the loose cash collection would consider changing, **not what you give, but how you give**, by switching to donating by regular standing order. Benefits would include reducing the risks associated with transporting large amounts of money and maintaining a regular level of parish income throughout the year. If you are a UK taxpayer, please complete the Gift Aid section of the form. By doing so, **your regular donation would be increased by 25% at no additional expense to you**. Based on the figures for the financial year 2025/26, the parish missed out on £4328.25 of Gift Aid that we could have claimed if people donated the same amount but just in a different way. – I have left standing order forms at the back.

BETHLEHEM CARE HOSPICE TRUST

Thank you all who attended the cheese and wine evening on the 29th of May. Many thanks also for the kind donations we received. We had a very enjoyable evening and raised £700!

REQUIEM MASS OF MARY DENNISON

Will take place on Monday 22nd June Corpus Christi Church, Leeds at 1:15pm. LS90HD

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

Last week's loose collection was **£845.19** Total Approx. **£1628.95** (Inc. standing orders & card)

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

This last week I have been glued to Pope Leo's historic visit to Spain. It is the first papal visit to the country in fifteen years and has drawn enormous crowds in Madrid, Barcelona, and the Canary Islands. The Holy Father has met young people, celebrated Mass with huge crowds, addressed the Spanish Parliament, visited projects serving the poor and met with the King and Queen. For those who have not yet had the opportunity, I would strongly encourage you to watch some of the events on YouTube. (Especially his encounter with a twelve-year-old blind girl named Valentina in Barcellona – it was just beautiful) There is something profoundly moving about seeing the Successor of St Peter surrounded by hundreds of thousands of people from every background and walk of life. Reading it in the bulletin is one thing. Seeing the crowds pray, sing, and celebrate the faith together is quite another.

One of the great blessings of a papal visit is that they remind us of something we can easily forget in our own local parish; the Church is truly universal. Every Sunday we gather in our own corner of the Lord's vineyard, but we belong to something far greater than this. We are members of a family that stretches across every continent, every language, every culture and every nation. The word "Catholic" itself means "universal". When we look at the scenes from Spain, we see that reality before our eyes. We see young and old, rich and poor, people from Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas united in the same faith, worshipping the same Lord, receiving the same sacraments, and professing the same Creed.

Watching more than a million people attend the Holy Father's Mass in Madrid I was reminded of the lovely line from Pope Pius XII encyclical letter *Mystici Corporis Christi* in which he wrote: "For nothing more glorious, nothing nobler, nothing surely more honourable can be imagined than to belong to the One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Church, in which we become members of one Body as venerable as it is unique; are guided by one supreme Head; are filled with one divine Spirit; are nourished during our earthly exile by one doctrine and one heavenly Bread, until at last we enter into the one, unending blessedness of heaven."

The Holy Father is doing more than just visiting another country. He is strengthening the bonds that unite Catholics throughout the world. He reminds us that our faith is larger than our parish, larger than our diocese, larger even than our country. We belong to the family of God spread throughout the earth. We are united not by nationality, politics, language, or culture, but by our faith in Jesus Christ. We share the same sacraments, the same Gospel, and the same hope of eternal life.

At a time when society often seems increasingly fragmented and divided, the Church offers a powerful witness to unity. Not uniformity mind, but unity. People from every nation and background gathered around Christ and sustained by the ministry of the successor of St Peter. As the Holy Father's visit comes to an end, let us pray for him and for his ministry. Let us also take the opportunity to deepen our appreciation for the gift of the Church. As you attend Mass today, remember that you are taking part in something far greater than a local gathering. You are joining yourself spiritually to more than a billion other Catholics throughout the whole world as together we offer to the Father, the sacrifice of perfect praise.

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 can be sent again by Wednesday evening to office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

The Parish Safeguarding Representative is Sharon Costello

Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404