



THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton

Parochial Administrator:

St Bernard's Halifax and St Theresa's Queensbury

Deacons: Rev. John Walsh, Rev. Paul Coates

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

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MASS SCHEDULE AND DEVOTIONS

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday
11:00am



Devotions to the Sacred Heart:

First Friday of the
month after 9:30am
Mass



Holy Rosary:

Saturday after 12:15pm
Mass



Perpetual Novena:

Wednesday after
9:30am Mass



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

Marriages and Baptisms

by appointment
See the priest after Mass



The month of August is dedicated to: The Immaculate Heart of Mary

SUNDAY 16th AUGUST	Assumption of the B.V.M.	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Maureen Riddeal John Wallis Priest's Intention
MONDAY 17th	Feria	No Mass		
TUESDAY 18th	Feria	7:00pm	St Alban's	People of the Parishes
WEDNESDAY 19th	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	John Davis (A)
THURSDAY 20th	St Bernard	9:30am	St Alban's	Imelda's Intentions
FRIDAY 21st	St Pius X	9:30am	St Mary's	Bindhu R.I.P.
SATURDAY 22nd	The Queenship of Our Lady	12:15pm	St Mary's	Christine Farrar
21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Vigil Mass	4:00pm	St Mary's	Polish Mass
	Vigil Mass	5:00pm	St Bernard's	Kathleen Walker

READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY			NEXT SUNDAY	
9:30am	Lily Hymas		9:30am	Nicholas Aigbogun
11:00am	Albina Karuna		11:00am	Anna Davie
6:00pm	Judith MacDonald		6:00pm	Frances Millington

PRAYER LIST: Maureen Brown, Brendan Fernandes, 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

Colbert Boothe R.I.P., Thanksgiving from the White family

THIS WEEK OUR LADY'S LAMP BURNS FOR: "In thanksgiving for her care"

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY - MELIA FUNERAL SERVICES

We are looking for someone to join our long-standing, family funeral business as a compassionate first point of contact for families, handling enquiries, computer-based data input, and supporting the administration of funeral arrangements. We are looking for someone proactive, self-sufficient and organised, with genuine compassion and warmth. Hours: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday - Friday. These hours can be discussed, with occasional flexibility required
To apply or make an enquiry please email anne@meliafunerals.com

ETERNAL REST: THE ART OF DYING WELL

Following on from the success of last year's catechetical sessions, I hope, time permitting, to offer similar sessions periodically in the months ahead. We all have very real questions about death. What happens when we die? What does Scripture teach about death? How do we prepare for the life to come? In September, we will be showing *Eternal Rest: The Art of Dying Well*, a four-part series exploring the Church's teaching on death and eternal life. It approaches these difficult questions with wisdom, truth, gentleness and compassion, helping us to think about death and prepare for it in the light of Jesus Christ, the Author of Life. The series consists of four half-hour programmes that will be shown at **6:00pm**.

Tuesday 8th September, St Alban's Hall

Episode 1: The Story of Death

Episode 2: The Afterlife

Tuesday 15th September, St Alban's Hall

Episode 3: The Hour of Our Death

Episode 4: The Faithful Departed

Through *Eternal Rest*, I hope that we can gain a deeper understanding of our faith and, above all, a greater sense of Christian peace and hope as we contemplate the life to come.

TUESDAY EVENING – LATIN MASS

From the first week of September, the Tuesday evening Mass will be said in Latin each week. A number of parishioners have asked me for this over the past few months, and I hope it will help us to grow in our appreciation of the Church's rich liturgical tradition and her universality. Simple response cards will be available at the back of St Alban's to help everyone follow and participate in the Mass.

NB: I should have made clear that this will be the New Rite of Mass and not according to the 1962 Missal. I apologise for the disappointment that this has caused.

HAPPY DAYS BREAKFAST CLUB

Our friendly, local homelessness charity, Happy Days, is running a new Breakfast Club campaign. By signing up to donate £11.11 a month, you'll provide 12 hot breakfasts every month for people facing homelessness, hardship, and food poverty. As a thank you for joining, you'll receive an exclusive Breakfast Club coaster. And if you name Clare O'Neill as your Happy Days referrer, she will have the chance to win a day off work. See: <https://happydaysuk.org/how-to-help/the-breakfast-club/>

BETHLEHEM CARE HOSPICE TRUST – FASHION SHOW

We are holding a fashion show at St Mary's primary school on 24th September at 7:00pm. Tickets are £5 and monies will be shared between the BCHT and parish funds. They are on sale after Mass today.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Liturgy of the Word for children is now on a break for the summer. We will resume in the new term from Sunday 6th of September. Children welcome from Foundation Stage until First Holy Communion.

200 CLUB – JULY WINNERS

1st prize (£75) no. 85 Ann Brown | 2nd prize (£50) no. 3 Ellen Smith
3rd prize (£25) no. 18 John Mullan

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

Last week's loose collection was **£675.13** Total Approx: **£1363.66** (Inc. standing orders & card)

Next Sunday there will be a second collection for the retired priest's fund. (Delayed)

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

This week on Friday, we celebrate the feast of St Pius X, Pope from 1903 until his death in 1914. He is remembered for many things, but perhaps one of his most significant contributions to the life of the Church was his encouragement of the frequent reception of Holy Communion. For many centuries Catholics approached Holy Communion rather infrequently. Devout people might receive only a handful of times each year, in part due to a deep sense of unworthiness before the Blessed Sacrament. St Pius X was concerned that people were depriving themselves of grace. The Eucharist, he taught, is not a reward for those who have somehow achieved total perfection. It is the spiritual food Christ has given us to strengthen us on the road to holiness. In 1905, during his pontificate, the Church formally encouraged frequent and even daily Communion for Catholics who were **properly disposed**. A few years later, he also lowered the age at which children should ordinarily make their First Holy Communion.

His encouragement was enormously influential. Today, most Catholics who come to Mass are accustomed to receiving Holy Communion regularly. That is something for which we should be very grateful. Yet the very familiarity of receiving Communion can sometimes bring another danger, we can forget what it is that we are doing. At every Mass, the bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Holy Communion is not simply a symbol of belonging to the parish, nor merely the conclusion of the Mass. We approach the altar to receive Christ Himself. This requires untold reverence. Before receiving Communion, we should examine our conscience and remember that anyone conscious of having committed a mortal sin should first receive the Sacrament of Confession, to do otherwise is a grave sacrilege. We should also observe the Eucharistic fast, normally one hour before receiving Communion and prepare ourselves prayerfully during Mass.

The outward way in which we receive Communion matters too, because our bodies express what we believe. As we approach the altar, we should do so calmly and prayerfully. When we hear the words "The Body of Christ," we should respond clearly, "Amen." That little word is an act of faith: *Yes, I believe. This truly is the Lord.*

Whether receiving on the tongue or in the hand, we should receive carefully and reverently. If we insist on receiving in the hand, the Host should be consumed immediately and with care. Afterwards, there should be a moment of thanksgiving. The Lord of heaven and earth has come to dwell within us. Few moments in our week deserve greater attention.

St Pius X wanted Catholics to receive Holy Communion frequently because he loved the Eucharist and understood the grace Christ gives us through it. His feast is a useful reminder that frequent Communion and reverent Communion belong together. The more often we approach the altar, the more, not less, we should treasure the extraordinary gift we are receiving.

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