



THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

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HOLY YEAR MASS SCHEDULE AND DEVOTIONS JUBILEE 2025

Perpetual Novena:

Wednesday after 9:30am
Mass

Holy Rosary:

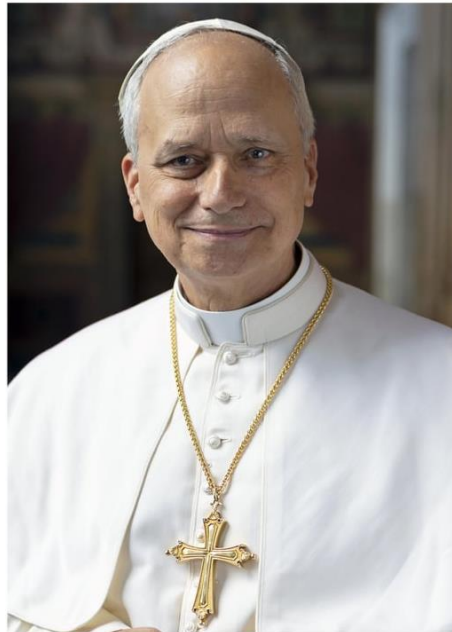
Saturday after 12:15pm
Mass

Devotions to the Sacred Heart:

First Friday of the month
after 9:30am Mass

Our Lady's Lamp this week burns for:

The Fox Family



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 May is dedicated to: The Blessed Virgin Mary

SUNDAY 18 th MAY	5 th Sunday of Easter	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Paddy Kenny Frank & Mary Tate & Anne Elizabeth Sampson People of the Parish
MONDAY 19 th	Eastertide	No Mass		
TUESDAY 20 th	Funeral Eastertide	1:00pm 7:00pm	St Mary's St Alban's	Baby Liberty-Mae Fox Marie Finn
WEDNESDAY 21 st	Eastertide	9:30am	St Mary's	Arthur Parsons
THURSDAY 22 nd	Eastertide	9:30am	St Alban's	Bryan and Sheila Greenwood
FRIDAY 23 rd	Eastertide	9:30am	St Mary's	Denis Smyth
SATURDAY 24 th	Eastertide Vigil Mass	12:15pm 4:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Paul Connolly Polish Mass

READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY	
9:30am	Kieron Green	9:30am	Nicholas Aigbogun
11:00am	Greg Finn	11:00am	Malcolm Brown
6:00pm	Judith MacDonald	6:00pm	Francis Millington

PRAYER LIST: Sadie Mills, Tony Hintze Mary Staden Peter Staden, David Stanton, Gerard James, David Sutcliffe, John Wallis, William Long, Julie Simpson, Charlotte Fitzpatrick, Peter Smith, Julie Hall, Larry Byrne, Sonya Box, Kathleen Hannan, Nancy McGrath, Eleanor Foran, Rita Baxendale, 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 know so that a visit can be arranged.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Maria Griffin, Kenneth Spark, Richard Sibierski and Baby Liberty-Mae Fox who have died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

MASSES RECEIVED

Laurina & Graeme Curry 50th Wedding (28th June), Patricia Ann Richards, Alberto Gonnella
These are the only intentions that I have found since coming back. If there are others please let me know.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE PRIESTHOOD?

Following on from the Bishop's pastoral letter last Sunday, this is a reminder that any man who is even remotely thinking about a vocation to the priesthood is invited to meet with Bishop Stock and members of the vocations team at Hinsley Hall in Leeds on Pentecost Sunday. (8th June, 2:00pm)

The meeting will last approximately one hour including, prayer, a talk and an opportunity for questions.
Under 18's to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Any initial questions to Fr Simon Lodge: simon.lodge@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

PARISH LADIES' GUILD QUIZ

Thank you to the Ladies for organising such a great evening. The Parish Quiz raised £601. Many thanks to those who helped to make it happen, gave donations and bought raffle tickets. Unclaimed prizes; Green 921-925, Blue 31-35, Blue 401-405, Yellow 881-885, Blue 61-65, Blue 131-135. See Jean Wilkinson 9.30am Sunday mass or Maureen Brown 11am Sunday Mass to claim your prize.

ST MARY'S CHURCH CLEAN

Wednesday 21st May 2025 (following 9:30am Mass) If you are available, please do come along and help to clean St Mary's Church. You only need to bring a pair of marigold gloves. Everything else is provided, including refreshments!

PARISH 200 CLUB

A final reminder for those members whose subscriptions are due for renewal this month i.e. before the next draw on 25th May. If you already pay by standing order, you can simply continue with your regular payments. Otherwise, please arrange to set up a standing order or make a one-off direct bank transfer payment or let John Coates or Julie Anderson have a cheque. Standing order forms/bank details are available from John and Julie. The amount payable is £48 per annum per lottery number.
New members welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CELEBRATION

A reminder that our children will make their First Holy Communion at the 11:00am Mass on Sunday 8th of June. Then on Sunday the 29th of June at 11:00am we will have our Mass of Celebration for all of our children who have made first Confession, first Communion and Confirmation this year.

Children are free to re-wear their special outfits and there will be a reception in the Catholic Club after Mass. All are welcome.

FLOWERS FOR OUR LADY IN MAY

There are vases available for Our Lady's altar. Please feel free to bring her flowers this month.

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum!... I'm back from my holiday... also, we have a new Pope.

Today in Rome, at 10am BST Pope Leo XIV will celebrate the solemn Mass of the inauguration of his Petrine Ministry in St. Peter's Square. This sacred event, rich in tradition and layered with meaning, marks the beginning of his service as the successor of St Peter, the rock upon whom Christ founded His Church. Falling within this season of Eastertide, the inauguration invites us to contemplate its profound significance, its rich symbolism, and its call to renewal in the Risen Christ.

The Mass of the Inauguration is far more than a ceremonial milestone; it is a liturgical act that roots the papacy in the apostolic mission entrusted to St Peter. When Jesus proclaimed, "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church" (Mt 16:18), He established a ministry of unity and guidance that endures through time. As the 267th successor of St Peter, Pope Leo XIV assumes this sacred charge, called to be a servant of communion, shepherding the Church toward fidelity to Christ. This moment, uniting the faithful in Rome and beyond, reveals the Church as a living body, animated by the Holy Spirit and ever pointed toward God's Kingdom.

The rites of the Mass brim with symbolism, each element illuminating the weight of the Petrine office. The Pallium, a woollen band draped over the Pope's shoulders by a cardinal deacon, signifies his role as the Good Shepherd, bearing the flock through the world's trials. The Ring of the Fisherman, presented by a cardinal bishop, recalls Peter's call to be a "fisher of men," casting the Gospel's net to draw all to Christ. These insignia that are placed near St. Peter's tomb before the Mass, tie Pope Leo XIV's ministry to the faith and martyrdom of the first prince of the apostles. The procession, accompanied by the ancient "*Laudes Regiae*" litany, invokes the saints, situating the papacy within the communion of the Church triumphant. A tapestry of the miraculous catch of fish, inspired by Raphael, will hang above, echoing Jesus' command: "Feed my sheep" (Jn 21:17).

A distinctive feature of this Mass is the proclamation of the Gospel in Greek, a practice rooted in the Church's tradition and its universal mission. Greek, the language of the New Testament and the early Church's theological reflection, underscores the continuity between the apostolic era and today's universal Church. Singing the Gospel in Greek during this Mass symbolises the papacy's role as a bridge between the Church's origins and its present, uniting diverse cultures and languages under the one Gospel. It also honours the Eastern Christian traditions, fostering unity with our Orthodox brothers and sisters, and reflects the universality of Peter's mission, which transcends linguistic and cultural boundaries.

This inauguration unfolds in Eastertide, a season aglow with the Resurrection's light. Eastertide celebrates Christ's triumph over death, the definitive act of love that transforms despair into hope. The timing of Leo XIV's election aligns his ministry with this paschal renewal. Just as Christ rose to new life, the Church experiences a fresh beginning under a new shepherd. The sprinkling of holy water, a hallmark of Eastertide, recalls our baptismal call to live as a resurrected people. Leo XIV's papacy, begun in this season, beckons us to proclaim the Risen Christ with courage, especially in a world often resistant to the Gospel's truth. As we celebrate this historic day, let us pray for The Holy Father, that he may lead with Peter's humility, Paul's boldness, and the Good Shepherd's love. May his ministry shine as a beacon, drawing all to Christ's heart. In this Eastertide, let us recommit to the Church's mission, trusting the Holy Spirit, who raised Jesus from the dead, to guide our new Pope and all of us toward eternal life.

God bless you all,
Fr Hilton