



THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton

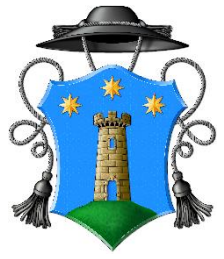
Deacons: Rev. John Walsh, Rev. Paul Coates

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

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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:

Maria Griffin R.I.P.



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 25 th MAY	5 th Sunday of Easter	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Evelyn Somerville Derick Jadhav R.I.P. People of the Parish
MONDAY 26 th	St Philip Neri	No Mass		
TUESDAY 27 th	REQUIEM	1:30pm	St Mary's	Kenneth Spark
WEDNESDAY 28 th	Eastertide	9:30am	St Mary's	Geoff Cowper
THURSDAY 29 th HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	7:00am 12:15pm 7:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	People of the Parish Deceased member of the Ward Family Special Intention
FRIDAY 30 th	Eastertide	9:30am	St Mary's	Paul Griffin R.I.P.
SATURDAY 31 st	Eastertide Vigil Mass	12:15pm 4:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Peter George Granger (YB) Polish Mass

READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY	
9:30am	Nicholas Aigbogun	9:30am	Nicholas Aigbogun
11:00am	Malcolm Brown	11:00am	Wendy Balahura
6:00pm	Frances Millington	6:00pm	Rachel Fitzpatrick

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, 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:

Shirley Hilton, Barrie Smith, Patrick (Mick) Malone, Kevin Canning and Lawrence Maragh who have died recently

MASSES RECEIVED

Deceased Member of the D'Alessandro Family, Honora Hintze (A), Shirley Hilton, Maria Griffin

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE PRIESTHOOD?

Following on from the Bishop's pastoral letter, 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

THANK YOU

To Anne Peel for kindly donating the two beautiful prints that now hang above the sacristy door in St Mary's. They have come from her family home and were framed by her brother John.

SCHOOL SUMMER FAYER

The School Summer Fayre will be taking place on Friday 11th July at 3.30pm after school. All donations of cakes, buns, alcoholic bottles, bric-a-brac and unwanted gifts welcome for our stalls and tombolas. Please be as generous as possible. 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 (07932 595955) with any queries or if you would like to help/donate. In the next few weeks we will place a box at the back of church for donations.
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.

NEWS FROM THE S.V.P.

Raffle tickets will be on sale at back of church after Masses to help raise funds for those most in need in the parish. Also the date of the next S.V.P. meeting is Tuesday 17th June at 6:00pm in St Alban's Parish Room. If you are looking for a way of being of service to those in need and living out the charity of the Gospel in a practical way, new members are always 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.

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

Last week's loose collection was **£685.87** Total Approx. **£1436.37** (Inc. standing orders & card)

SUMMER DAY TRIP

The signup sheet is available at the back of church for those who wish to join the next coach trip. We will be going to Whitby for the day on Wednesday 13th of August. (Fingers crossed for nice weather)
The coach will depart from Halifax at 9:30am and leave Whitby at 3:30pm.
Places are £20per person. Please pay in cash.

FORTHCOMING FUNERALS

Tuesday 27th May – 1:30pm – St Mary's – **Kenneth Spark** – Requiem Mass
Wednesday 11th June – 11:00am – St Mary's - **Patrick (Mick) Malone** – Service
Thursday 12th June – 12:00 Noon – St Mary's – **Richard Siebierski** – Service
Thursday 12th June – 2:15pm – Parkwood Crematorium – **Barrie Smith** – Service
Friday 13th June – 10:00am – St Mary's – **Lawrence Maragh** - Requiem Mass
Wednesday 25th June – 11:15am – St Mary's – **Maria Griffin** - Requiem Mass

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

This week in the liturgical calendar, the Church keeps the memory of St Philip Neri often called the "Apostle of Rome." Known for his infectious humour and deep spirituality, St Philip's life reveals how fidelity to the Church's traditions can radiate joy, drawing souls closer to Christ.

Born in Florence, Philip abandoned worldly prospects to serve God in Rome, where he was ordained a priest at the age of 36. His ministry was rooted in the timeless traditions of the Church; prayer, the Sacraments, and devotion to the Blessed Eucharist. Yet, he infused these practices with a contagious joy that made his holiness approachable. St Philip's Oratory, a community of priests and laypeople, gathered regularly for prayer, music, and spiritual discussions, blended the solemnity of tradition with a lively, communal spirit. His Oratorian approach wasn't 'rigid', it was a celebration of faith that invited everyone, from the nobles of Rome to the poorest of the poor, to encounter God's love.

St Philip's joy wasn't superficial either. It sprang from his deep trust in divine providence and his adherence to the Church's teachings. He cherished the Mass, often experiencing ecstasies during its celebration, and encouraged frequent confession, believing these Sacraments were wellsprings of grace. His famous quips and playful antics, like assigning humorous penances or shaving half his beard to humble himself, disarmed his critics, making the Gospel's truth accessible. This balance of reverence for tradition and a light-hearted spirit showed that holiness need not be dour and miserable but can be a joyful adventure. Tradition, for St Philip, was not a relic but a living force. He drew on the Church's ancient practices, liturgy, catechesis, and devotion to the saints—while adapting them to the needs of 16th century Rome. His evening gatherings, filled with music and laughter, echoed the early Christian feasts, proving that tradition could evolve without losing its essence. This joyful fidelity attracted countless souls, including future saints, and helped renew a Church facing the challenges of the so called 'reformation'.

Today, St Philip Neri reminds us that tradition and joy are inseparable. By embracing the Church's timeless truths with a heart full of gladness, we can live as he did—rooted in faith, radiant with hope, and alive with love. His life challenges us to make our parish a vibrant centre of worship and community, where tradition sparks joy and draws others to Christ.

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 TBC
Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404