



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

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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:

Intentions of Andrea
Woodward



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 October is dedicated to: The Holy Rosary

SUNDAY 28th SEPTEMBER	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Fred Budds John Staden People of the Parish
MONDAY 29th	Holy Archangels	No Public Mass		
TUESDAY 30th	St Jerome	6:00pm 7:00pm	St Alban's St Alban's	5th Talk on the Mass Marie Finn
WEDNESDAY 1st OCTOBER	St Thérèse of Lisieux	9:30am	St Mary's	Shirley Hilton R.I.P.
THURSDAY 2nd	Requiem	11:15am	St Mary's	Vincent Haddley
FRIDAY 3rd	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Grant Family Living and Dead
SATURDAY 4th	St Francis of Assisi	12:15pm	St Mary's	Bridie Doherty
	Vigil Mass	4:00pm	St Mary's	Polish Mass

READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY	
9:30am	Nicholas Aigbogun	9:30am	Lily Hymas
11:00am	Tim Widdop	11:00am	Lettie Damolo
6:00pm	Frances Millington	6:00pm	Rachel Fitzpatrick

PRAYER LIST: Donna Murphy, Sadie Mills, Tony Hintze, Mary Staden, Peter Staden, 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

John Durkin who has died recently.

MASSES RECEIVED

John Durkin, Holy Souls, Private Intention, Eileen Wilson, Marie McQuinn

YEAR OF CATECHESIS

Everyone should have received a programme card with the dates for the next years' worth of talks and sessions. Please take this away with you and put it somewhere at home that you will notice.

Our final (double) session on the Holy Mass is this Tuesday at 6:00pm in St Alban's Hall.

Come along and learn more about your faith, you can join any time.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH THE MARK 10 MISSION

In the coming weeks, Liturgies of the Word will begin for children during 11:00am Sunday Mass. Parishioner Greg Finn, founder of the children's ministry The Mark 10 Mission, will lead alongside Mary Hymas. The liturgies are open to all primary school aged children who are yet to make their First Holy Communion. This will be an opportunity for children to hear the Gospel proclaimed and to be led in prayer. The hope for the liturgies is that they will assist parents and families in leading their children in faith. Children will be invited to contemplate and wonder about the Sunday Gospel passage. We encourage families to continue conversations about the Gospel at home. Children will also be formed in the art of prayer so that they can join their families in prayer during the week. We politely ask that children yet to start school stay in Mass with their parents and also that parents do not accompany children to the liturgies. We hope that through the children's liturgies, parents with young children can enter into the liturgy of the Word more fully themselves.

THE MARK 10 MISSION - ROSARY CHALLENGE

The Mark 10 Mission has created beautiful online videos for each mystery of the Holy Rosary, led by Archbishop John. The challenge is to pray a decade of the Holy Rosary each weekday in October. With the help of Archbishop John, The Mark 10 Mission have created videos to guide you through all twenty Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. To watch the videos and learn more, please visit www.themark10mission.co.uk or The Mark 10 Mission YouTube channel @themark10mission.

THE ORION CHOIR

are making a very welcome return visit to St BERNARD'S CHURCH HX3 6DL
on SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER at 7.30pm.

Music to include: Rachmaninov- All Night Vigil /Vespers (excerpts) Tchaikovsky- Cherubic Hymn
Byrd - Ave Verum Rusby - Underneath the stars. Entrance by voluntary donation- suggested at £15 (funds to church and choir). The concert will be followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

PARISH CEILIDH

Just a reminder that kick off is at 7:30pm on the 3rd of October at Pellon Social Club.

BATLEY TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION

If you have signed up for transport, please make the payment of £15 ASAP.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A selection of religious Christmas Cards will soon be on sale after the morning Masses on Sunday.

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

Last week's loose collection was **£713.55** Total Approx. **£1575.55** (Inc. standing orders & card)

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

This week, the Church celebrates two great feasts that are often overlooked these days. The Feast of the Archangels (29th of September) and the Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels (2nd of October). These days are not just pious reminders of whimsical mythical figures, they are solemn acknowledgments of God's providential care through the ministry of angels, real spiritual beings who serve Him and assist us.

On the first of these feasts, the Church honours three specific archangels named in Sacred Scripture: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. Each of these angelic beings carries out a distinct mission in salvation history. St Michael is the warrior of Heaven, the one who casts Lucifer from paradise (Revelation 12:7–9). His name means “Who is like God?”, a battle cry against pride and rebellion. He is the Church's protector and the angel we invoke in spiritual warfare. St Gabriel, the messenger, appears in the Gospel of Luke to announce to Mary that she will conceive the Son of God (Luke 1:26–38). His name means “God is my strength.” St Raphael, whose name means “God heals,” is found in the Book of Tobit. He guides Tobiah on a journey, drives away demons and cures Tobit's blindness. These are not mythical characters or vague spiritual metaphors. They are real, personal beings who act in human history at God's command. They do not seek our worship but point us toward the living God, whom they serve with perfect obedience and love.

On the 2nd of October, we commemorate the Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels. Every person, according to the constant teaching of the Church, is assigned a guardian angel by God. This is not a sentimental idea or folklore, it is a doctrine rooted in Scripture and affirmed by the saints. In Matthew 18:10, Christ warns: “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.” The Catechism teaches: “From infancy to death human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession” (CCC 336). Your guardian angel is not a vague “energy” or simply a comforting idea. He is a powerful living spirit who sees God face to face, yet is personally tasked with protecting your soul. This protection is primarily spiritual, assisting us in temptation, guiding us to make good choices and even prompting repentance. Many saints, including Padre Pio and St Thérèse of Lisieux cultivated a deep relationship with their guardian angels and encouraged others to do the same.

In our time, there has been a troubling rise in distorted views of angels. Contemporary “angelology” often strips angels of their true nature, reducing them to cosmic energy forces, spirit guides, or wish-granting magical beings. This New Age fascination bears no resemblance to the angels of Sacred Scripture or Tradition. Authentic Catholic teaching reminds us that angels are not gods, nor do they operate independently of God. They do not exist to serve our personal desires or affirm our feelings. Their only mission is to carry out God's will. True devotion to the angels always leads us closer to God, not away from Him. Any attempt to contact angels through occult means, channelling, or spiritualism is gravely sinful and contrary to the First Commandment. We are not to seek power from angels, but to entrust ourselves to their guidance as instruments of God's grace.

How should we respond to these feasts? With gratitude and renewed devotion. Thank God for the angels who defend us in the unseen battles of life. Call on your guardian angel daily. Invoke St Michael in times of temptation. Ask St Gabriel to help you proclaim the Gospel. Pray to St Raphael for healing, spiritual and physical. The angels remind us that we are never alone. God, in His infinite wisdom and love surrounds us with these messengers of His providence. May we walk in their light, trusting always in the God they serve. Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. Pray for us!

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