



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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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:

Owen Mullan



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 31 st MAY	HOLY TRINITY	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	James Hurst R.I.P, John Kerins (A) People of the parish
MONDAY 1 st JUNE	St Justin, Martyr	No Mass		
TUESDAY 2 nd	Feria	6:00pm 7:00pm	St Alban's St Alban's	TALK: FR SEAN ELLIOTT Timothy Hayes
WEDNESDAY 3 rd	St Charles Lwanag Martyr	9:30am	St Mary's	Sonny & Yvonne Hirst
THURSDAY 4 th	Feria	9:30am	St Alban's	Nat Smyth
FRIDAY 5 th	St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr	9:30am	St Mary's	Owen Mullan
SATURDAY 6 th	St Norbet	12:15pm	St Mary's	Frank Anderson (A)
	Vigil Mass	4:00pm	St Mary's	Polish Mass

READERS ROTA

	THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY
9:30am	Kieron Green	9:30am	Nicholas Aigbogun
11:00am	Ken Rothery	11:00am	FHC Children
6:00pm	Rachel Fitzpatrick	6:00pm	Frances Millington

PRAYER LIST: Sadie Mills, David Stanton, John Durkin, 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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

John Whitworth who has died recently. *Requiescat in pace.*

MASSES RECEIVED

Owen Mullan (Poorly), Mary & Eddie Coates (A), Thanksgiving from a baby's family, Yvonne Gillespie, John Kerins, Barry & Barbara Murphy, Deidre Murphy, James Baldwin R.I.P.

YEAR OF CATECHESIS

The final talk in our series will be **this Tuesday 2nd June at 6:00pm** in St Alban's Hall and will be given by Fr Sean Elliott. He will be speaking about "The Sacred Liturgy" – The Church's worship and ritual.

JUNE 2026 "EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS"

The culmination of our Year of Catechesis will be a week of Eucharistic Adoration, devotions and presentations concluding with Mass on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus celebrated by His Lordship the Bishop.

Sunday 7 th	Feast of Corpus Christi – 11:00am Opening Mass (First Holy Communion Sunday)
Monday 8 th	Mass 9:30am followed by Holy Hour 6:00pm presentation at St Alban's
Tuesday 9 th	Mass 9:30am followed by Holy Hour 6:00pm presentation at St Alban's
Wednesday 10 th	Mass at 9:30am, Exposition until 9:00pm
Thursday 11 th	Mass at 9:30am, Exposition until 9:00pm
Friday 12th	Exposition for 9:00am until 3:00pm 7:00pm Solemn Closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Stock (Feast of the Sacred Heart) followed by refreshments in the Catholic Club – Please make every effort to attend.

For the extended periods of Exposition and Adoration on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, it is important that the Blessed Sacrament is never left unattended and there are people praying continually. To that end there are sign up sheets at the back of church to take a slot and watch one hour with the Lord. **Please be generous with your time.**

DEANERY CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

As happened last year, there will be a *Corpus Christi* procession taking place at Sacred Heart and St Patrick's Sowerby Bridge. Canon Larkin, our Dean, has extended an invitation to all of the parishes of the deanery to join him and his parishioners for this important act of witness to our Catholic faith in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

The procession will begin at 2:00pm and conclude with Benediction.

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

Last week's loose collection was **£716.06** Total Approx. **£1467.81** (Inc. standing orders & card)

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.

AFTERNOON TEA

The Parish Ladies' Guild will be hosting an afternoon tea at the Catholic Club on Saturday the 13th of June from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. Tickets cost £10pp and will be available to purchase after Mass.

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

As our year of catechesis comes to an end, I encourage all of you to take a fulsome part in our parish Eucharistic Congress. The aim of these few days is simple: to renew our devotion to Our Blessed Lord in the Eucharist and to seek to renew and deepen our own lives of prayer as a parish community.

There are plenty of people who believe that the life of the church in this country will be saved by implementing this particular programme or that particular scheme. And while new initiatives can occasionally be helpful, I am not blind to the fact that the lesson that we learn from the great saints of the past is that the renewal of the Church never comes from programmes but from the holy lives of individual people. If we are serious about renewing our parish and our Church, the only thing that will work is if you and I redouble our efforts towards our own personal conversion; if we really make a new and deliberate effort to take all of this seriously... This puts me in mind of Pope St John Paul II's Apostolic Letter, *Novo Millennio Ineunte* ("At the Beginning of the New Millennium") in which he wrote, "It is not therefore a matter of inventing a 'new programme'. The programme already exists: it is the plan found in the Gospel and in the living Tradition, it is the same as ever. Ultimately, it has its centre in Christ Himself, who is to be known, loved and imitated..."

Knowing, loving and imitating Jesus is the reason that we are all here. It is the reason why our parish is here. And by making sure that we do these things will ensure that our parish is still here for many years to come. As your parish priest I am entrusted with the care of your souls and it is a very solemn and serious duty that we priests neglect at our peril. Obviously, I can not force you to attend these things, but I do encourage and invite you warmly to take part in these days of devotion and grace. In the Church we call these things "spiritual exercises" and in many ways it's a bit like physical exercise. You might have lots of excuses as to why you can't...but you know it will do you the world of good.

The sign-up sheets at the back of church are only there to ensure that Our Lord is not left unaccompanied during our periods of adoration, not to limit who is there. Please drop in for as long as you like during any of our time of exposition. Spending time in front of the Blessed Sacrament is spending time in the living, real and true presence of God Himself, who is always awaiting, calling and welcoming all who come to see Him. I'm not sure what could really be more important than that. Bring Him your joys, your woes, your anxieties and your love. If you don't know how to pray, remember the words of St John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, when he recalled often coming across a farmer in his church spending hours in front of the tabernacle, lost in silence. One day, St John asked the man what he was doing, and he replied, 'Nothing. I look at him and he looks at me.' Often the simplest prayers are the best.

I pray that these few days of spiritual exercises will be fruitful for all of us, both as individuals and as a parish community.

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