



# 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:

"The people of palestine"



## 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 5 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER	27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	May Foley People of the Parish James Baldwin
MONDAY 6 <sup>th</sup>	Torchlight Procession	7:30pm	St Mary's Batley	All welcome to attend
TUESDAY 7 <sup>th</sup>	Our Lady of the Rosary/Victories	6:00pm 7:00pm	St Alban's St Alban's	Q&A Session Bridie Doherty
WEDNESDAY 8 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	10:00am (School)	St Mary's	Maria Griffin R.I.P.
THURSDAY 9 <sup>th</sup>	St John Henry Newman	9:30am	St Alban's	Winifred Ambrose
FRIDAY 10 <sup>th</sup>	Requiem	1:30pm	St Alban's	Tony Hegarty
SATURDAY 11 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	12:15pm	St Mary's	Michael Nagy R.I.P.
	Vigil Mass	4:00pm	St Mary's	Polish Mass

## READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY				NEXT SUNDAY			
9:30am	Lily Hymas			9:30am	John Greenwood		
11:00am	Lettie Damolo			11:00am	Shaun Sandhu		
6:00pm	Rachel Fitzpatrick			6:00pm	Judith MacDonald.		

**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.

**MASSES RECEIVED**

Joe Riddeal, J.B. Healing, D.C. Sick, John Lambert, Joy & Annie, Joseph & Lilly, Shelia Kenedy x2

**BATLEY TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION**

The bus will leave St Mary's Halifax at 6:00pm and leave from Batley at 9:30pm

**YEAR OF CATECHESIS**

We have concluded the first stage of our Year of Catechesis, the study course on the Holy Mass and I am delighted that it was so well attended.

This **Tuesday at 6:00pm** – we have our first Q&A session. Come with your questions prepared (on any topic to do with our faith) and I will endeavour to answer them as best I can.

As with the previous format, Mass will follow at 7:00pm

And as they say at school ... there is no such thing as a stupid question!

**A BIG THANK YOU**

to Julie Anderson, Sharon Costello and Helen Brown for all of their hard work in organising the parish ceilidh. They did a wonderful job bringing people together and raising money for the parish.

**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](http://www.themark10mission.co.uk) or The Mark 10 Mission YouTube channel @themark10mission.

**PARISH LADIES' GUILD**

The next meeting of the PLG will be on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 7:00pm in St Alban's parish room. If any members have any items that we can put in the raffle for the 60s night, please bring to this meeting.

**200 CLUB SEPTEMBER WINNERS**

1<sup>st</sup> prize £75 no. 150 Helen Mellor 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £50 no. 47 Ann Griffin 3<sup>rd</sup> prize £25 no. 28 Tracey Mullan

**S.V.P.**

Next meeting Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 6:00pm in St Alban's parish room.

## **RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS**

Last week's loose collection was **£709.01** Total Approx. **£1607.61** (Inc. standing orders & card)

## **FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST**

It was recently announced that the Holy Father is going to declare St John Henry Newman a Doctor of the Church. This is a title held by only 37 individuals throughout the Church's 2000 year history. This is a moment of great significance for the universal Church but particularly so for us in England and it invites us to reflect on both Newman's remarkable life and his enduring theological relevance in our own day.

A Doctor of the Church is not a medical title, of course, but rather a theologian whose writings and teachings have significantly shaped Christian doctrine and continue to offer guidance to the faithful. To be declared a Doctor of the Church, a saint must be recognised for: *Eminens doctrina*, outstanding teaching, *Insignis vitae sanctitas*, a high degree of sanctity and receive *Ecclesiae declaration*, an official declaration of the Church. These are not honours given lightly. They are rare recognitions of individuals whose intellectual and spiritual contributions transcend their own time and speak to the Church in every age.

John Henry Newman (1801–1890) was a convert to Catholicism, a brilliant theologian, a teacher and eventually a cardinal. He began his life as an Anglican vicar and was a central figure in the Oxford Movement, which sought to bring the Church of England back to its Catholic roots. His study of the early Church Fathers led him, over time, to the conclusion that the fullness of Christian Truth was only to be found in the Catholic Church. In 1845, after much personal struggle and prayer, he was received into Full Communion. This decision came at great personal cost. Newman lost friends, reputation and his place in English society. Yet his journey was one of fidelity to Truth. He once famously wrote "To be deep in history is to cease to be protestant." After becoming Catholic, Newman continued his scholarly work, founding the Oratory of St Philip Neri in Birmingham and working tirelessly in education, founding what is today, University College Dublin. In 1879 Pope Leo XIII made him a cardinal, recognising his contribution to the Church, even though he was never consecrated a bishop. He was canonized in 2019 by Pope Francis.

In many ways, Newman was a man ahead of his time. One of his greatest contributions is his theology of conscience. He taught that conscience is not merely a personal feeling or opinion but the voice of God speaking to us in the depths of our hearts. He wrote that, "The conscience is the aboriginal Vicar of Christ in the soul." He also developed a profound understanding of how doctrine grows over time, not in contradiction to past teaching but as a deepening and unfolding of it. This is especially helpful in our modern context, where rapid cultural change can sometimes cause confusion about what the Church teaches and why. Newman was also deeply committed to the role of the laity. He once wrote, "The Church would look rather foolish without them." He believed strongly that lay people have a vital role in the mission of the Church, not just in administration or volunteering but in living out and witnessing to the faith in the world, converting others by their lives and example.

At Cardinal Newman's funeral in August 1890, a profound testament to his life and ministry was seen in the streets of Birmingham. Though he had once been misunderstood and even maligned, especially after his conversion, by the end of his life he was deeply loved, especially by the poor and working class. As his body was carried to burial, thousands lined the streets to pay their respects. The crowd was made up of those he had quietly served throughout his years as a priest. These men, women and children had come to honour the man who had listened to them, visited them in sickness, heard their confessions, educated them, dropped everything to be with them when they needed him and treated them with dignity.

- The Holy Father will declare Newman a Doctor of the Church on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November.

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](mailto:office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

The Parish Safeguarding Representative is TBC  
Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404