



THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton
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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:

A private intention



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 June is dedicated to: The Sacred Heart of Jesus

SUNDAY 8 th JUNE	Pentecost Sunday First Holy Communion	9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Josie Conroy Gordon Smith People of the Parish
MONDAY 9 th	Funeral Service	11:30am	St Mary's	Laurence 'Larry' Byrne
TUESDAY 10 th	Feria	7:00pm	St Alban's	Michael Blackburn's Intentions
WEDNESDAY 11 th	St Barnabas Funeral Service Reception of Body	9:30am 11:00am 6:30pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's	Paul Griffin R.I.P Patrick 'Mick' Maloney Richard Siebierski
THURSDAY 12 th	Jesus High Priest Funeral Service Funeral Service	9:30am 12 Noon 2:15pm	St Alban's St Mary's Parkwood	Deceased mem. of Smyth Family Richard Siebierski Barrie Smith
FRIDAY 13 th	Requiem Mass	10:00am	St Mary's	Lawrence Maragh
SATURDAY 14 th		12:15pm 4:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	NO MASS Polish Mass

READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY

9:30am	John Greenwood
11:00am	FHC Children
6:00pm	Judith MacDonald

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am	Isaac Mellor
11:00am	Albina Karuna
6:00pm	Frances Millington

PRAYER LIST: Tom Lennon, 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:

Michelle Kirbyson Moore and Michael Reidy who have died recently.

MASSES RECEIVED

Timothy Hayes, Mary & Eddie Coates, John Kerins, Steven Ramsden, Gerard Burns, Maria Griffin x 7

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CELEBRATION

A reminder that our children will make their First Holy Communion at the 11:00am Mass today. 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.

DEANERY CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

This will take place in the grounds of St Patrick's Church, Sowerby Bridge from 2:00pm on the Sunday of the feast *Corpus Christi*, Sunday 22nd of June. Children who have made First Holy Communion are welcome to wear their outfits. The procession will be followed by refreshment and social time. I would love as many of the parishioners of St Mary's and St Alban's as possible to come along.

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.

ST ALBAN'S HALL

We have been making some much needed renovations to the hall/parish room at St Alban's. At the moment it is our only available gathering space. I am grateful to John Keyes for all of his hard work in facilitating this. I am also grateful to the Ladies Guild for very kindly agreeing to pay for a new floor to be put down (similar to the porch of St Mary's).

We have received a quote to replace the hall door and surrounding windows with something more modern and durable, £1800. It would be wonderful and greatly appreciated if 180 people might donate £10 each towards the cost of this work. The hall is a great resource not only for the groups that currently use it, but also for parish events such as the course on the Mass that will take place later this year. Please place any donations in an envelope marked "St Alban's Hall" and hand them to one of the clergy, put them in the collection or post them through the presbytery door. Thank you!

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.

PARISH LADIES' GUILD

The next meeting of the Parish Ladies' Guild is on Thursday 12th June at 7:00pm in St Alban's church hall. Providing they don't have a "Shout", we will be having the Green Watch firefighters joining us. Please feel free to bring a friend.

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

Last week's loose collection was **£780.56** Total Approx. **£1531.06** (Inc. standing orders & card)

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

As we celebrate the Feast of Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest this week, it's a good time to reflect on the profound mystery of Christ's priesthood and its enduring significance in our lives. This feast, rooted in the Letter to the Hebrews, reminds us that Jesus is the eternal high priest who, through His life, death, and resurrection, offered the perfect sacrifice for our salvation. Unlike the priests of the Old Covenant, who offered repeated animal sacrifices, Christ's priesthood is eternal, singular, and complete. He is both the priest and the victim, offering Himself once for all to reconcile humanity with God. This feast calls us to contemplate how Christ's priesthood continues to shape the Church and, in a particular way, the lives of those called to share in His priestly ministry.

This Sunday, the meeting will take place between the Bishop and young men from across the diocese who are considering a call to the priesthood. It is a moment to listen, pray, and discern how the Holy Spirit is stirring their hearts to serve the Church. To those attending, please know that the entire diocesan community holds you in prayer as you courageously consider this sacred call.

What is a priest? A priest is a man called by God to act *in persona Christi capitis* in the person of Christ, the Head of the Church. Through the sacrament of Holy Orders, a priest is configured to Christ in a unique way, enabling him to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, forgive sins in the sacrament of Confession and shepherd God's people with love. Priests are not merely functionaries or social workers they are men set apart to bridge the divine and human, bringing God's grace to His people and lifting the prayers and needs of the faithful to God. In every Mass, the priest makes present Christ's eternal sacrifice, renewing the mystery of our redemption. In every act of service, whether preaching, counselling, or anointing the sick the priest should reflect Christ's self-giving love.

Priests share in the priesthood of Christ by participating in His mission to sanctify, teach, and govern the People of God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that the ministerial priesthood is at the service of the common priesthood of all the baptised. While all Christians are called to offer their lives as a "living sacrifice", ordained priests are entrusted with the sacred duty of leading the community in worship and guiding them toward holiness. This participation in Christ's priesthood is not about some kind of personal privilege but about humble service, mirroring Jesus, who "came not to be served but to serve".

This week, let us keep the men who will meet the Bishop in our prayers, asking that they might have the courage to hear the still small voice of God in their hearts amid this modern and often chaotic world. May this feast inspire all of us to pray for our priests and for vocations, that more men may respond generously to Christ's call. Let us give thanks for the gift of the priesthood, through which Our Lord's saving work continues in our midst.

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