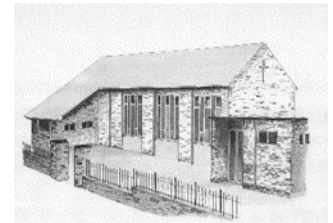


ST MARY & ST ALBAN

HALIFAX



PARISH CLERGY: Fr. Martin Kelly, Deacon John Walsh
St. Mary's Presbytery, 2 Clarence Street, Halifax, HX1 5DH

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St. Mary's Church, Gibbet Street, Halifax HX1 5DH St. Alban's Church, Abbey Walk South, Huddersfield Rd. Halifax HX3 0AZ
St. Mary's Catholic Primary School 01422-362365 All Saints Catholic College, Huddersfield 01484 426466

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 20TH DECEMBER 2020

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY 27TH DECEMBER 2020

MASSES CELEBRATED LIVE IN ST MARY'S AND STREAMED VIA YOU TUBE (L)

Day	Time	Intention
Sunday 20th December—Fourth Sunday of Advent	9:30a.m. (L) 11:00a.m.(L) 1:00p.m. 6:00p.m.	Ramon Espares Snr Ela Rybak Polish Mass For the Parish
Monday 21st—St Peter Canisius	No Mass	
Tuesday 22nd— Day in Advent	7:00p.m. (L)	2 Children
Wednesday 23rd—St John of Kanty	9:30a.m.(L)	Jack Wannan
Thursday 24th—Day In Advent	9:30a.m. (L)	Joan and Maureen Curley
CHRISTMAS MASSES		
	4:00p.m. (L) 6:00p.m. (L)	Thanksgiving Joe Riddeal
Friday 25th—CHRISTMAS DAY	9:30a.m.(L) 11:00a.m.(L)	All Priests For the Parish
Saturday 26th—St Stephen	12:15p.m.(L)	May and George Poppleton
Sunday 27th—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	9:30a.m. (L) 11:00a.m.(L) 1:00p.m. 6:00p.m.	Sheila Greenwood For the Parish Polish Mass Mgr John Dunne (YB)
Monday 28th—The Holy Innocents	9:30a.m.(L)	Kathleen and KennethWadsworth
Tuesday 29th—St Thomas Beckett	9:30a.m..(L)	Tom and William Brennan
Wednesday 30th—Within The Christmas Octave	9:30a.m..(L).	Agnes and Thomas Durkin
Thursday 31st—Within the Christmas Octave	9:30a.m..(L)	Deceased Relatives and Friends of M and M Conway
Friday 1st January 2021—Mary the Holy Mother of God	9:30a.m..(L)	Special Intention
Saturday 2nd—Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	12:15p.m.(L)	Aleksandrs Meerovic

PRAYER LIST

Margaret Thomson,
Margaret Burke,
John Wallis,
Millie Haigh,
David Murphy,
Peter Fekete,
Fawzia Mohamed,
William Long,
Sonya Box,
Julie Simpson,
Charlotte Fitzpatrick,
Kathleen Knapton,
Peter Carolan,
Peter Smith,
David Hopkinson,
Julie Hall,
Moya Andrew,
Tony Lennon,
Suzanne Peaker,
Larry Byrne,
Eddie Casey,
Winnie Whelan,
Kathleen Hannan,
Nancy McGrath,
Eleanor Foran,
Maureen Colleran,
Pat Reynolds and all the sick and housebound of the parish, their families and those who care for them.

PRAYER GROUP

Wednesday at 7pm:
The Rosary-Zoom Meeting
882 976 305
Password 7riK44
SVP
Anyone who needs to get in touch with the SVP in the Parish can now call 07512 011 440.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

On the Parish website there is a link on the Home Page to details of this week's Children's Liturgy activities. There are additional Children's Resources via the Parish Life tab at the top of the Home Page.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Because of the various restrictions this year, people have been asking about the celebration of Christmas Masses. However, numbers able to attend each Mass will continue to be restricted. The Bishop reminds us, particularly this year, that the Octave of Christmas means that from 25th December - 1st January every day is seen by the Church as Christmas Day and if we are unable to book a seat for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day there will be plenty of seats for the daily Christmas Mass which concludes on 1st January, the end of the Octave, with the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.

It is **ESSENTIAL TO BOOK A PLACE for ALL Masses (Daily Public and Christmas)** using the online booking system on the Parish website. Remember 4 people from the same household or social bubble only require 1 ticket. 5 people or more from the same household or social bubble only require 2 tickets.

Please pray for Lizzie Lees, Rose-Marie Rothery and all those who have died recently and for Fr Cyril Roddy, Fr Frank Carroll and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

MASSES RECEIVED:

Jack Wannan, Ellis & Ellis Henderson Family,
Sadie & Alex Johnston, Fr Gerard Rickaby, Joe Riddeal,
Annie Raney, Patrick Raney, Sabina Raney, James Raney,
Sheila Clewley, Doreen Salmons, Mark Salmons, Gary Goodrick,
Joan Smith (x12), Sheila Greenwood (x12), 2 Children (x12),
Cissie Wills & Cecil Wills, Griffin Family.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS!:

The Diocesan Vicariate for Education has produced a very useful resource for the eight days of the Christmas Octave. It contains prayers, reflections and activities for each day of the octave. The resource is available on the parish website. There are also some printed copies at the back of church for those who do not have access to the internet.

SILENT NIGHTS IN BETHLEHEM:

Christmas 2020: the hotels are empty. The streets are silent. There are usually over a million pilgrims and tourists here at this time of year. But coronavirus restrictions have completely shut-down the Holy Land's tourist industry. No Christmas tourism means no income for 80% of the people in Bethlehem. The donations made at the crib in St Mary's will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land who work to alleviate the suffering of our brothers and sisters in the land of Christ's birth. Further information about the appeal can be found online at <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/>

GIANNA PROJECT and THE EBENEZER FOOD BANK

Once again the Parish has shown its great generosity by giving to these charities. Both have expressed their thanks and wish us all God's blessings for Christmas and the New Year

£100,000 CHALLENGE

DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Four of our children each designed a Christmas card for this competition and each design was thought to be a worthy winner. So, **congratulations** to Alex Prosser, Thomas Prosser, Maria Bodziechowska and Jadon Dsouza.

Each child will receive a prize and the children's cards will be on display at the back of the church and on the parish website.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES ACROSS THE PARISH

A number of parishioners have taken the opportunity to send their Christmas messages to clergy and fellow parishioners through a virtual parish Christmas card.

The Christmas card will be on display, alongside the children's cards, at the back of the church and on the parish website.

CHORDIALITY CHOIR

VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Now on Youtube at www.bit.ly/2K3sbzd

The Christmas story in festive songs, readings and carols

ST MARY'S SCHOOL NEWS

Unfortunately we were not able to make our Nativity Play open to all this year but it still took place without Parents, carers, grandparents and other friends and relatives.

A video has been made of the play and this has been made available to Parents/Carers via a password access on the School Website.

If you wish to see the Play you must get access via a Parent/Carer who has a password as the School is not allowed to make it generally available.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

The 2020/2021 Diocesan Directories are available at the back of Church at £4 each.

A MESSAGE FROM FR MARTIN & DEACON JOHN

When peaceful silence lay over all and night was in the midst of her swift course, from your royal throne, O God, down from the heavens, leapt your almighty Word! (Magnificat antiphon at Christmas Vespers; from Wisdom 18.14-15a

As we come to the end of what has been a very difficult year for everyone, once again we celebrate the birth of Emmanuel, God-with-us. In the midst of darkness, he who is the light of the world comes among us to bring his peace to our world. May the child of Bethlehem bring you every joy. May peace and love reign in your hearts and homes this Christmas and in the year ahead.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do in the parish. It is wonderful that so many of you give of your time and talents to serve the community, often in very quiet and unseen ways. This is particularly true this year. We owe an immense debt of gratitude to all those who have volunteered as stewards, enabling us to open our churches for prayer and the celebration of the sacraments.

It is greatly appreciated.

As we approach the New Year, we thank God for the blessings that he has bestowed on us over the past year. We commend to Him those among our parish community and loved ones who have died. We pray for those who mourn or are in difficulty at this time, for those who are sick and those who care for them.

We ask His blessing on our parish that we may seek to serve him faithfully in all we do.

Mass Offerings, Notices and News Items for the Parish Bulletin should be given to Fr Martin or Deacon John by Wednesday evening at the latest. Notices and News Items but not Mass Intentions can be sent to

John Coates (01422 360469 or jcoates@btinternet.com) again by Wednesday evening. The Parish Safeguarding Representative is Clare O'Neill (07792147620 psr.coneill@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)
Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404