



# THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton

Deacon: Rev. John Walsh

Presbytery: Clarence House, 2 Clarence Street, Halifax HX1 5DH

T: 01422 352141 E: [office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

Website: [www.stmaryshalifax.com](http://www.stmaryshalifax.com)

St Mary's Primary Academy: 01422 362365

## MASS SCHEDULE AND DEVOTIONS

### 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**  
Kevin 'Meggy' Megson



### 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

SUNDAY 19 <sup>th</sup> MARCH	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	9:30am 11:00am 1:00pm 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Filomena & Jan Moska Josie McLaughlin Polish Mass People of the Parish
MONDAY 20 <sup>th</sup>	St Joseph	No Public Mass		
TUESDAY 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lent	7:00pm	St Alban's	Fr Hilton Birthday Int.
WEDNESDAY 22 <sup>nd</sup>	REQUIEM	11:00am	St Mary's	Geraldine Lozarno
THURSDAY 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lent	9:30am	St Alban's	Maureen Colleran
FRIDAY 24 <sup>th</sup>	Lent	9:30am	St Mary's	Denis and Anne Heys
SATURDAY 25 <sup>th</sup>	The Annunciation of the Lord	12:15pm	St Mary's	Alberto Gonnella

## READERS ROTA

### THIS SUNDAY

### NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am	Rachel Fitzpatrick	9:30am	John Greenwood
11:00am	Katarzina Machinu	11:00am	Jovanna Karuna
6:00pm	Judith McDonald	6:00pm	Bernard Corcoran

### **MASSES RECEIVED**

Eleonora & Jan Zakrzewski, Michael Morgan, Elsie Murphy, Margaret Toolan, Nat Smyth, Elsie Ward, Sheila Greenwood, Anne Smyth, Marjorie & Gordon Ellis, Edith Toolan, Maureen Woodhouse, Denis Smyth, Michael Byrne, Tom Ratkowski, John Cranney, Sylvia Keyes, "My Team", Andrea Woodward Birthday Int.

### **PRAYER LIST**

David Sutcliffe, Gladys Megson, John Wallis, David Murphy, Peter Fekete, William Long, Sonya Box, Julie Simpson, Charlotte Fitzpatrick, Peter Smith, Julie Hall, Moya Andrew, Suzanne Peaker, Larry Byrne, Winnie Whelan, Kathleen Hannan, Nancy McGrath, Eleanor Foran, Patricia Reynolds 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 visitation can be arranged.

### **LENTEN ALMSGIVING**

The charity that the parish is supporting this lent, is Mary's Meals, helping to feed starving children across the developing world.  
Your donations can be brought up in the offertory at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Michael Morgan, Liz Bavidge and all those who have died recently and for Fr Peter Ward, Fr Thomas Kearns and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### **TODAY IS MOTHERING SUNDAY**

We pray for all mothers everywhere, that they may never lose heart or be taken for granted but receive from their children the honour and love that Jesus showed to his mother, Mary. **GOD BLESS ALL MUMS**

### **WAY OF THE CROSS WITH POLISH COMMUNITY**

We are starting with the celebration of the Mass in St Alban's Church at **18.00 on the 31st of March**. Straight after the mass, we will celebrate the first station of The Cross. Then, stations will take place every few miles. We will be **walking approx. 30 miles** through paths and fields of Calderdale moors with the last station at St Alban's church. The return time depends on individual abilities therefore it might be 8am but even 11am. (Not for the faint hearted!)

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION**

Will take place each Friday in Lent at 6:00pm in St Mary's.  
Stations of the Cross at St Alban's will take place after Mass on Thursday mornings.

### **TIMES OF WEEKDAY MASS**

After Easter, I am considering moving the time of weekday Mass back from the present 9:30am to the pre-covid 9:00am. If anyone wishes to comment on this suggestion, please put your thoughts in writing and pop them through the presbytery letter box.

### **DEANERY DAY OF CONFESSIONS**

Confessions will be heard all day in St Mary's from 9am – 5pm on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of April.  
Please remember that you are required to make your Easter duties.

### **ST MARY'S PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWS**

The School has a Vacancy for a SITE MANAGER.  
For a Job Description and Application Details please contact the School. Tel. 01422 362365.

### **PARISH LADIES GUILD**

The PARISH QUIZ, hosted by the Parish Ladies Guild will be held at the Catholic Club on Saturday 13 May at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 each, supper included. Teams of up to 4 players. Tickets will be on sale after the 9.30am and 11am Masses. Tickets to be purchased before the night.

There will be a **RETIRING COLLECTION** TODAY for **CATHOLIC CARE**

The new **OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are at the back of St Mary's. If you cannot find yours or if would like your envelopes to be left at St Albans then please contact Bernard Corcoran tel. Hx 321584 or email him at [berjoscor@gmail.com](mailto:berjoscor@gmail.com)

### **FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST**

Now that we have examined the Jewish roots of the Mass, the liturgy of the Word and the liturgy of the Eucharist, let us turn our attention to some of the sacred vestments that are used in the rites. As mentioned previously, the priest does not celebrate the liturgy in his own clothes because at this point he is not acting as himself, rather it is Christ who celebrates the liturgy through the priest and so vestments are worn to cover him and invite us to a deeper understanding of what is going on during the Mass.

The first vestment that the priest puts on over his cassock is called the *amice*, this is a rectangular cloth that is tucked into the collar and secured around the waist by tapes. This item not only helps to cover the priest's ordinary clothes but is a reminder of the helmet of salvation and the cloth used by Veronica to wipe the face of Lord on his way to the cross. The next vestment is known as the *alb*, this is the long white garment that covers the cassock and is a symbol of the purity of heart that the priest must bring to the altar in order to offer the Holy Sacrifice. Next comes the *cincture*, this rope-like cord again is a symbol of purity. The *stole* is next placed over the *alb* and secured in place by the *cincture*, the *stole* is the long vestment that resembles a scarf. This represents priestly power and authority and can trace its roots back to the clothes worn by judges and senators in ancient Rome. Next, although optional these days, is the *maniple*, this is a small piece of cloth that is draped over the priest's left arm, which again has a twofold meaning. The *maniple* was once a very practical garment used for wiping the priest's brow while celebrating Mass in hot climates but is also reminiscent of a waiter's towel, draped over the arm to remind the priest that he is here to serve. Finally, the *chasuble* is the large, coloured vestment that is placed on top of all the others. This reminds the priest of the charity of Christ: "Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect" (Colossians, 3:14).

In the Middle Ages, two popular interpretations of the meaning of the vestments arose. The most prevalent one interpreted the vestments as symbols of Jesus' passion: the blindfold (the amice) and the garment (the alb) as he was mocked and beaten; the ropes and fetters (the cincture) which bound him during the scourging; the cross (the stole) he carried; and the seamless garment (the chasuble) for which the soldiers rolled dice. The other popular interpretation focused on the vestments in their Roman military origins and viewed them as symbols of the priest as the soldier of Christ doing battle against sin and Satan on behalf of the people.

In all, the vestments used at Mass have a two-fold purpose: "These should therefore symbolise the function of each ministry, but at the same time the vestments should also contribute to the beauty of the rite" (General Instruction on the Roman Missal, #335). Moreover, the vestments ought to inspire the priest and all of the faithful to meditate on their rich symbolism and help raise our hearts and minds to God. There is always a meaning and an explanation behind everything that we do and use in church, nothing is here by chance – if you ever have any questions about these things, just ask me and I will be happy to explain – if I know the answer!

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 Items but not Mass Intentions can be sent to John Coates (07842 066450 or [jbcoates@btinternet.com](mailto:jbcoates@btinternet.com)) again by Wednesday evening. The Parish Safeguarding Representative is Clare O'Neill (07792147620 [psr.coneill@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:psr.coneill@dioceseofleeds.org.uk))  
Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404