



# 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

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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:

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

SUNDAY 26 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	9:30am 11:00am 1:00pm 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	People of the Parish Peter Carolan Polish Mass Fr Sean Elliott Ordination Anniversary
MONDAY 27 <sup>th</sup>	Lent	No Public Mass		
TUESDAY 28 <sup>th</sup>	Lent	12 Noon	St Alban's	Marjorie Blackburn
WEDNESDAY 1 <sup>st</sup> MARCH	St David	9:30am	St Mary's	Fr Martin Kelly's Intentions
THURSDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lent	9:30am	St Alban's	Parish Dead List
FRIDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lent	9:30am	St Mary's	Margaret Markham
SATURDAY 4 <sup>th</sup>	Lent	12:15pm	St Mary's	A Private Intention

### READERS ROTA

#### THIS SUNDAY

#### NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am	Rachel Fitzpatrick	9:30am	John Greenwood
11:00am	Ken Rothery	11:00am	Tim Widdop
6:00pm	Richard Siebierski	6:00pm	Paul Coates

## **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.

## **PARISH BOOK CLUB**

Meeting Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March – 7:00pm at the Presbytery

## **THIS SUNDAY**

Masses in the Parish will be celebrated by Fr Michael Hall who will speak to us about the upcoming Deanery Mission and at the end of Mass there will be a short address from Mr Dave Fawcett, founder of the Happy Days charity.

## **PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE**

Please see the posters at the back of church

For more information alternatively, please speak to Deacon John or Caroline Walsh.

## **WEDNESDAY ROSARY ZOOM MEETING**

The codes to access the Zoom are Meeting ID:72756957252 Password: nqht8b

## **MASSES RECEIVED**

Josie McLaughlin x 2, Gordon Smith, Arthur Wright, Nick Wannan, Joan Heptinstall

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Eric Rogan and all those who have died recently, especially the thousands killed in the Syria/Turkey earthquake and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

## **PRAYER LIST**

David Sutcliffe, Gladys Megson, John Wallis, Millie Haigh, 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.

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

If you require the services of the SVP please call 07512 011 440.

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

The school have set up an **AMAZON WISH LIST** with a selection of books we would love to have in our school library. Many of the books are priced at less than £7.00.

If any parishioner would wish to consider donating a book to our school library the link to the Wish List can be found at <https://amzn.eu/eCK9J0Z> and a gift message can be included with your order.

If anyone parishioner would like to donate a book but cannot place an order on-line, please speak to Ros Somerville-Jones (07929 871113) or Julie Anderson (07599 084360) who will happily place the order on your behalf and will deliver it for you.

## **FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST**

As we once again enter into the season of Lent, I'm sure you've already decided what it is that you're giving up, you've decided which additional prayers you will be saying and you've decided which charity you'll be supporting. If you haven't quite gotten around to number three on that list, if you wish to put money aside during the next 40 days for your Lenten almsgiving, envelopes with your donations can be brought up in the offertory at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday. This year, these donations will be in aid of the charity **Mary's Meals**, helping to feed starving children across the developing world.

Over the course of this Holy Season, rather than write about things to do with Lent itself – there will be plenty of that from the pulpit - I thought that it might be useful for us to reflect a little on some things in our spiritual and religious lives that we may at times take for granted, and since you are probably reading this while sitting in church, what better place to start than the Holy Mass? Before we look too deeply into the Mass, however, it is important that we cast our minds back to the time of Our Lord and think a little about the Jewish origins of the liturgy that we celebrate today.

The Mass, as you well know, is split into two major parts, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The first, is a fulfilment of the worship of the Jewish synagogue, a place where the scriptures are read aloud from the Bimah (a raised reading platform) and then a sermon or a talk is given to expound their meaning. These scriptures are kept in what is called the Holy Ark, a special cupboard in the centre of the synagogue covered by a veil, with a light burning next to it – sound familiar? Our tabernacle replaces the Ark that contains the word of God as the place that contains, the living Word of God, the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the Word made flesh and dwelling among us.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist is different in nature – it fulfils and replaces the second and most important part of ancient Jewish worship, the sacrifices of the Temple in Jerusalem. These sacrifices were presided over by priests and high-priests and animals were slaughtered and offered on the altar before being burned and finally consumed. On our altars, of course, are not sacrificed sheep, goats or bulls but the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. Christ, who is our Passover lamb is offered to the Father on the altar of our church before we consume his body and blood just as the Jewish priests ate the flesh of the animals that had been offered. Another root of the Eucharistic Liturgies is found in the temple ritual for the Sabbath, the 'Shewbread'. Twelve loaves made from fine flour were set out in the temple every Sabbath on a table of gold, and incense was burned over them.

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, when our altar gates were restored, the Temple in Jerusalem was divided by a veil, separating the holy of holies from the rest of the space, marking the place where Heaven meets Earth and the divine and the human come into contact. We, obviously, have no curtain separating us from the sanctuary but we do have the rail as a reminder of the divide between the dwelling place of God and the rest of our building.

So as we consider different elements of the Mass over the next few weeks, be mindful of the Jewish roots of what we do here each week, for as the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "A better knowledge of the Jewish people's faith and religious life as professed and lived even now can help our better understanding of certain aspects of Christian liturgy" [CCC, 1096]

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 [jbcocotes@btinternet.com](mailto:jbcocotes@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