



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

Website: 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 a full recovery"



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 16 th APRIL	2 nd Sunday of Easter	9:30am 11:00am 1:00pm 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Tomasz & Irene Nalepa Angelina Lanera Polish Mass People of the Parish
MONDAY 17 th	Eastertide	No Public Mass		
TUESDAY 18 th	Eastertide	7:00pm	St Alban's	Millie Haigh
WEDNESDAY 19 th	Eastertide	9:30am	St Mary's	Maureen Colleran
THURSDAY 20 th	Eastertide	9:30am	St Alban's	Bryan Greenwood
FRIDAY 21 st	Eastertide	9:30am	St Mary's	Ann O'Brien
SATURDAY 22 nd	Eastertide	12:15pm	St Mary's	Marie Finn

READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am	John Greenwood	9:30am	Gabrielle Colleran
11:00am	Ken Rothery	11:00am	Tim Widdop
6:00pm	Paul Coates	6:00pm	Judith McDonald

PLEASE PRAY FOR Eileen Harrison and all those who have died recently
and for Fr John Pierce Callanan and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

MASSES RECEIVED

Private Intention, Alice McPherson, Paul Connolly

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.

BISHOP MOGER – PARISH PARTY

Bishop Moger will celebrate a special Mass at St Mary's on **Friday 28th of April at 7:00pm** during which we will present him with the gift that we collected for. There will then be a buffet and party in the Catholic Club. We will be joined that evening by priests from the Deanery, Fr Kelly, Mgr Smith and Fr Elliott.

EASTER HOUSE BLESSINGS

This year Fr Hilton will be offering traditional Easter House Blessings with the new Easter water.

This can take place any time between Easter Sunday and Ascension Thursday.

Please send your details to office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or call the presbytery on 01422 352141 to arrange a mutually convenient time.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

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

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 18th April at 6 pm at St Alban's

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.

DIOCESE OF LEEDS PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023

6 nights from £745. 7-13 July 2023 by air from Leeds/Bradford Airport. To book please contact Tangney Tours, tel 01732 886666, www.tangney-tours.com & follow links for Lourdes, Leeds. Booking forms will arriving in parishes very soon. (Pilgrim's Mass, Saturday 20 May 12pm at Holy Name Church, Otley Old Road, LS16 6HW. Light buffet and social in the hall afterwards, also medical checks.)

ST MARY'S PARISH MISSION

St Mary's Parish Mission, as advertised on the posters at the back of church, will run from 3rd – 7th July. Fr Royston Price, one of the missionaries will be preaching at all Masses in the parish on the feast of Pentecost to give further details about what to expect.

ASCENSION THURSDAY

A reminder that Ascension Thursday 18th May is a Holy Day of Obligation. The 7:00pm Mass at St Mary's that day will be celebrated by His Lordship, Bishop Stock.

THE DIVINE MERCY SERVICE

will take place today at St. Alban's church at 3:00pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the hall. Confessions will be available during the service.

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

I was absolutely delighted by the wonderful turn out of people for the Holy Week services and in particular by the number of people who came to all three stages of the Sacred Triduum. There were still seats available, of course, but that simply means that we have room for further growth. Thanks to the contributions of many different people, the ceremonies were beautiful, prayerful and moving. The parish felt very much alive to me!

After all the clearing up was over and things had settled down, I travelled on Tuesday to Rome for a few days to see friends and visit the Vatican. There too, the church at its heart was buzzing and full of life. As I walked around the cobbled streets, we saw so many young priests and nuns full of enthusiasm and group after group of young people on pilgrimage with their school chaplains and parish priests from all corners of the world. There was certainly no sense of decay or decline in St Peter's Square, where over 100,000 people had attended Mass on Easter Sunday. The whole experience was not only uplifting and reassuring but also great fun and full of hope.

On the last day of my trip, I visited Archbishop Gugerotti, whose secretary I had been until coming to Halifax. At that time he was the Pope's representative to Great Britain but he now has a full time job working in the Vatican. After a tour of his very impressive office, covered in frescos by Raphael, we went for lunch, over which he told me some fascinating stories about his time as a young priest working in Rome and working very closely with St John Paul II.

I only really remember St John Paul II in his later years and to me this giant of the Church seems almost a historical figure. Hearing the Archbishop's memories of conversations they had had and work they had done together was truly inspiring. It is with St John Paul II in mind, I would like to share with you an extract from his Easter sermon from 1999.

In the liturgical season running from Easter to Pentecost, the Church is recollected in contemplation of the risen Christ. Thus she relives the primordial experience that lies at the basis of her existence. She feels imbued with the same wonder as Mary Magdalen and the other women who went to Christ's tomb on Easter morning and found it empty. That tomb became the womb of life. Whoever had condemned Jesus, deceived himself that he had buried His cause under an ice-cold tombstone. The disciples themselves gave into the feeling of irreparable failure. We understand their surprise, then, and even their distrust in the news of the empty tomb. But the Risen One did not delay in making himself seen and they yielded to reality. They saw and believed! Two thousand years later, we still sense the unspeakable emotion that overcame them when they heard the Master's greeting: "Peace be with you." Christ's Resurrection is the strength, the secret of Christianity. It is not a question of mythology or of mere symbolism, but of a concrete event. It is confirmed by sure and convincing proofs. The acceptance of this truth, although the fruit of the Holy Spirit's grace, rests at the same time on a solid historical base. On the threshold of the third millennium, the new effort of evangelization can begin only from a renewed experience of this Mystery, accepted in faith and witnessed to in life.

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) again by Wednesday evening. The Parish Safeguarding Representative is Clare O'Neill (07792147620 psr.coneill@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)
Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404