





# THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton

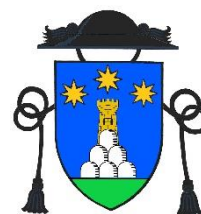
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Presbytery: Clarence House, 2 Clarence Street, Halifax HX1 5DH

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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:

Michael Taylor's Intentions



### 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> NOVEMBER	<b>CHRIST THE KING</b>	9:30am 11:00am 1:30pm 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Tony Lennon Catherine Lopuzniak Polish Mass People of the Parish
MONDAY 27 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	No Public Mass		
TUESDAY 28 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	7:00pm	St Alban's	Parish Dead List
WEDNESDAY 29 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Parish Dead List
THURSDAY 30 <sup>th</sup>	St Andrew	9:30am	St Alban's	Kevin Costello (A)
FRIDAY 1 <sup>st</sup> DECEMBER	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Fr Hubert McNamara
SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Feria	12:15pm	St Mary's	Parish Dead List

## READERS ROTA

THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY	
9:30am	Rachel Fitzpatrick	9:30am	Gabrielle Colleran
11:00am	Jovanna Karuna	11:00am	Kieron Green
6:00pm	Paul Coates	6:00pm	Judith Mc Donald

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** all those who have died recently and for Fr Hubert McNamara and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**PRAYER LIST** Gerard James, Christine Blackburn, Willie Shaw, David Sutcliffe, Gladys Megson, John Wallis, 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.

**MASSES RECEIVED:** Margaret Fee, Deceased Members of the Moska Family, Fr Hubert McNamara, Brenda & Roy Biggins 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Ann, Frank & Mary Tate, Anne Elizabeth Sampson

**CHRISTMAS TRIP TO YORK**

The coach will now leave from St Mary's at 10:45am and pick up at St Alban's at 10:50am. Due to the large numbers (49 people) we won't all fit in St Margaret's shrine, therefore, we will have Mass in the beautiful chapel of the Bar Convent. It is the oldest convent in England and contains the relic of St Margaret's hand. The shrine is located on the Shambles and so can be visited at any point during our day. The coach leaves York at 4:30pm. Monies due asap.

**CAROL SERVICE, MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES**

The Parish Carol Service will take place in St Mary's on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7:00pm. Refreshments at the Catholic Club will be served afterwards. Put it in your diary.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

There are still a few places remaining for the Christmas Party at Bertie's. Tickets at the back of church.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** If you require the services of the SVP please call 07512 011 440.

Date of next meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 6 p.m. in St Alban's Parish Room.

If anyone would like to donate the Sort Code and Account Number are - 60-60-04 46086137

**A DAY FOR ALICE** : The pupils of St Mary's would like to say a huge thank you to all of St Mary's and St Alban's parishioners for the tremendous support shown at last week's collection for Alice. Across all three Masses a total of £1,193.77 was raised which will go towards building a playground shelter in honour and memory of a very special girl.

Alice's family have said, 'We are overwhelmed by the parish's generosity in donating to Alice's shelter at St Mary's school. She would be extremely excited about it, and we are touched by your kindness.

Thank you.'

**ST MARY'S PRIMARY ACADEMY PTFA NEWS** Our Christmas Fayre will be Friday 8th Dec to be

held at the school starting at 3.30pm at the end of the school day and finishing around 5.30pm/6pm. Donations for the chocolate tombola, bottle stall, cake stall and bric-a-brac/Christmas gift tombola all welcome. Boxes are available at the back of church. If anyone would like to volunteer for a stall too that would be greatly appreciated. You can contact the school PTFA via email: [PTFA@st-marys-halifax.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:PTFA@st-marys-halifax.calderdale.sch.uk) or Joanna Binns on 07932 595955

**PARISH LADIES GUILD** : A very big thank you to everyone involved in any way in making the

Parish Ladies Guild Afternoon tea a huge success. It raised £884.78.

Unclaimed raffle prizes Pink 136-140, Pink 181-185, White 66-70..

To claim please email [ourladyplg@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyplg@gmail.com) with your name and contact details.

**HAPPY DAYS FOOD BANK** : Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month and our day for gifts to the Food Bank. It is also the last opportunity before Christmas for us to show our generosity. Please try to make it special for those who are not as fortunate as ourselves.

**RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS** - Last week's loose collection was: **£710.05**

## **FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST**

Today we celebrate the glorious and noble solemnity of Our Lord Christ the King of the Universe, the last Sunday of the Church's year. This feast of Christ the King was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 to celebrate the Jubilee Year and the 16<sup>th</sup> centenary of the Council of Nicaea. At the time the Pope proclaimed: "*Pax Christi in regno Christi*" ("The peace of Christ in the reign of Christ"). This feast was established and proclaimed by the Pope to reassert the sovereignty of Christ and the Church over all forms of worldly government and to remind Christians of the fidelity and loyalty they owed to Christ, who by His Incarnation and sacrificial death on the cross has made us both adopted children of God and future citizens and heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven. The Feast was also specifically a reminder to the totalitarian governments of the day, of Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin that Jesus Christ is the only Sovereign King and Lord of Lords.

In his encyclical, *Quas Primas*, Pope Pius XI reaffirmed the unbroken teaching of his predecessors upon the papal throne; that states, as well as individuals, must submit themselves to the rule of Christ the King. In affirming this fundamental truth of our faith, Pope Pius was not referring simply to Catholic nations, or even to Christian nations, but to the whole of mankind. He quotes from the encyclical, *Annum Sacrum* of Pope Leo XIII: "The empire of Christ the King includes not only Catholic nations ... but also all those who are outside the Christian faith; so that truly the whole of mankind is subject to the power of Christ"

This a vital truth that we are desperately in need of remembering, that Christ is King of all peoples, all times and all places, it does not matter whether they believe in Him or not, whether they acknowledge Him or not, Christ the King is the way, the truth and the life, there is absolutely no other. This is our faith and it is what we must profess unflinchingly, today more than ever.

Pope Pius instituted this feast because he was concerned that in turning to totalitarian governments for the answer to life's problems, the people of the 1920's "had thrust Jesus Christ and His holy law out of their lives"; they had declared that Christ and His rule "had no place either in private affairs or in politics". Of course, we no longer live, in Europe at least, under the rule of dictators and yet, once again in the modern age, Christ is thrust out of our culture. Pope Benedict XVI described the times we are living through as being subject to a "dictatorship of relativism". This means that the tendency of the modern world is to recognise nothing as absolute, especially in terms of morality and faith and that we are all free to express ourselves and 'our truth'. Religion has of course been pushed aside today, we are embarrassed to speak about the faith in public and as such we live in a time where the teaching of the Church and traditional Christian values are all but disappearing from public life. The questions that we have to ask ourselves are: is the world a better place for this? Are people happier and flourishing as a result? Is the world improved by squeezing the Kingship of Christ out of the picture? The answer to all of these questions in an unequivocal 'No'.

The only answer to the problems our world faces and that we face as individuals is to be found in building up God's Kingdom here on Earth and by allowing Christ to reign as King of our hearts. His Kingly glory is most fully seen in humble service and patient suffering and these provide us with out model and example. In enthroning Christ as King of our lives, we may well tread the path of suffering alongside Him, but it is the way of the Cross that leads towards eternal glory.

Jesus Christ is the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, mighty God and Prince of Peace. *Viva Cristo Rey!*

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