



# 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 the intentions of Dee and Ken



### 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 9 <sup>th</sup> APRIL	EASTER SUNDAY	9:30am 11:00am 1:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's	Eleonora & Jan Zakrzewski Peter Carolan Polish Mass <b>No evening Mass</b>
MONDAY 10 <sup>th</sup>	Easter	12:00 Noon	St Mary's	Arthur Wright (LD)
TUESDAY 11 <sup>th</sup>	Easter	No Public Mass		
WEDNESDAY 12 <sup>th</sup>	Easter	9:30am	St Mary's	Parish Dead List
THURSDAY 13 <sup>th</sup>	Easter	No Public Mass		
FRIDAY 14 <sup>th</sup>	Easter	No Public Mass		
SATURDAY 15 <sup>th</sup>	Easter	12:15pm	St Mary's	Tom Brennan

## READERS ROTA

### THIS SUNDAY

### NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am	Rachel Fitzpatrick	9:30am	John Greenwood
11:00am	Lettie Damolo	11:00am	Ken Rothery
6:00pm	No Mass	6:00pm	Paul Coates

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Malcolm Glover and all those who have died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**MASSES RECEIVED**

Angelina Lanera, David Costello, Susan and Teresa, Michael Galvin, Jan Moska, Teofil Siebierski, Janina Siebierski, Malcolm Glover

**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.

**TODAY'S COLLECTION**

Please remember that, as at Christmas, today's collection is your personal gift to the priest.

**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](mailto:office.stmary.halifax@dioceseofleeds.org.uk) or call the presbytery on 01422 352141 to arrange a mutually convenient time.

**BISHOP MOGER – PARISH PARTY**

Bishop Moger will celebrate Mass at St Mary's on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

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

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

**200 CLUB – MARCH DRAW WINNERS**

£100 - J. Keyes. No 127 £70 - Anne Hadden No 16 £30 - Kelsey Smith No 66

**PARISH LADIES GUILD**

The next meeting of the Parish Ladies Guild will be on Thursday the 13th April, 7pm in St Alban's parish room. It is our AGM and subs of £12 will be due. Raffle prize donations for the quiz would be most welcome and if possible a chocolate item to go into the hamper for the quiz. New and former members most welcome to join us.

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.

**WEEKDAY MASS TIME**

Following the responses received during the period of consultation, I have decided to keep the time of weekday Mass at 9:30am for the time being.

**THANK YOU**

A very big 'thank you' to everyone who has helped to prepare for the Easter ceremonies in any way. Those who have cleaned the churches, served at the altar, sung in the choir, arranged the flowers, read at Mass, assisted in the parish office and in anyway been a help to me over this busy period. It is thanks to you all that we have celebrated such beautiful liturgies and truly given our very best to almighty God.

## **FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST**

A very Happy Easter to you all! Christ is risen from the tomb and death has been destroyed for ever – Alleluia. Today we celebrate the central tenet of our faith, that God became man, died for our sake and rose from the dead, that when we die, we need not fear but have eternal life. That is what it is all about, that is why we come here, Sunday after Sunday, week after week because this isn't just 'good news', it's the best news. Today's celebration is a reminder to each and every one of you of just how much the Lord loves you and what He has been prepared to do for your sake. We have reflected over the last few days on His suffering, passion and death and yet today, all of that is not forgotten but completed, it is fulfilled and suddenly all of His sufferings and trials make sense. We see how they have infinite value because they have brought us to this point – there can be no resurrection without the crucifixion, no Easter Sunday without Good Friday.

The same is true of our own lives and today's feast brings this reality into sharp relief. Those of us who take up our own cross each day and follow Christ will not always have an easy ride. The Lord never promises His disciples a charmed existence and when we do follow Him, the road will always lead us to Calvary and it is at this point we realise that life can have its sufferings and difficulties. We know, however, that that cross is not the end, there is more to come. If we are faithful, we follow the Lord not only to the cross, but also over the hill, into the garden of the resurrection. Grace and mercy await those He has chosen and we are destined for a life of eternal glory with Him, where the trials of this life will mean less than nothing.

I'd like to address a few words to those of you reading this who are here for Easter Sunday but do not attend Mass as often as you perhaps ought to (that's every Sunday by the way ☺). – We live in a world that is seemingly in a state of perpetual crisis, be it the cost of living, banking, pandemic, war and threats of escalation, a world that seems to have lost its grip on reality to the point that people no longer understand what a man or woman is anymore. Amid all of this chaos and confusion stands Jesus, risen from the grave and arms outstretched to embrace us, to hold us and keep us steady. In a world full of turmoil, we all need stability and a rock upon which to build our lives. God and His unfailing love for every single person is that rock and the unchanging, clear and timeless teaching of the Gospel is our surest hope.

If this is your first time to Mass for a while, come again next week. It doesn't matter how long you have been away or where you have been in the meantime, Easter is a time of new life, fresh starts and new beginnings. Make an Easter resolution, to practice your faith, for your own benefit and for the sake of those around you. By rekindling your faith, attending Mass and receiving the sacraments, you have absolutely nothing to lose and only heaven to gain. We live in an age where faith is needed more than ever and what better day to celebrate the new life that faith brings than on this Easter Sunday.

As Catholics and as disciples of the Risen One, we have a duty to celebrate the Lord's triumph over sin and death. I hope that you all have a wonderful time today and do something special to mark this day with your loved ones, remember – this joyful season last for a whole 50 days! Eat plenty of chocolate, enjoy your favourite tipple and when people ask you why you are celebrating, tell them that the Lord is risen.

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