



# 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:

Patricia Burke



### 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 14 <sup>th</sup> MAY	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	9:30am 11:00am 1:00pm 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Mary & Thomas Brook Peter Carolan Polish Mass People of the Parish
MONDAY 15 <sup>th</sup>	Eastertide	No Public Mass		
TUESDAY 16 <sup>th</sup>	Eastertide	7:00pm	St Alban's	Nat Smyth
WEDNESDAY 17 <sup>th</sup>	Eastertide Funeral Service	9:30am 10:30am	St Mary's St Mary's	Teresa Brown Lilian Davenport
THURSDAY 18 <sup>th</sup> <b>HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION</b>	<b>The Ascension of the Lord</b>	7:00am 10:00am 7:00pm	St Mary's School Hall St Mary's	Frank Tate (A) Parish Dead List Bishop's Intentions
FRIDAY 19 <sup>th</sup>	Eastertide	9:30am	St Mary's	Bryan Greenwood
SATURDAY 20 <sup>th</sup>	Eastertide	12:15pm	St Mary's	Paul Connolly

### READERS ROTA

#### THIS SUNDAY

#### NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am	Gabrielle Colleran	9:30am	Rachel Fitzpatrick
11:00am	Barbara Gregson	11:00am	Katarzina Machinu
6:00pm	Paul Coates	6:00pm	Judith McDonald

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Lilian Davenport, Margaret Warner and all those who have died recently and Canon James Belton, Fr James McKenna, Bishop Robert Cowgill, Fr Michael Pierse and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**PRAYER LIST**

Willie Shaw, 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.

**HALIFAX DEANERY MISSION WEEK – THIS WEEK!**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 7:00pm St Mary's Church – Talk on reconciliation and opportunity for confession  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 7:30pm The Square Chapel – Praise and worship with speaker Max Ford  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 7:00pm St Mary's Church – Talk on healing and Eucharistic healing service  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 7:00pm St Mary's Church – Mass of the Ascension celebrated by Bishop Stock**

**PAUL COATES LECTORATE**

Paul is currently studying and preparing for ordination to the Diaconate. One of the milestones on this journey is receiving the ministry of Lectorate. (This is one of the minor orders before ordination). Bishop Stock will institute Paul as a Lector at the 7:00pm Mass on Ascension Thursday. Please come along to support Paul with your presence and prayers on this important occasion.  
**After the Mass there will be a celebration in the Catholic Club – All welcome.**

**MASSES RECEIVED** Nicola and Tim Musial (Newly Married)

**MAY DEVOTIONS**

Each Sunday during the month of May there will be Rosary and Benediction in St Mary's at 4:00pm

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

If you require the services of the SVP please call 07512 011 440.  
The next meeting is on Tuesday 23rd May at 6 pm in St Alban's Parish room.

**200 CLUB**

It is now time for you to renew your subscription for the 200 club for 2023. New members are always welcome. Application forms available at the back of the Churches. Please let us know if your details have changed You can give your cheque/ cash to John Reynolds, Pat Ellison or Gretta Metcalfe. Thank you for your support.

Please remember the account name is **ST MARY'S RC CHURCH 200 CLUB**

**APRIL DRAW WINNERS**

£100 Janet Wild No104    £70 Ann Griffin No46    £30 Michael Coates No7

**NEED HELP GETTING TO AND FROM SUNDAY MASS AT ST MARY'S CHURCH?**

Parishioners who are struggling to get to Sunday Mass due to lack of suitable transport arrangements might wish to consider registering with Access Bus. Access Bus is run by Metro and provides door-to-door local transport which, in most cases, is free of charge.

Several parishioners already use this service to get to and from Sunday Mass at St Mary's Church.

For more information and to register for Access Bus you can visit

<https://wymetro.com/plan-a-journey/accessible-travel/accessbus/>

or telephone 0113 348 1903 Monday to Friday between 7:30am and 4pm.

## FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

You will all be familiar with the name of the person that Mass is being offered for being announced on the bulletin and at the beginning of Mass. Over the last few weeks, however, various parishioners have asked me how to go about having a Mass said for a particular person or intention, as they were unsure. I had just assumed that most people would know about this, but on reflection, why should you? Unless we have been told something, we don't know! So I'll take this as an opportunity to speak briefly about Mass intentions.

Offering Mass for a particular intention is a Catholic tradition that is almost as old as the Church itself. Records dating back to as early as the year 180AD show evidence of early Christians having a Mass said for a loved one. Yet, it is one of the most commonly misunderstood practices in our faith. The reason that this tradition has been passed on for centuries is because of the many spiritual fruits that result from this form of prayer. The celebration of the Eucharist is the highest form of worship in the Catholic Church because we unite ourselves with Christ's sacrifice on the cross in worship of his Father. St. John Paul II emphasized the graces that come when a Mass is offered. "The Church believes that she will be heard, for she prays in union with Christ her Head and Spouse, who takes up this plea of His Bride and joins it to His own redemptive sacrifice."

It is, of course, most common to have Masses offered for the dead. This is linked with our belief in Purgatory. We believe that if a person has died fundamentally at rights with God but still tainted by venial sin and the hurt caused by sin, then God in His divine love and mercy will first purify the soul. After this purification has been completed, the soul will have the holiness and purity needed to enter into the life of heaven. Therefore, just as we now pray for each other, share each other's burdens, and help each other on our journey through life, the faithful on earth can offer prayers and sacrifices to help departed souls undergoing purification to reach heaven, and no better prayer could be offered than that of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

However, Mass need not only be offered for those who have died. Masses can be said for those who are still alive. The Council of Trent says that Mass may be said "for the living and the dead, for sins, satisfactions, and other necessities." In other words, if you know someone who could benefit from the spiritual graces that come with having a Mass said on their behalf, there is no need to delay in doing so. In the same way, rarely do we think of having a Mass offered for a celebration. Is there a better way to show our gratitude to God? Masses can be said for birthdays, anniversaries, in celebration of the reception of the sacraments, or for prayers that have been answered!

So now that you have decided to have a Mass offered, how do you go about doing so? Well, there are small brown envelopes at the back of both our churches that can be filled in with your intention for the Mass and a space for you to request a preferred date on which the Mass will be said, if you have no preference, just leave that part blank. You can then hand the envelope to either me or Deacon John or pop it in the collection basket or through the presbytery door. There is no price tag on the Mass, however, it is customary to make an offering when requesting a Mass for an intention. This is placed inside the envelope. That said, please know that lack of money should never be the reason for deciding against this beautiful tradition.

Please remember too, that in accordance with *Canon 534.1* of the Church's law, I offer Mass once a week on a Sunday for all of the parishioners entrusted to my care.

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