



THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton

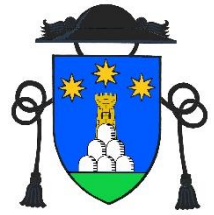
Deacon: Rev. John Walsh

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

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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:

For the intentions of Pauline Luniw



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 12 th NOVEMBER	32 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30am 11:00am 1:30pm 6:00pm	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's	Ellen Lonergan (A) Requiem War Dead Polish Mass People of the Parish
MONDAY 13 th	Feria	9:30am	St Mary's	Peter & Peggy Travis
TUESDAY 14 th	Feria	7:00pm	St Alban's	Parish Dead List
WEDNESDAY 15 th	REQUIEM MASS	1:00pm	St Alban's	John Lunt
THURSDAY 16 th	Parish Requiem	7:00pm	St Mary's	Parish Dead List
FRIDAY 17 th	Feria	9:30am	No Public Mass	
SATURDAY 18 th	Feria	12:15pm	St Mary's	Parish Dead List

READERS ROTA

	THIS SUNDAY		NEXT SUNDAY
9:30am	Gabrielle Colleran	9:30am	Ladies Guild
11:00am	Wendy Balahura	11:00am	Katarzina Machinu
6:00pm	Bernard Corcoran	6:00pm	Richard Siebierski

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 Hiltonor Deacon John know so that a visitation can be arranged.

MASSES RECEIVED: Michael Conway Birthday Remembrance

MONSIGNOR SMITH'S INDUCTION

Mgr Smith will be inducted as the Parish Priest of St Anne's, Keighley on Wednesday evening at 7pm. He has extended an open invitation to all members of our parish to attend.

PARISH REQUIEM

Will take place **this Thursday** at St Mary's at 7:00pm. You are welcome to bring a framed photograph of your loved ones to be placed on the sanctuary during the Mass. This will be an opportunity to come together as a parish, to remember our family and friends who have died and to pray for their eternal rest.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Parish Christmas party at Bertie's Crystal Ballroom in Elland on Thursday 7th December. The evening includes a three course meal and dancing. Tickets will be £35 per head. Tickets on sale now. We need to sell about **20 more** tickets to make this event viable.

PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets now on sale after Mass. The draw will take place at the parish party on the 7th.
1st Prize £100 cash. 2nd Prize a Halifax Town shirt signed by the whole squad. 3rd Prize a luxury Christmas Hamper. 4th Prize a £50 meal voucher for the Maypole Inn. 5th & 6th Prize 6 bottles of wine.
Tickets are £1 per strip

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you require the services of the SVP please call 07512 011 440.
Date of next meeting - Tuesday 21st November 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

WEDNESDAY ROSARY ZOOM CODES

From 15th November the new codes are ID: 724 2604 2240 Password: 9ErJMm

A DAY FOR ALICE

This Thursday, the staff and pupils at St Mary's will be taking time to celebrate the life of a much loved pupil, Alice Williams. 'A Day For Alice' will be held in school and is an opportunity for the school community to remember Alice and all of the things she enjoyed.

The day is also an opportunity for our school to raise money for a shelter to be built in the Key Stage 2 playground in memory of Alice.

In order to help our school community succeed in their fundraising efforts, on **Sunday 19th November**, there will be a special collection after all three Masses, organised by pupils from St Mary's. Donation boxes will be available both before and after Masses. Please give as generously as you can to show our Parish's love and support for Alice's friends and family.

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. 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 or Joanna Binns on 07932 595955

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

I remember very well, that as a child, one of the primary arguments that I used to make when my mum told us it was time to go to church on Sunday was that I didn't want to go because Mass was boring. The thought of having to finish my homework and go back to school the following day made Sunday depressing enough, without having to go and sit through Mass as well. Thankfully, as my understanding developed, this something that I grew out of, but for many people this remains a constant problem. (By the way, if you're reading during Mass because you're bored – stop it and put it down!)

This should not come as a surprise to you but I better say it just in case there is any confusion, you do not come to Mass to be entertained, Mass is not supposed to be entertaining and Mass should not be entertaining. If the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass does become a source of entertainment this usually means that the liturgy has become personality focused and that the priest has become some sort of performer, driven in the main, by narcissism and a desire for popularity. When this occurs, it means that we have lost all sight of what the Mass truly is and what is actually happening during the liturgy. Mass should never be entertaining, what it should be is engaging and enriching as we enter into the action of this supernatural drama.

We will only ever get something out of the Mass if we bring something to it. We will only ever find the Mass boring if we fail to understand what is really going on. Consider one of the mundane examples of life. At a large family gathering the adults sit around the table and talk after dinner, once the food is gone the children find the conversation crushingly boring. "How long are you going to sit and talk? Let's go play!" The conversation only becomes interesting when they reach a certain age and can begin to understand it and join in.

The Mass is not something to be watched. Entertainment is essentially a passive activity, a distraction and a diversion. This can be great fun and very important, but it is not the stuff of life. For everything of real importance we want to be participants, not just onlookers. At a Mass there are no passive onlookers, no members of an audience. Everyone should be busy and engaged in a work (from which the word "liturgy" derives).

What then is happening at Mass? What are we participating in? We are sharing in the life of the Trinity, the inner being of God Himself. We are partaking of heavenly worship, joining the angels and saints before God's throne. We are reliving the death and resurrection of Christ, and are participating in the life of Christ Himself as he continually offers Himself for the salvation of the world. We are sharing the life of the Holy Spirit with all other Catholics around the world and all our brothers and sisters who have ever lived, as the Mass mystically unites us across time and space. The whole body of Christ is worshipping, offering, being sacrificed, and being raised, as we participate in the central event of human history and of every individual life. There is nothing that we will ever do that is as half as significant as the celebration of the Mass. That is why the Church calls it the source and the summit of the Christian life.

So how then do we master the art of praying the liturgy? What can I do to participate more fully in the Holy Sacrifice and how can I become more engaged? More on that next week.

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