



THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY, HALIFAX

Incorporating the churches of St Alban and St Mary

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Joshua Hilton

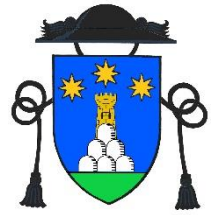
Deacon: Rev. John Walsh

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:

A private intention



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

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|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| SUNDAY 19 th NOVEMBER | 33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | 9:30am 11:00am 1:30pm 6:00pm | St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's St Alban's | Deceased mem. Ladies Guild Vicky Addamson & Jessie Rotheart Polish Mass Michael Conway Birthday An. |
| MONDAY 20 th | Feria | No Public Mass | | |
| TUESDAY 21 st | Presentation of B.V.M. | 7:00pm | St Alban's | Parish Dead List |
| WEDNESDAY 22 nd | St Cecilia | 9:30am | St Mary's | Parish Dead List |
| THURSDAY 23 rd | Feria | 9:30am | St Alban's | People of the Parish |
| FRIDAY 24 th | St Andrew Dung-Lac | 9:30am | St Mary's | Margaret Toolan |
| SATURDAY 25 th | St Catherine of Alexandria | 12:15pm | St Mary's | Parish Dead List |

READERS ROTA

| | THIS SUNDAY | | NEXT SUNDAY |
|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|
| 9:30am | Ladies Guild | 9:30am | Rachel Fitzpatrick |
| 11:00am | Katarzina Machinu | 11:00am | Jovanna Karuna |
| 6:00pm | Richard Siebierski | 6:00pm | Paul Coates |

PLEASE PRAY FOR Marie Morley, Margaret Fee, Christine Oates and all those who have died recently and for Fr Bob Staton, Fr William Bryson, Fr Jack Kennedy 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: Tim Williams RIP, Michael, Winifred & Carole Horan, Moska Family

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.

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

Last Thursday, the staff and pupils at St Mary's took time to celebrate the life of a much loved pupil, Alice Williams. 'A Day For Alice' was held in school and was an opportunity for the school community to remember Alice and all of the things she enjoyed. The day was also an opportunity for the 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, there will be a special collection after all three Masses **TODAY**, 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.

COME AND SEE PRAYER GROUP

'Mission Halifax' invite you to a new monthly prayer group. Prayerful reflection, Adoration, praise & worship, and testimony. All welcome. Friday 1st December, 7pm, St Patrick's Church, Elland HX5 0PU.

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

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS - Last week's loose collection was: **£633.23**

Standing Orders for the month of October came to: **£1750**

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

As I said last week, the purpose of the Mass is not entertainment, if it were, I'd want my money back. What we need to remember are the four ends of the Mass, its four main purposes and objectives. They are: 1. Adoration, that is, praising and loving Almighty God. 2. Thanksgiving, that is, offering thanks to God for all of His mercies and blessings. 3. Atonement, that is, making reparation for our sins and transgressions. 4. Petition, that is, asking God for help and praying for others. Obviously, we come to Mass also to hear God's Word in the readings and in the sermon and also to receive the Lord sacramentally in Holy Communion, but these things are all part and parcel of the four ends.

I often hear people talk about Mass as "going to communion," as a way of highlighting our participation. But we can sometimes encounter a problem at Mass if we are looking for the wrong kind of communion. Our highly sentimental culture often, mistakenly, suggests that emotional communion is the deepest and truest form of unity, and we can end up coming to Mass looking for something that will stir our emotions and make us feel emotionally connected to what is going on.

The Mass purposely does not attempt to provide emotional communion. Instead it pursues communion of mind and will with Christ and with one another. This does not mean that the Mass will not or should not touch us emotionally. There is much at the Mass that may move us deeply, whether it be an articulation of truth, an expression of beauty in music, architecture or vestments, or moments of personal grace when we are touched by the Holy Spirit. But these are left to arise as they may; they are not demanded of the worshipper, and except on a few special occasions the Mass does not attempt to produce a particular emotive response. Why is that?

The same liturgy needs to be available to everyone who is faithfully attending it: the old at the end of life and the young looking forward to life; those in happy circumstances and those experiencing anguishing tragedy; the young couple planning their wedding and the recently widowed woman mourning the loss of her husband. All need to be able to find communion together; all need to be able to actively participate in the same liturgy. That is why the Mass is purposely emotionally restrained. It does not allow any of the faithful to be excluded from its experience, it is universal.

It helps to remember that at every Mass, Christ is the centre, not us. It is true that we are not merely bystanders to His action; we participate in what He is doing through our mystical union with Him. Still, the focus of the Mass is to look away from the self and to enter the action of Christ in the Holy Spirit. Anything at Mass that allows us enter that union more deeply and aids us in participating in what Christ is doing is a help. Anything that distracts us from it or gets in the way is a hindrance.

At Mass we need to put all that aside, and settle ourselves to focus the active attention of our minds and wills on what is happening. We have attended Mass well, not when we come away feeling inspired by what other people have been doing there (that's an added grace), but when we can say that we have done our own work well. We've done well when we've prayed with reverence and attention, when we have allowed the visible aspects of the ceremony to bring us closer to the invisible realities that underlay them, when we have done our best to enter the great mystery taking place and we have received the Body of Christ reverently and with faith and most of all when we have been sure to offer our own adoration, thanksgiving, atonement and petition.

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