



Welcome to St Joseph's Catholic Church Bilton, Harrogate



Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Webb
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"The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven, and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel."
Pope Francis

Sunday 3rd December 2023 **First Sunday of Advent**



4.30pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve) Confessions
5.30pm (Sat Evening) Mass (Damian Hough [LD])
8.00am Mass (PARISH)
11.00am Mass (Special Intention [AN])

Tuesday 5th December

Advent Weekday

7.00pm Mass (Tom Murray [1st A])

Wednesday 6th December

St Nicholas, Bishop

9.30am Mass (Nona Starosta [LD])

Thursday 7th December

St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9.30am Mass (Ricardo Burdon [Birthday Thanksgiving])

Friday 8th December

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.30am Mass (Freda Conboy [LD])

Sunday 10th December 2023 **Second Sunday of Advent**



4.30pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve) Confessions
5.30pm (Sat Evening) Mass (Nancy Dewar-Somerville [A])
8.00am Mass (PARISH)
11.00am Mass (Thanksgiving [Life & Blessings])

Please Pray For:

Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may be always ready to welcome him:

For the Church and its leaders, that it may be fully engaged in the task Christ has entrusted to it. May it be awake and alert for the coming of the Lord.

For the peoples of the world and their leaders, that the promise of Christ's return may bring a new dawn of justice and peace among nations.

For an end to warfare, violence and acts of terrorism, that all peoples may enjoy life in peace and security.

For those in government and all who exercise authority, that they may be guided to work for the common good, especially for the powerless and voiceless in our society.

For our own parish community, that the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love and our Advent wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ.

For the bereaved and for all who are sick or suffering in any way that Christ's love for them will bring them comfort and strength.

Gracious God, your patience with us is beyond our understanding. We place our prayers before you, trusting that you will hear and answer them, through Christ, our Lord.

Please remember to turn-off mobile phones before Mass begins...Thank you!

REGULAR EVENTS & CONTACTS

APF Red Mission Boxes

Contact: Liz Walker 01423 881061

Brownies

Wednesday evenings in term-time 6.00pm - 7.15pm
Contact: 3rdbiltonbrownies@gmail.com

Catenians

Second Tuesday, 7.30pm at Ascot House Hotel
Contact: John Tolan 01423 884690

Children's Liturgy Group

Contact: Grace Foster 07515 686662

Choir (11.00am Mass)

Contact: Gill Crowther 01423 817885

Church Cleaning Team (More Volunteers Needed!)

Contact: Valerie Clemerson 07815 976912

Church Flowers Team

Contact: Helen Fletcher 01423 525216

Church Tea & Coffee Team (11.00am Mass)

Contacts: Anne Roberts 07867 788552
Annemarie Perry 07722 091465

Friendship Group

Tuesday Afternoons in the Hall - 1.30pm -2.45pm

Gift Aid Organiser

Contact: John Tweddle 01423 523332

Journey in Faith (RCIA)

Tuesdays as announced. (November - Easter)
Contact: Fr Stephen 01423 504124

Knights of St Columba

Contact: Jason Aldiss 07976 428198

Parish Hall Bookings

Contact: Elaine Flanagan 07791 500359
elaineflanagan184@btinternet.com

Piety Stall

Contacts: Helen Fletcher 07837 928851
Cathy Hudson 07790 814819

Polish Friendship Group

Contacts: Magda 07432 688582
Malgosia 07539 276304

Rotas (Eucharistic Ministry)

Contact: Bradley Gotting 07985 515307
b.gotting@sky.com

Rotas (Readers)

Contact: Paul Fletcher 01423 525216

Safeguarding Representatives (Parish)

Contact: Tony Cullen 07785 252253
psr.tcullen@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs G Delahay 01423 562650

St John Fisher Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mr S Mort 01423 887254

St Joseph's Pre-School (Term-time Mornings)

Contact Julie Kane 07792 657808

Readers & (Eucharistic Ministers) at Mass:

This Weekend: 2 / 3 December 2023

Vigil: C Antram; P Durbin (E Durbin; P Rochester)
8.00am: A Keith; D Bovo (A Hainsworth; J Walker)
11.00am: C Bohills; A Roberts (A Roberts; C Hudson)

Mass Next Weekend: 9 / 10 December 2023

Vigil: R Currie; V Clemerson (D Olszewski; P Durbin)
8.00am: A Leckenby; J Walker (M Hardacre; V Burdon)
11.00am: P Fletcher; S Butters (Paul Evans; B Gotting)

Mass Intentions Received Recently:

Hannah & Joe Toland; Josie McDonald; Lena Ford. Thanksgiving (Life & Blessings); Tom Murray (1st A); Jim McBride (2nd A); Ricardo Burdon (Birthday); Nona Starosta (LD).

Christmas Hamper Squares:

Our hamper squares are on sale before and after this weekends Masses. Squares are £3 each, or two for £5! Donations of bottles (unopened!) and gifts to make up the hampers are very much appreciated and can be left at the Sacristy. Thank you!

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal:

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you!

Christmas Poinsettias:

The Flower Team would be grateful to receive gifts of Poinsettias (either Red or Pink) for use in the Christmas Flowers. Please bring any donations of plants from the weekend of 16th / 17th December. Thank you for your generosity!

News from the School:

KS2 enjoyed taking part in the Be Internet Legends Day assembly hosted by Google and Parent Zone. It is so important for our children to learn about online safety and these assemblies are engaging and fun whilst delivering strong messages of kindness and being alert to false information. The rehearsals for Nativities and Pantomimes are in full swing and it is wonderful to hear such beautiful singing ringing around our school. Reception did a wonderful job presenting their first class assembly to a very full hall. We are so proud of how clearly and confidently they spoke, with beautiful smiles and joyous singing. This half term is the turn of St Margaret House to collect donations for the Harrogate Foodbank. The foodbank is absolutely delighted with our families' generosity. Our Advent fundraising begins on Monday, with our focus being on raising much needed funds for Friends of the Holy Land.

Reading Volunteers for School

Thank you for such a positive response to our plea last week. We are delighted that members of our Parish are engaging with school life. If being a reader is something you would like to do in the future, we will always welcome more volunteers. The children in particular are enjoying meeting you all.

OFFERTORIES

25 / 26 November 2023

Weekly Offerings	£583.64
Av Weekly Standing Orders	£632.38
Total	£1216.02
Youth Service	£121.96

Parish Banking Details:

Name: Diocese of Leeds, St Joseph's Harrogate
Sort Code: 40-27-15 **Account Number:** 11017500

Many thanks for your continued generosity

Catholic Care Prayer Cards:

This year Catholic Care are celebrating 160 years, 1863 to 2023. To mark the occasion we have a special prayer card which is available at the back of Church. Please join in our celebrations and pray with us so we can continue to be alongside those in need.

Festive Fundraiser for Mind:

The Italian Community, La Buona Notizia, is inviting you all on Sunday the 3rd of December 2023, to a Christmas event at St Joseph's Hall, Harrogate, to begin after Refreshments after Mass and run until 3.00pm. There will be music, drinks, food, tombola, raffles and entertainment. Proceeds in aid of Mind in the Harrogate District.

Cupertino Group Masses:

3rd December, 3pm. St Joseph's Catholic Church, West Gate, Wetherby, LS22 6LL. Contact number: Fr Frank - 07850 076926 Rosie - 07891 951949. These monthly Masses are for children with additional needs and disabilities.

Compline for Advent Sung by Leeds Cathedral Choir:

A recording of Compline sung by the Cathedral Choir will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 at 9.30pm on Monday 4 December. The programme will also be available for 30 days after broadcast on BBC Sounds (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001svtx>).

Carol Service, Leeds Trinity University:

Carols by candlelight on Monday 4th December at 7.00pm in the Chapel including performances from the Leeds Trinity University Chapel Choir and Mount St Mary's Catholic High School. Complimentary mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards. For more information and to book visit: www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/events

Information Event on the Permanent Diaconate:

A Zoom event for those who feel they might have a calling to the Permanent Diaconate or just want to know more about this ministry, Wednesday 6th December, 8pm. For further information and Log-in details or for a conversation about the Permanent Diaconate please contact: david.arblaster@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or call 07742 418979.

Advent Preached Retreat:

"See, I am doing something New!" (Isaiah 43:19) Fr. Eamonn Mulcahy, CSSp will lead a weekend retreat welcoming the Ever-Coming God who makes all things new. Dec 8th - 10th at The Briery, Ilkley. To for either event, or to find out more: www.briery.org.uk email admin@briery.org.uk or telephone 01943 607287.

Polish Friendship Group:

Join the Polish friendship group on Sunday 10th December from 4pm - 6pm in the church hall to make a beautiful advent wreath for your home. You will need to bring your own materials such as fresh foliage, baubles, a ribbon, candle/s, other materials you want to decorate your wreath with and a dish you want to arrange your creation in. While you are making your wreath, Enjoy freshly made cakes and the company of others. Have a question? Please call Malgosia on 07539 276304

Christmas Family Social:

On Thursday 14th December, we shall have our Christmas Family Social in our church hall from 6pm to 9pm. (Tickets are FREE, but places limited to 80) There

will be a shared table, licenced bar, Christmas music provided by Tom, children's activities and good old carol singing for all!. There are still a few tickets left - please sign up with numbers this weekend!

Listening to the Signs of the Times:

The Diocesan J&P Commission invite you to come and share your social justice concerns, reflect on the signs of Hope that we see and discern what further actions about social justice we should be taking. Saturday 16th December. Wheeler Hall. All welcome. Lunch will be provided so please register to attend on their website www.leedsjp.org.uk 11am-1pm

Leeds Cathedral Advent Day of Reconciliation:

Tuesday 19th December, 7am to 7pm. There will be priests available to hear confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day.

Carol Service & Solemn Benediction:

Scarthingwell Church LS24 9PH - The Rudgate Singers will lead a Traditional Carol Service concluding with Solemn Benediction on Sat 23rd Dec 3.30pm at All welcome.

The Trinity Conference 2024:

Reawakening the Catholic Vision - Saturday 17th February 2024, 9.00am-5.00pm, Leeds Trinity University, LS18 5HD. How can the Catholic Church understand and respond to an increasingly disaffiliated and disengaged generation? What is the future of our Catholic parishes, schools, homes, catechesis and the common good? TC24 will explore the contextual climate of our Western, 'post-Christendom' society, and the implications this has for the Church's mission today. To book or for more info, email: h.hayward@leedstrinity.ac.uk

Aid to the Church in Need Pilgrimage:

Travel the pilgrim paths of the early church in Durham, Lindisfarne, Escomb, Ruthwell and Jarrow with Saints Cuthbert and Bede. Including reflections on the persecuted Church of today and history of the early church led by our pilgrim historian Suze Mathews who specialises in Anglo-Saxon history and by Fr Jeremy Howard. Opportunities for communal prayer of the Divine Office, daily Mass and devotions. 22nd - 27th July 2024. More information and booking email Teresa.kehoe@acnuk.org

Gospel Meditation:

Each Thursday evening The Briery host a meditation via Zoom focusing on the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday and provide an opportunity for shared reflection in small groups. Meditation begins at 7.30pm and the 'doors' are open from 7.15pm for a welcome and chat. All are welcome. To register for the link to join, please contact the administrators on 01943 607287 or email admin@briery.org.uk

First Sacraments 2023/24 - dates for your diary:

Please find below the dates for the celebration of the First Sacraments in the coming year. Details of Preparation sessions will follow.

Confirmation - Thursday 8th February 2024 - 7.00pm (for Year 6 children and above)

First Reconciliation - Thursday 21st March 2024 - 3 Services in the afternoon (for Yr 3 Children and above)

First Holy Communion - Saturday 8th June 2024 - 2 Masses during the day (for Year 4 Children and above)