

This is Holy Week...

Palm Sunday: On Palm Sunday, we commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, where crowds welcomed Him with palm branches, shouting "Hosanna!" This day marks the beginning of Holy Week, inviting us to reflect on Jesus' journey towards the Cross. As we wave our palm branches, we're reminded of the fleeting nature of human praise and the need for a deeper, more enduring commitment to Christ.

Holy Monday: Holy Monday invites us to contemplate Jesus' actions on this day, particularly His cleansing of the Temple. It's a reminder of the importance of sincerity and reverence in our worship, as well as the need to rid our hearts of anything that obstructs our relationship with God. We're challenged to examine our lives and remove the distractions that hinder our spiritual growth.

Holy Tuesday: On Holy Tuesday, we reflect on Jesus' teachings in the Temple, including the powerful lessons He imparted to His disciples and the religious leaders. This day calls us to listen attentively to Christ's words and to deepen our understanding of His teachings. It's an opportunity to renew our commitment to living out the Gospel message in our daily lives.

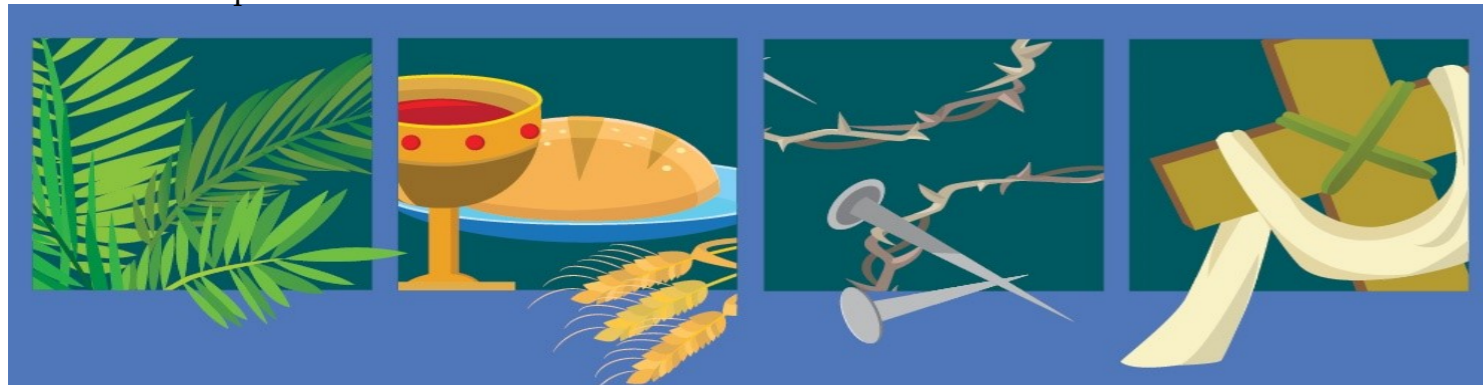
Spy Wednesday: Spy Wednesday is named after Judas Iscariot's betrayal of Jesus, as he conspired with the religious authorities to hand Him over. This day reminds us of the reality of human frailty and the consequences of succumbing to temptation. It challenges us to examine our own hearts and confront any tendencies towards betrayal or dishonesty, seeking instead to remain faithful to Christ.

Holy Thursday: Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper, where Jesus instituted the Eucharist and washed His disciples' feet as a sign of humble service. It's a day of profound significance, highlighting the sacrificial love and servant leadership exemplified by Jesus. As we participate in the Mass of the Lord's Supper and the ritual of the washing of the feet, we're called to emulate Christ's example by serving others with humility and love.

Good Friday: Good Friday marks the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ, the culmination of His earthly mission to redeem humanity. On this solemn day, we enter into the mystery of Christ's suffering and death, contemplating the depth of His love for us. Through prayer, fasting, and participation in the liturgical rites, we accompany Jesus on His journey to Calvary, meditating on the significance of His sacrifice for our salvation.

Holy Saturday: Holy Saturday is a day of anticipation and waiting, as we reflect on Jesus' descent into the realm of the dead and His victory over sin and death. It's a time of quiet contemplation and preparation for the joyous celebration of Easter. As we await the Resurrection, we're invited to trust in God's promise of new life and renewal, even in the midst of darkness and uncertainty.

Easter Sunday: Easter Sunday is the culmination of Holy Week, as we rejoice in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This day marks the triumph of light over darkness, life over death, and hope over despair. As we gather to celebrate the Mass of the Resurrection, we proclaim with joy the Good News of Christ's victory and the promise of eternal life. Easter invites us to live as people of hope, embracing the transformative power of Christ's Resurrection in our lives and in the world.



Welcome to St Joseph's Catholic Church Bilton, Harrogate



St Joseph's Catholic Church
www.stjosephsharrogate.org.uk

Diocese of Leeds Registered Charity No: 249404

Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Webb
St Joseph's Presbytery
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Harrogate HG1 3HD
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"Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with him is shown in times of difficulty." Pope Francis.

SERVICES & MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 24th March 2024	Palm Sunday	4.00pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve) Confessions 5.30pm (Sat Evening) Mass (Bernadette [Sp Int]) 8.00am Mass (PARISH) 11.00am Mass (Piotr Szczurek [A])
Tuesday 26th March	Tuesday of Holy Week	** NB - Note the Time! ** 6.15pm Stations of the Cross 7.00pm Mass (Sean Sibley [Sp Int])
Wednesday 27th March	Wednesday of Holy Week	9.30am Mass (Tolan Family [Sp Int]) 11.00am Chrism Mass at the Cathedral
Thursday 28th March	Maundy Thursday	7.00pm Mass (Priests & Vocations) with Watch at the Altar of Repose until 9.00pm
Friday 29th March	Good Friday	11.00am - 11.45am Confessions 12.00noon Stations of the Cross 3.00pm The Liturgy of Good Friday
Saturday 30th March	Holy Saturday	10.00am Święconka (The Blessing of Easter Baskets) 7.00pm The Easter Vigil (Jennifer Redman & Sarah Lingard)
Sunday 31st March 2024	Easter Sunday	8.00am Mass (Donald & Betty McCormick [RIP]) 11.00am Mass (PARISH)

Please Pray For:

In the suffering and death of Christ we see God's boundless love for us, so with confidence we pray:

For Francis our Pope and Marcus our Bishop, that they may lead us into a deeper understanding of the Passion and Death of the Lord.

For peace in our world, that the people of our generation may follow the example of Christ and find peace through forgiveness and reconciliation.

For our response to our Lenten Project, that we may give joyfully and sacrificially, to help the Little Sisters of the Poor, in their care for the elderly.

For all gathered here to celebrate this Mass, that we may keep Holy Week well and so be drawn more deeply into the saving mystery of Christ's death and Resurrection.

For the sick and the suffering, the elderly and infirm, that they will experience the healing touch of Christ.

God our Father, you anointed Jesus your Son to bear our sins, to encourage the weary, to raise up and restore a fallen world. May the paschal mystery of Christ's death and Resurrection be a reality in our lives. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

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: 23 / 24 March 2024

Vigil: See Duty Lists in Church - sign up for spaces!
8.00am: See Duty Lists in Church - sign up for spaces!
11.00am See Duty Lists in Church - sign up for spaces!

Mass Next Weekend: 30 / 31 March 2024

Vigil: See Duty Lists in Church - sign up for spaces!
8.00am: See Duty Lists in Church - sign up for spaces!
11.00am See Duty Lists in Church - sign up for spaces!

Mass Intentions Received Recently:

Irenaeus Olszewski (LD); Tolan Family (Sp Int); Cristian Bombara (Sp Int); Pauline O'Boyle (RIP); Eva & Stefan Novak (RIP); David King (Sp Int); Priests & Vocations.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers:

Please sign up for Holy Week and Easter duties - Thank you!

Holy Week & Easter at St Joseph's, Harrogate:

Please see the front of the bulletin for times.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) has been celebrated widely this past week (and indeed this weekend) - in addition to these times I will be available before Mass on Wednesday morning from 9.00am, and also before Stations on Good Friday from 11.00am until 11.45am.

Stations for the Nations:

Our Parish family comes from many nations, and to celebrate this, I would like the Stations of the Cross on the Tuesday of Holy Week to reflect the many languages which are spoken within our parish family. I am looking for volunteers to sign up to pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be, in other languages - which language can you offer? **Please sign up** on the sheet after Mass this weekend. Thankyou!

St Joseph's Lenten Project 2024: Little Sisters of the Poor - Urgent Appeal for Mount St Joseph's:

Our Lenten Appeal continues - in the first five weeks we have raised £2900 - which is fantastic...what more can we do before Easter? There are still Gift Aid envelopes at the back of Church, please use them and return them to Church. There is also a button on the Dona machine. This weekend is the last weekend of Retiring Collections - but anything which arrives in the coming weeks will be added to the final total. Thank you for your prayerful and sacrificial response to this urgent need.

Reading the Bible:

Sincere thanks to Dr Geoffrey Turner for leading our Lenten Course this year - each one of us who attended learned a great deal, and look forward to the next one!

Easter Cake Sale:

Delicious cakes will be on sale on Saturday 30th March from 10.30am in the church hall. The event is organised by the Polish Saturday School in Harrogate to raise funds for the rehabilitation of Alan, a 16 year old boy from Ripon. Contact pssharrowgate@gmail.com to sign up to volunteer or contribute a cake.

The Second Session of the Synod of Bishops:

Preparations are now underway for the second session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of

OFFERTORIES

16 / 17 March 2024

Weekly Offerings	£607.44
Av Weekly Standing Orders	£780.68
Total	£1388.12

Lenten Project (Little Sisters)	£2941.00 (wks 1-5)
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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

Bishops in Rome this October 2024. The Synod Office in Rome has asked the local Churches to reflect on the following specific question: 'HOW can we be a synodal Church in mission?' For further information on this stage of the synodal process and to submit any reflections please visit the diocesan synodal webpages: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/parish-to-mission/>.

Lourdes Pilgrimage – Fundraising:

Message from Jacob: A huge 'thank you' to everyone who supported my fundraising towards my Lourdes pilgrimage. A total of £319 has been raised through raffle ticket sales and donations. The winner of the Easter Egg raffle was Mrs Mottram. Thank you once again.

First Reconciliation 2024:

Congratulations to all our Young People who made their First Reconciliation this week.

First Holy Communion 2024:

The date for the celebration of First Holy Communion is **Saturday 8th June** - because of the size of our Church, there will be two celebratory Masses that day.

If your child is in Year 4 or above, and would like to receive the Sacrament this year, then they need to commit to the following course of preparation.

There will be a Parents' / Carers' Meeting on **Wednesday 17th April** at 6.00pm in Church.

The THREE preparation sessions are as follows:

Sat 20th April: 10am-2pm in the Church Hall

Sat 27th April (new date): 10am-2pm in the Church Hall

Sat 18th May: 10am-2pm in the Church Hall

The middle of the three dates was changed because of the Bank Holiday weekend, and the difficulties this might cause families. Those who are already registered with the Catechist will have received an email - however if you are new to the parish, and did not complete the other sarments here, then please make contact with Mrs Keith at catechist@stjosephsharrogate.org

School News:

What a busy last week of term! Y2 and Y4 had an 'owlsome' experience with the Harrogate Birds of Prey and Creature Cave. They were introduced to four spectacular owls - the class favourite was definitely Olaf. Y6 led the Stations of the Cross to all the KS2 classes. Y4 performed the Gospel Show to families. It was a very powerful dramatization of the Easter story. The children's acting and singing were amazing. Well done, Y4! The Easter Egg-stravaganza was greatly enjoyed and well done to all those who won a chocolate egg! We're so grateful for the monies being raised to support the Little Sisters of the Poor. We celebrated the feast day of St. Joseph as a whole school in church. Y6 led with reverence and continue to be prayerful role models. We finished the term with a joyful Good Shepherd walk to Killinghall Moor Park to raise funds for Catholic Care. Fr Stephen visited school to bless our new Prayer Garden where representatives of each class were present for this joyous occasion. We so grateful to Mr Warren Considine for his help in creating this lovely space. Have a blessed Easter!

Deepening Our Faith with Lectio Divina:

Lectio Divina will continue in Church after the 7.00pm Mass on Tuesday evenings - please contact Val at vmese@hotmail.co.uk for more details.

J S Bach's Mass in B Minor:

At St Peter's Church, Harrogate, on Wednesday 27th March at 7.15pm. Performed by the choir of St Peter's, Vocalis, Harrogate Bach Players and soloists. Tickets from Eventbrite, St Peter's Parish Office (07425161425) or on the door (card or cash)

Fundraising For the Little Sisters:

Michelle and Gloria will be raising funds for the Little Sisters at Mount St Joseph's Care Home with a plant stall and tombola on the 14th April after the 8.00am & 11.00am Masses. If anyone would like to bring their own plant pots for Gloria to refill, then catch her after Mass, and make arrangements with her.

Celebration of Married Life:

On Saturday 18th May, there will be a special Celebration Mass for Married Life at Leeds Cathedral at 12noon for couples and their families celebrating their 25th (Silver), 40th (Ruby), 50th (Golden), 60th (Diamond) and 70th (Platinum) wedding anniversaries this year. There will be an opportunity for couples, who wish to do so, to renew their marriage vows during the liturgy. If you are celebrating the anniversary of your wedding and you would like to take part in this celebration, please fill out the application form which is available at the back of church.

Leeds Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage:

5 - 11th July 2024 from Leeds/Bradford Airport: The theme is 'and that people should come in Procession'. Booking now open and places are filling up. Please book with Tangney Tours T: 01732 886666 or online: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-leeds/>.

Further information is available at <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage/>. If you are interested in volunteering, (especially appealing for doctors, particularly GPs and nurses) please contact: lourdes.enquiries@dioceseofleeds.org.uk. Dates for your diary: Sunday 14th April Meet the Pilgrims, Hinsley Hall, 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Saturday 8th June Pre-departure Mass 11.30am Leeds Cathedral.

Medjugorje Youth Festival:

31st July - 7th August for further details go to: www.aglowpilgrimages.com or call Katherine on 01423 734828 for more information. All are welcome to enjoy this amazing opportunity for fun, friendship, singing and worship to come closer to Jesus.

Flame 2025:

The largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. Join thousands of young people for a day of music, prayer, worship, talks from great speakers and much more at Wembley Arena, London, Saturday 15th March 2025! £70 per person (including return coach travel). Email youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk to book yours!

The Catholic Schools Appeal Service:

are recruiting panel members to hear appeals by parents for Diocesan school places. Voluntary role. Travel expenses can be claimed and full training will be provided. Appeal panels consist of lay members of the community and those from an educational background. The training session will be held on Thursday 16th May, 1.00pm- 4.00pm, Hinsley Hall. For further information, please contact education.admin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk