

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 Ben Griffiths
St Joseph's Presbytery
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SERVICES & MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 2nd February 2025	**The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)**	
	4.00pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve)	Confessions
	5.30pm (Sat Evening)	Mass: John Hough
	8.00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11.00am	Mass: Elfrieda Erna Dora Nokes (RIP)
Tuesday 4th February	**No Mass at St Joseph's**	
	7.00pm	**Confirmations at St Robert's**
Wednesday 5th February	**St Agatha**	Martyr
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Thursday 6th February	**St Paul Miki**	Martyr
	9:30am	Mass: Margaret Dobson (sick)
Friday 7th February	**Weekday in OT**	
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Saturday 8th February	**St Josephine Bakhita**	Virgin
	9:30am	Mass: For the Priests of the Diocese
Sunday 9th February	**Fifth Sunday in OT**	
	4:30-5:00pm (Sat Evening)	Confessions
	5:30pm (Saturday))	Mass: Canon Philip Fitzgerald (RIP)
	8:00am	Mass: (SVP) Helen Holcroft (In Thanksgiving)
	11:00am	Mass: People of the Parish

Regular Events and Contacts

APF Mill Hill Red Mission Boxes
Contact: Liz Walker 07816 288125

Bereavement Support
Contact Fr Ben who will arrange for a member of the Bereavement Support team to contact you.

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: *Pending Appointment*

Choir: 11am Mass
Contact: Gill Crowther 01423 817885

Church Cleaning Teams (More Volunteers Needed!)
Contact: Valerie Clemerson 07815 976912

Church Flower Team
Contact: Helen Fletcher 01423 525216

Church Tea & Coffee Team (11am 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 Ben 01423 504124

Parish Hall Bookings
Contact: Elaine Flanagan 07791 500359
elaineflanagan184@btinternet.com

Piety Stall
Contacts: Helen Fletcher 07837 928851
Cathy Hudson 07790 814819

Rotas (Counters) Contact: Liz King 07771 711714

Rotas (Eucharistic Ministry)
Contact: Bradley Gotting 07985 515307
b.gotting@sky.com

Rotas (Readers)
Contact: Paul Fletcher 01423 525216

Safeguarding Representative (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

Readers (and Eucharistic Ministers) at Mass

This Weekend: 1st & 2nd February 2025
Vigil: P Durbin, A Player (D Olszewski, M Flanagan)
8.00am: A Keith, J Walker (J Tweddle, V Burdon)
11.00am A Roberts, A Player (C Hudson, H Fletcher)

Next Weekend 8th & 9th February 2025
Vigil: V Clemerson, I Morritt (P & E Durbin)
8.00am: G Turner, A Keith (A Hainsworth, M Hardacre)
11.00am: S Butters, J Tweddle (A Roberts, B Gotting)

Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate: Now served in the Church entrance after the 8am Mass. You can stay and chat, or take your drink and leave, whichever you prefer. All welcome.

"Pilgrims of Hope" Holy/Jubilee Year 2025: There are Jubilee Pilgrimage Churches in every deanery. Ours in Harrogate Deanery are St Wilfrid's in Ripon, and the Shrine of Our Lady of the Crag in Knaresborough. The Jubilee Indulgence may be gained by making pilgrimage to these Churches. The Cathedral in Leeds is also somewhere you may go to gain the Jubilee Indulgence throughout the Holy Year

Confirmations Will take place at St Robert's, Harrogate at 7pm this Tuesday. Many thanks to our wonderful catechists who have prepared our children so well to receive the Sacrament.

Piety Stall: There are Confirmation cards and gifts available in the parish piety stall. A new Sunday Missal would make a good present for Confirmation too. Please see Helen Fletcher and/or Cathy Hudson at the stall, and they will be pleased to show you what we have in stock.

Offertory Collection:
Collection Plate: £391.40 Standing Orders & Dona (weekly average): £740. £165 was transferred to Catholic Care from the recycled inkjet scheme. Retiring collection next weekend for the Lourdes Fund.

Centenary Celebration Committee: As you know we are celebrating the centenary of the opening of our beautiful Church this year. The Bishop is coming on Saturday 26th July. We would like to form a small committee to help plan some lovely , inclusive celebrations then and throughout our centenary year. Please speak with Fr Ben if you would like to help the parish in this way.

First Reconciliation: "First Confessions": The dates for this is Wednesday 2nd April from 3-4:30pm (The School closes for Easter on 4th April) Parents Meeting 12th March. Preparatory catechesis for the children: Saturday 15th March & Saturday 29th March. Children need to be in at least Year 3 to receive this Sacrament. Enrolment for this will begin very shortly. In signing up to receive the Sacrament of first Reconciliation, you are also agreeing for your child to proceed to First Holy Communion in Year 4, and Confirmation in Year 6.

First Holy Communions 2025: Dates for your diaries for preparation and celebration of First Holy Communions. Parents Meeting: Wednesday 23rd April 2025, Preparation dates with the children: On Saturdays: 26th April, 10th May and 7th June 2025. **First Holy Communion Day: Saturday 21st June 2025** with two Masses at 11am and 1:30pm. More information and enrolment very soon. Anyone in Year 4 or above is eligible to make their First Holy Communion

St Joseph's, Bilton SVP Conference: The SVP Conference in the Parish is now active with new members. We have been financially supporting single people, families and children in food and fuel poverty. We have also contributed to SVP activities at St Vincent's Centre Leeds, to the Prison Chaplaincy teams in our district and the SVP Appeal for South Sudan. We are hoping to begin Parish visiting later in the Spring. If you want to know more about the Parish SVP do use the Conference mobile number and/or if you know someone in need, please call 07350 85735

Safeguarding Conference Saturday 8th February 2025 at Hinsley Hall (62, Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS6 2BX) from 10am-3pm. Talks include hearing from victims and survivors; on Dementia Friendly Churches: When are you ready: Hydrant Programme. Opportunities to share good practice. To book a place please email safeguarding@dioceseofleeds.org.uk. Lunch will be provided. Please let us know when booking if you have any dietary requirements.

Centenary Celebration Committee: As you know we are celebrating the Centenary of the opening of our beautiful church this year, and Bishop Marcus will be with us on 26th July. We wish to form a small committee of people to help plan events to mark this momentous year in our parish history. If interested to help in this way, please speak with Fr Ben after Mass.

Tuesday Friends: A reminder of this weekly meeting in our parish hall. All welcome to come along for companionship, friendship and fun. Details on the notice board downstairs.

New Bereavement Ministry Training: The next training course will be at The Briery in Ilkley on Saturday 22nd March and Saturday 5th April from 9:45am-4pm each day. For more information or an application form please contact The Elizabeth Prout Bereavement Care Team at epbereavementcare@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Friday 4th to Thursday 10th July 2025. Bookings are now open. The theme is "With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope," to coincide with the Jubilee Year of Hope. Early booking strongly recommended. In anticipation of higher than usual numbers, transfers will be offered to and from Stansted Airport once the Leeds flight is full. Please book via the Tagney website or by phone directly with Tagney Tours. Further information is available via the Diocesan website.

Little Sisters Fundraising Event: On Friday 28th February at the Leeds Irish Centre, Tara Suite. 7:30pm. Tickets £25. Meal of soda bread, Irish Stew and Dessert. Also Irish Band & Dancing, sing-along, auction and raffle. All proceeds to go to the rebuilding of Mt St Joseph's. Contact details. Sr Christina. Email: funds.leeds@lsplondon.co.uk

Short Retreat "time to Meet the God of Surprises" led by Fr Chris Thomas 11th-13th February at The Briery, Ilkley. Fr Thomas leads the Irenaeus Project in Liverpool, a retreat centre and the Archdiocese of Liverpool's Centre for Spirituality and Outreach. His retreats promise to be thoughtful, inspiring and perhaps a little challenging! Residential or non-residential places available. Contact the Administrator admin@briery.org.uk 01943 607287 for more information or to book.

Youth 2000 Leeds Retreat: offers young adults (aged 18-35) from across the Diocese the opportunity to come together and explore what it means to be in a relationship with God. Offering the opportunity to encounter Jesus in the Eucharist, grow in relationship with Him and His Mother, and form friendships with other young adults from the local area. Saturday 15th February, Leeds Trinity University, Brownberrie Lane, Horsforth, LS18 5HD. Tickets from https://www.youth2000.org/events

Thank You from Friends of the Holy Land: The charity would like to thank all parishioners for £219.80 raised for Christians in the Holy Land, at a time when they are desperately in need of our help. They ask us to continue to remember their work in your prayers, giving them the strength to continue their mission.

Catechists for First Confession, FHC and Confirmation. We could really do with some new volunteers to help our established catechists for these sacraments. Full training and support will be given to follow the Diocesan Programmes for these Sacraments. Contact Amy Keith (8am Mass), Alicia Player (11am Mass) or speak with Fr Ben after Mass.

Deanery Day of Renewal: Saturday 8th February from 11:30am to 3.45pm in St Aelred's Church Hall, Woodlands Drive, Harrogate, HG2 7BE. The speaker this month is David Bolton. Title of the talk is "Candlemas and Prophecy." Exploring the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. Luke 2:22-39 and the prophecies of Simeon and Anna.

Silver Swans Ballet Sessions: In St Joseph's Church hall every Thursday from 10.30-11.30am. £7 per session. Silver Swans teachers are trained specifically to teach a range of abilities and people over 55. These open, accessible and low impact classes are set to beautiful classical music. Contact Mary Fielding 07970 962341 or Michelle Vink 07739 975000.

News from the School: We received amazing news that we are officially Guinness World Record Holders from our participation in the Largest Poetry Lesson (Multi Venues). The formal record is for 43,516 people (from around 500 schools), which is enough to fill a football stadium! On Friday, our rescheduled planetarium visit took place, with children arriving in fantastic space-themed outfits! Each class participated in a special show and the children's responses were out-of-this-world! This followed a hugely successful *Galactic Bake Sale*, which helped make the visit possible. We are so grateful for the support of our families — these experiences wouldn't happen without you.
Y6 also had their penultimate visit from the *Angelic Sewers*, and the waistcoats are looking very stylish—one more week to go! Additionally, we're inviting parents and members of our parish in science-related fields to enrich our pupils' learning. If you can deliver a short talk or workshop, please contact the school office. Thank you for your support!

Vacancies

- **Catholic Care Chief Executive Officer Vacancy:** Salary £80K-£90K prop rata, depending on experience. Based in Leeds. Our ideal candidate will possess strong personal values with the vision and skills for leadership and a passion for caring for people in need and improving people's lives. They will have significant experience of leadership and developing and delivering strategy. For further details and how to apply please visit http://www.catholic-care.org.uk/recruit/latest-vacancies/, email or speak to Katrina on 0113 388 5400 or send your CV and cover letter to Katrina.greenhalf@catholic-care.org.uk. Closing date 9th February.
- **Catholic Care Vacancy:** School Social Worker. Salary: SP 18-25 currently £30,559-£35,235, pro rata dependent upon qualifications and experience. Post: Permanent part-time or 1 x Fixed term 15hrs to cover maternity leave. Location: West and North Yorkshire. You must hold a Social Work qualification. Closing date: open until the vacancy is filled.
- **Assistant Headteacher Vacancy:** St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Horsforth. Start April 2025. Closing date 7th February 2025. (bishopwheelercatholicacademytrust.org.uk To discuss or arrange a visit, contact Helen Tye at h.tye@stmaryshorsforth.org