

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
281 Skipton Road Harrogate HG1 3HD
Tel: (01423) 504124
e-mail: benjamin.griffiths@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

SERVICES & MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 5th January 2025	**The Epiphany of the Lord**	
	4.00pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve)	Confessions
	5.30pm (Sat Evening)	Mass: Margaret Rose Gilroy (A)
	8.00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11.00am	Mass: Catherine Almagro
Tuesday 7th January	**St Raymond of Penyafort**	
	7:00pm	Mass: For the Priests of the Diocese of Leeds.
Wednesday 8th January	**Wednesday after Epiphany**	
	9:30am	Mass: Foundation Mass
Thursday 9th January	**Thursday after Epiphany**	
	9:30am	Mass: Fr Gerard Kearney
Friday 10th January	**Friday after Epiphany**	
	9:30am	Mass: Josie McDonald & Family
Saturday 11th January	**Saturday after Epiphany**	
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Sunday 12th January	**The Baptism of the Lord**	
	4:30-5:00pm (Sat Evening)	Confessions
	5:30pm (Saturday))	Mass: For Josif
	8:00am	Mass: Rosemary Kinnear (RIP)
	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 (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: 4th & 5th January 2025
Vigil: I Morritt, C Antram (P Durbin, E Durbin)
8.00am: M Hardacre, C Currie (J Walker, A Hainsworth)
11.00am C Antram, P Fletcher (H Fletcher, P Evans)

Next Weekend 11th & 12th January 2025
Vigil: P Allinson, R Currie (D Olszewski, M Flanagan)
8.00am: A Leckenby, M Hardacre (M Hardacre, J Tweddle)
11.00am: A Player, H Fletcher (A Roberts, A-M Perry)

Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate: will now be available in the Church entrance after the 8am Mass. There is no charge for this. You can stay and chat, or take your drink and leave, whichever you prefer. All welcome.

"Pilgrims of Hope" Holy/Jubilee Year 2025: The Holy Father Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve, marking the beginning of the Jubilee Year, the theme of which is Pilgrims of Hope. There are to be 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

Jubilee Year Prayer Vigil: St Mary's, Batley will be hosting a Prayer Vigil entitled "Crucem, Hostia et Virginem" (The Cross, the Host and the Virgin Mary) on the First Friday of each month in 2025. There will be an opportunity for Confession, Adoration, Mass and receiving the Jubilee Indulgence. First Fridays at 6pm

Confirmations 2025: Dates of Meetings:
Parents Meeting: Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 6pm. **Please note that is THIS Wednesday**
Preparatory Catechesis for Candidates: Saturday 11th January **(Please note that is THIS Saturday)** Saturday 25th January and Saturday 1st February. All days run from 10am to 2pm.
Confirmations Will take place at St Robert's, Harrogate on the evening of Tuesday 4th February 2025.

Offertory Collection:
Collection Plate: £ 370.71 Standing Orders & Dona (weekly average): £810. Thank you!

The Epiphany: The Church reaches every corner of the world, every culture and time. As a symbol of that Universality, Fr Ben invites anyone who speaks another language to join him round the altar this weekend at the "Our Father" and we will pray simultaneously the Our Father in our own languages.

Crib Offerings: As usual these will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land Charity in support of the humanitarian relief-work they undertake in communities in the Holy Land, the West Bank and Gaza. Box available at the front of Church, near the Lectern. A further £93.60 was donated last weekend. Total now £212.30

Recent Deaths: Of your charity, please pray for the following parishioners who have died recently:
Kevin Turner: His funeral will take place here at St Joseph's on Thursday January 16th at 12noon. There will be a wake in the Parish Hall after the service.
Peter Hamblin: He and his wife, Mary, moved to Saltburn around 7 years ago. His Requiem Mass will take place here at St Joseph's at 1:45pm on Tuesday January 21st, celebrated by Canon Lawrie Hulme.
Elizabeth Anne Grunwell (nee Ratcliffe): She died in Spalding, but the family are well known in the Parish. Her funeral will take place in Spalding, but at some juncture in the summer there will be a memorial Mass here in St Joseph's.
May the Lord grant them all a place of light, refreshment, peace, and ease from their labours, and bestow his comforting and healing grace upon all who mourn their passing.

Christmas Flowers for Church: It is not too late to make a donation towards the cost of the beautiful flowers we have in Church over the Christmas season. There is a box at the back of Church.

Date for your Diaries: Saturday 26th July 2025. Bishop Marcus will celebrate the 5:30pm Mass for us as we commemorate the centenary of the First Mass being celebrated in our beautiful church. This will lead into a social event for the rest of the evening.

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.

Diocese of Leeds Community Choir Open to all. No experience necessary. Singing music by Faure, Mendelssohn and Rutter. Join for free. Rehearsals Sunday 19th January, 2nd and 9th February and 23rd March. Rehearsals are from 2-3:30pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Moortown. Concert 30th March. Contact office@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk Tel 0113 244 8634

First Reconciliation ("First Confession") 2025. The proposed date for this is Wednesday 2nd April 2025 from 3-4:30pm. (The school closes for Easter on 4th April)
Provisional dates for the preparatory meetings are:
Parents Meeting: 12th March 2025
Preparatory Catechesis for the candidates: Saturday 15th March and Saturday 29th March 2025.
More information to follow, but this is to give you the likely dates, subject to final confirmation.

Deanery Day of Renewal: The next Deanery Day of Renewal will be on Saturday 11th January 2025 in St Aelred's Church Hall, Woodlands Drive, Harrogate, HG2 7BE from 11:30am to 3:45pm. The Speaker is Fr Tony Lester, Parish Priest at Our Lady's in York.
11:30-12noon: registration/tea and coffee.
12noon-1:00pm: praise and worship.
1:00-2:00pm: Lunch and socialising.
2:00-3:00pm: Speaker, sharing groups for reflection.
3:00-3:45pm: Intercessory prayer and farewells.

Retiring Collection for the Diocesan Lourdes Fund: Which was originally set for next weekend, has now been delayed at Bishop Marcus' request to 8th and 9th February. The Bishop is aware of the strains that family finances are under in January, and the Lourdes Fund collection is better suited to the nearest weekend to the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

First Holy Communions 2025
Provisional dates for your diaries for preparation and celebration of First Holy Communion in the parish next year.
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
All subject to final confirmation. More information, and enrolment nearer the time.

News from the school: As we eagerly anticipate the return of our wonderful children for the spring term, I am delighted to share that we have an 'out of this world' adventure planned that promises to be both educational and thrilling for our children. This week, a planetarium will be visiting our school, offering our children a unique opportunity to explore the wonders of the universe. This extraordinary experience is made possible through the generous support of our families. To help cover the costs of this fantastic event, we will be hosting a **Galactic Bake Sale** on Wednesday 8th January. Children are invited to contribute their best space-themed treats and join us in this fun and delicious fundraiser. Additionally, we will have a **Space-Themed Dress-Up Day** on Thursday, where children can come dressed as their favourite astronauts, aliens, or any other space-inspired characters.

Plea for Sewing Help Y6 is in need for volunteers who would be willing to give up Friday afternoons (13:30 – 15:00) to help the children sew and decorate their waistcoats. There will be 4 weeks and if you can make one or all, we would be most grateful. (10th, 17, 24th, 31st January 2025). Please contact the office on 01423 562650 or admin@stjosephsharrogate.org Thank you to those who have already contacted us – that is super of you!

Vacancies

- **Facilities Assistant Vacancy.** St Mary's, Menston. Start: as soon as possible. Closing date. Monday 6th January. Further info: Bishop Wheeler Academy Trust – Trust & Academy Vacancies (bishopwheeelercatholicacademytrust.org) To discuss or arrange a visit, contact Jo-Anne Hughes jahughes@stmarysmenston.org
- **Headteacher Vacancy:** St Ignatius Catholic Primary School, Ossett. Start September 2025. Closing date Friday 10th January 2025 at 9am. Further info and to apply: Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust careers page. Candidates are most welcome and encouraged to arrange a visit to the school by appointment. Please contact Mrs Walters on 01924 271625
- **Catholic Care Director/Chief Executive Officer Vacancy.** Salary over £70K pro rata, depending on experience. Based in Leeds. Our ideal candidate will possess strong personal values with the vision/skills for leadership, a passion for caring for people in need and improving people's lives. They will have significant experience of leadership and developing/delivering strategy. For further details and how to apply please visit https://www.catholic-care.org.uk/recruit/latest vacancies/ or send your CV and cover letter to Katrina.greenhalf@catholic-care.org.uk. Contact Katrina on 0113 388 5400