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
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SERVICES & MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 16th February 2025	**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	
	4.00pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve)	Confessions
	5.30pm (Sat Evening)	Mass: Jack Blackburn (Birthday Int)
	8.00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11.00am	Mass: (SVP) Sick in the Parish
Tuesday 18th February	**Weekday in OT**	
	7.00pm	Mass: Agata Siewierski (Anniversary)
Wednesday 19th February	**Weekday in OT**	
	9:30am	Mass: Anna Danys (get well)
Thursday 20th February	**Weekday in OT**	
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Friday 21st February	**St Peter Damian**	**No Service Today**
Saturday 22nd February	**The Chair of St Peter**	
	9:30am	Mass: Sue Burke (LD)
Sunday 23rd February	**Seventh Sunday in OT**	
	4:30-5:00pm (Sat Evening)	Confessions
	5:30pm (Saturday))	Mass: For Josif
	8:00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11:00am	Mass: In Thanksgiving for Catechists, Parents & Children for Confirmation

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

SVP Contact Number: 07350 857356

Readers (and Eucharistic Ministers) at Mass

This Weekend: 15th & 16th February 2025
Vigil: W Considine, P Allinson (M Flanagan, D Olszewski)
8.00am: A Hainsworth, G Turner (J Walker, J Tweddle)
11.00am C Bohills, Pam Evans (Paul Evans, A-M Perry)

Next Weekend 22nd & 23rd February 2025
Vigil: E Durbin, C Devlin (P Rochester, P Durbin)
8.00am: C Currie, A Hainsworth (V Burdon, M Hardacre)
11.00am: P Fletcher, A Roberts (Pam Evans, C Hudson)

Confirmations: A thanksgiving Mass Intention for you all will be celebrated at the **11am Mass on Sunday 23rd February. During the Mass Confirmation Certificates will be presented to the children**. There will be a little celebration in the Parish Hall after the Mass. We hope that as many of the families as possible can be at that Mass.

Welcome: To all our visitors. This week in particular we welcome Catenians from the Salford & Leigh Circle who are staying at Nidd Hall.

Can You Help Your Parish? Please take one of the information sheets and prayerfully consider, and respond to the invitations contained within it, if you possibly can. A box is available at the back of Church for your replies. We also especially wish to encourage our ethnic communities and newer parishioners to engage with this process. This parish is everyone's home, and we love how diverse it has become: a visible expression of the Universality of the Church.

Offertory Collection: Collection Plate: £338.30 Standing Orders & Dona (weekly average): £740. Retiring Collection for the Lourdes Fund £135.11

Fr Ben's Induction as Parish Priest: will be conducted by Bishop Marcus here in St Joseph's on the evening of Wednesday 26th March at 7pm. There will be a social evening in the Hall after, with a shared table. A list for catering is available.

Centenary Celebration Committee: As you know we are celebrating the centenary of the opening of our beautiful Church this year. Bishop Marcus 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 meeting on Tuesday 27th February 7:30pm

First Reconciliation: "First Confessions": The date 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 forms are now available. 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. Enrolment forms are now available. 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 857356

Lenten Charity Project Nominations: Nominations are now invited for which charity will be the beneficiary of our Lenten almsgiving as a parish this year. Nominations should be written on no more than 1 side of A4, put in a sealed envelope and handed to Fr Ben. They will then be anonymised, shortlisted by the Finance Committee, and put to a vote in the parish.

Lenten Lectures 2025: After last year's talks on "Introduction to the Bible," Dr Geoffrey Turner, of our parish, is to give 5 more talks during Lent. This time they will focus on the Gospel of Luke, beginning with "How to Read a Gospel". They will be in our Parish Hall on Thursdays at 7pm, starting on 13th March, then on 20th March, 27th March, 3rd April & 10th April.

Friendship Group: A reminder of this weekly meeting in our Parish Hall. All welcome to come along for companionship, friendship and fun. Meet 1:30-2:45pm.

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. Leaflets about the Lourdes Pilgrimage this Holy Year are available at the back of Church.

Leeds Pax Christi Prayer Service: Leeds Pax Christi is organising an Ash Wednesday Prayer Service outside Holy Trinity Church on Boar Lane on 5th March at 12:30pm. We urge repentance for those involved in nuclear war preparations and pray that all will have the courage to say yes to peace and no to war. All are welcome. For more information contact Carol on 07707061115

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

Dementia Friendly Online Training: Leeds Diocese older people's charity **Growing Old Grace-*fully*** and **Age Friendly Leeds** are offering free online training for people in the Diocese to learn how to become Dementia Friends. The two identical sessions are Monday 10th March 2:30-3:30pm and Tuesday 29th April 7-8:00pm. To book a place on either session email: growing.old.gracefully@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Italian Masked Carnival Celebration: Festa in Maschera di Carnevale: in the Parish Hall on Sunday 2nd March from 3-5:00pm. All welcome. Music, Dancing, Food, Non-alcoholic drinks. Tickets £8 adult, £4 for children. Tickets available after Mass.

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.

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:
Recently, we have been celebrating *National Storytelling Week*, with classes buddying up to share stories together. It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying books, highlighting just how powerful reading is in sparking imagination and building key skills.
The PTA also hosted a fantastic *Yes Day*, and the children looked fabulous in their fancy dress, football kits, pyjamas, and colourful creations. We loved seeing their creativity and enthusiasm!
This week, we marked *Safer Internet Day*, teaching children about online scams. They learned to be cautious of pop-ups promising prizes or money—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!
Meanwhile, *Year 5* cooked up a storm, making delicious Bolognese from scratch, while *Year 6* whirled around the school grounds, putting their map skills to the test in an exciting orienteering session, which was related to their online safety learning.
The whole school is also busy learning songs for the *Jubilee Year*, and the children's voices are absolutely wonderful—it is a joy to hear them filling the school with music!

Vacancies

- **Deputy Headteacher Vacancy:** Quality of Education, Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School, Leeds. Start: September 2025. Closing date: Thursday 27th February 2025. To discuss or arrange a visit, please contact, Angela Fieldhouse, recruitment@cardinalheenan.com
- **Support Worker Vacancy:** Catholic Care. Based in Skipton, SP 4-7 £24,404-£25,584 (pro rata depending on experience) 34 hours per week. For further details please visit http://www.catholic-care.org.uk/recruit/latest-vacancies/
- **Deputy Headteacher vacancy:** St Edward's Catholic Primary School, Boston Spa. Start: September 2025. Closing date: Tuesday 4th March. To discuss or arrange a visit, please contact stedwardsadmin@st-edwards.leeds.sch.uk
- **Assistant to Lay Chaplain Vacancy:** Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College, Leeds. Start: ASAP. Closing date Monday 24th February. Further info: please visit https://www.notredamecoll.ac.uk/vacancies. To discuss or arrange a visit, contact Vicky Winterburn v.winterburn@notredamecoll.ac.uk