

# 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
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## SERVICES & MASS INTENTIONS

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| **Sunday 23rd February 2025** | **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time** | |
| | 4.00pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve) | Confessions |
| | 5.30pm (Sat Evening) | Mass: For Josif |
| | 8.00am | Mass: People of the Parish |
| | 11.00am | Mass: In Thanksgiving for Catechists, Parents & Children for Confirmation. |
| **Tuesday 25th February** | **Weekday in OT** | **No Service Today** |
| **Wednesday 26th February** | **Weekday in OT** | **No Service Today** |
| **Thursday 27th February** | **Weekday in OT** | |
| | 9:30am | Mass: Catherine & Hamid K (Sp Int) |
| **Friday 28th February** | **Weekday in OT** | |
| | 9:30am | David King (RIP) |
| **Saturday 1st March** | **St David** | **Patron Saint of Wales** |
| | 9:30am | Mass: For the Priests of the Diocese of Leeds |
| **Sunday 2nd March** | **Eighth Sunday in OT** | |
| | 4:30-5:00pm (Sat Evening) | Confessions |
| | 5:30pm (Saturday)) | Mass: Hugh McEleney (RIP) |
| | 8:00am | Mass: People of the Parish |
| | 11:00am | Mass: (SVP) Sick in 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

**SVP** Contact Number: 07350 857356

**Readers (and Eucharistic Ministers) at Mass**

**This 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)

**Next Weekend 1st & 2nd March 2025**
Vigil: C Antram, J Cooper (D Olszewski, M Flanagan)
8.00am: M Hardacre, C Currie (J Tweddle, V Burdon)
11.00am: H Fletcher, S Butters (C Hudson,H Fletcher)

**Confirmations:** The 11am Mass today is offered for all associated with the Confirmations that took place on 4th February. During Mass the Confirmandi will be presented with heir Certificates, and there will be a little "do" for them after Mass. All who normally attend Refreshments afterwards, please continue to do so. That will take place too!

**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: £510.60 Standing Orders & Dona (weekly average): £740. Thank you.

**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. Thanks already to those who have signed the list.

**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 Thursday 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. At the back of Church. They will also be available through the school. 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. If your child made their First Confession here last year, you will shortly receive an email asking you to state that you wish them to receive their FHC this year, so you won't need to take a form. For those who made their First Reconciliation elsewhere, a separate form will soon be issued for enrolment for 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. We have received **one** so far.

**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.

**Deanery Day of Renewal:** Saturday 8th March from 11:30am to 3:45pm in St Aelred's Church Hall, Woodland's Drive, Harrogate, HG2 7BE. The speaker this month is Father Jonathan Hart, parish priest of St Wilfrid's, Ripon.

**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:** Ash Wednesday, 5th March 12:30pm, in Leeds City Centre. See poster downstairs for more information.

**Excavating Hope: The 2025 Romero Lecture:** 13th March at 7pm. Poster available downstairs. All welcome. See www.leedsjp.org.uk for more information.

**Little Sisters Fundraising Event:** On Friday 28th February at the Leeds Irish Centre, Tara Suite. 7:30pm. Tickets £25. See poster downstairs for more information.

**Doorways of Hope (Online Event):** Leeds Dioces older people's charity **Growing Old Grace-*fully*** is hosting a programme of 3 hour-long online events on the theme of hope, to be led by Paula Shanks and Mgr Donal Lucey. Dates are Tuesday 18th March (afternoon), Wednesday 14th May (evening) and Thursday 10th July (evening). To book a place or for more information email: growing.old.gracefully@dioceseofleeds.org.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.

**"Singalong"** To commemorate and celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War. All invited to this parish celebration on Saturday 10th May after the evening Mass. Come in costume. Pie & Pea Supper and a dessert provided, but bring your own drinks. Tickets will be on sale shortly. Price £12. See Gill Crowther after 11am Mass for more information.

**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.

**Recruitment of Diocesan Lay Trustees:** Applications are welcome for the role of Trustee from Catholic lay faithful to enrich and diversify the Board's membership. Additionally, the Diocese are seeking to expand the committee structure of the Trustees and would welcome applications for membership of those committees too. Please see the Diocesan website for more details and how to apply.

**News from the School:** We have all been enjoying a rest this past week, for half-term and we look forward to sharing news with you all next week.

**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
- **School Social Worker Vacancy:** Salary currently £30,559-£35,235, pro rata dependent on qualifications and experience. Post permanent Part Time or 1x Fixed term 15hrs to cover maternity leave. Location: West and North Yorkshire. You must hold a Social Work Qualification. Closing date: Open until vacancy has been filled.