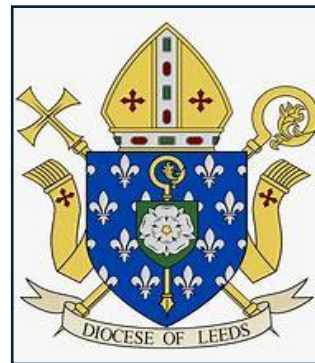




Welcome to St. Joseph's Catholic Church Bilton, Harrogate



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 23rd November 2025

Christ the King

Youth Sunday

4:30-5:00pm (Saturday)
 5:30pm (Saturday)
 8.00am
 11:00am

Confessions
 Mass: Edith Walton (RIP)
 Mass: People of the Parish
 Mass: Catherine Almagro (RIP)

Tuesday 25th November

7:00pm

Mass for Deceased Parishioners

Wednesday 26th November

Weekday in Ordinary Time
 9:30am

Mass: Holy Souls

Thursday 27th November

Weekday in Ordinary Time
9:15am

Mass: Holy Souls

Friday 28th November

Weekday in Ordinary Time
 9:30am

Mass: Holy Souls

Saturday 29th November

Weekday in Ordinary Time
 9:30am

Mass: Holy Souls

Sunday 30th November

First Sunday of Advent
 4:30-5:00pm (Saturday)
 5:30pm (Saturday)
 8:00am
 11:00am.

Year A in the Liturgical Cycle

Confessions
 Mass: People of the Parish
 Mass: Susan Notley (LD)
 Mass: Elfriede Erna Nora Nokes
 (Third Anniversary)

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 St Robert's

Club/Centre: Contact: John Tolan 01423 884690

Children's Liturgy Group

Contact: Alicia Player

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

Contact: Helen Fletcher 07837 928851

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 November: Christ the King)**

Vigil: J Cooper, R Rouse (P Rochester, E Durbin)

8.00am: A Leckenby, C Currie (Volunteer, V Burdon)

11.00am: A Player, P Onuorah (H Fletcher, A Roberts)

Next Weekend 29th & 30th November (1st Sun Advent)

Vigil: P Durbin, A Player (M Flanagan, D Olszewski)

8.00am: D Bovo, M Hardacre (J Tweddle, J Walker)

11.00am: J Tweddle, M Smith (P Fletcher, C Hudson)

Offertory Collection: Loose plate & Envelope £313.70. Weekly average via Bank and Dona £740.00. Cash from Piety Stall £80.00. Thank you.

Retiring Collection Today: The Feast of Christ the King is Youth Sunday, so there will be a retiring collection to support our Diocesan Youth Service. Leaflets are available explaining more about what the Youth Service provides.

APF/Mill Hill: Liz Walker wishes to record her thanks for £102.52 received from the Red Mission Boxes.

Weekly Rosary for Peace: Every Friday at 11am the Rosary is prayed at the Cenotaph in Harrogate town centre for all those who gave their lives in war, and for peace in our world. **All welcome.**

Christmas Raffle: Tickets will be available from next weekend for our annual "Hamper Squares" raffle, our major Winter fundraiser. The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 21st December after the 11am Mass. As usual we are looking for donations to make up the Christmas Hampers: eg: bottles, biscuits, chocolates, etc. There will be a collection box for these in the lobby. Could we also request the return of the hamper baskets from last year and/or can some be borrowed.

Mass for Deceased Parishioners:

Tuesday 25th November @ 7:00pm: is the Annual Mass for Deceased Parishioners, here at St Joseph's, with special reference to those who have died in the last twelve months, but for all who have died and whose memories we hold dear. Memorial candles will be lit for all who have died since January 2020. Please note that "Holy Souls" Masses will be offered throughout the year for those named on the November Dead List.

Mary's Meals: currently work in 16 of the world's poorest countries, feeding over 3 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education. They are asking you to donate any **left over foreign currency or obsolete UK currency** that you may have around. Just bring any foreign or old coins/notes to Church in the next few weeks and put them in the box on the sideboard at the back of Church. Envelopes are available for you to put your notes and coins in. The money raised from this initiative will help Mary's Meals bring hope to more desperately hungry children across the globe. Every 10p is enough to provide a hungry child with a nutritious meal in school. Fr Ben has already put in a large number of foreign and obsolete British coins which have been given in the collections over many years here at St Joseph's. I'm sure we all have loads of useless coins like these lying around at home. Search them out and put them to good use. There are leaflets available with more information about the work of the Mary's Meals charity.

The Gift of Jesus: Advent Unwrapped: Exploration of the liturgical season of Advent. A day of reflection led by Fr Dennis Cassidy at The Briery, Ilkley on Saturday 6th December. £25 including a soup lunch and dessert and all refreshments. For more information and to book, contact the Administrators on 01943 607287 or admin@briery.org.uk

Women of Hope: An Advent Weekend Retreat: 12th to 14th December at The Briery, Ilkley. As the Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee year comes to an end, join us for a weekend unwrapping gifts from scripture, with music and art. Contact as above.

Confirmations 2026: Confirmations are likely to take place in February 2026 (date subject to confirmation!) If your child is currently in Year 6 at St Joseph's School and was enrolled for First Reconciliation in Year 3 and First Holy Communion in Year 4, you should, have received during this past week, an email asking you to let us know that you would like your child to be Confirmed. If you are relatively new to the parish and your child didn't make First Reconciliation and/or First Holy Communion here, and is now in at least Year 6 at school, forms are available at the back of Church from next weekend. Please fill them in and return them to Father Ben.

Dates for Confirmation Catechesis (classes)

Thursday 27th November 6pm (In Church) Parents meeting.
Saturday 6th December: 10am-2pm (Parish Hall)
Thursday 18th December: 3:45-4:45pm Prayer Session
Saturday 10th January 2026: 10am-2pm (Parish Hall)
Saturday 24th January 2026: 10am-2pm (Parish Hall)

Date of Confirmation: Subject to Confirmation, but likely to be a weekday evening in early February 2026, and will be celebrated here in St Joseph's Church. We are not having Deanery wide Confirmations at St Robert's this year.

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 97500

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Volunteers Information

Evening: Ever thought of going on the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes volunteering as a nurse or as part of the hospitality team, but want to know more? You are invited to an information evening about the roles and pilgrimage. Hinsley Hall, Monday 1st December at 7:00pm. For more information, please email Phil Marshall on lourdes.enquiries@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or 07766 148375. To register interest please email recruitment.lourdes@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or simply turn up on the evening.

November Dead List Envelopes: Are now available at the back of Church, together with notes you can insert listing who you would like included in the list this year. Please hand the envelopes in to Fr Ben personally. The list will close at the end of the month.

Deanery Day of Renewal: Saturday 13th December 11:30am-3:45pm in St Aelred's Church Hall, Woodlands Drive, Harrogate, HG2 7BE. The speaker this month is Rev Lesley Taylor, on the theme "We are all Poets." She will share on her sabbatical and writing poems. There will be activities for all to engage with. All welcome.

Family Retreat Day: Families are welcome to a Retreat Day at St Stephen's Church, Skipton, on Sunday 30th November, 12noon to 3:30pm (Parish Mass 10:30am). There will be a soup lunch provided, input for parents and children, and family activities and prayer. Please let us know if you are coming along by emailing office.ststephen.skipton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk and let us know the ages of the children attending.

Catholic Care Christmas Appeal: see notice downstairs for more information as to how you can help.

Max Anderson (RIP) Please note that Max Anderson's funeral service will take place at Stonefall Chapel on Tuesday 2nd December at 1:00pm. Please keep Maggie and all the family in your prayers.

The Italian Community Christmas Celebration: is taking place in the Parish Hall on Sunday 23rd November. There will be lots of food and fun. Details are on the poster downstairs. There will be a tombola for adults and children and a raffle to buy the sensory kit to support patients with autism and learning disabilities when they attend A&E in Harrogate District Hospital. Raffle tickets on sale after Mass.

Parish Finance Committee Vacancy(ies): As required by Canon Law, St Joseph's has an active Finance Committee which over the years has advised and helped the Parish priest with the running of our parish. A long-serving member has announced his intention to stand down at the end of this financial year after many years' service, and replacement(s) are sought. This is very much a hands-on role with members expected to take over the management of Church maintenance projects. If you are interested please contact Fr Ben or John Tweddle on 07836 271646 for further information.

Priestly Vocations Discernment Meetings: Time for prayers, questions, input from a priest and social time. There are two groups meeting simultaneously; under 18s and over 18s. Fridays 6:30pm-8:15pm: 14th November (Cathedral Hall), 19th December (Hinsley Hall). Under 18 participants must complete and return a permission form prior to attending. For permission forms and to notify attendance (all participants) please contact Vocations Promotor, Fr Simon Lodge simon.lodge@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Franciscan Friars of the Renewal Discipleship Days: Please join the Franciscan Friars (JCFRs) at St Patrick's Mission Church, Bradford. The theme is "Called to Holiness: The Second Vatican Council after 60 Years." Upcoming dates December 6th, January 10th, February 7th, March 7th and May 2nd. The days includes Rosary, Holy Mass, a reflection on the Second Vatican Council documents, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration, concluding around 4:30pm. Lunch will be provided.

News from the School: It's been another joyful and enriching week at St Joseph's! Year 1 visited the York Railway Museum and had a brilliant time. The children were in awe of the sheer size of the locomotives and loved exploring the fascinating world of trains from past to present.

Another group of Year 6 had the pleasure of visiting the Tuesday Friendship Group. These visits continue to be a highlight for the children, who look forward to the growing conversations and relationships being formed across generations.

Our Reception and KS1 Bedtime Stories Evening was a huge success. Children returned to school—somewhat bemused—in their pyjamas with teddies in hand, ready to enjoy a range of stories read by staff. A beautiful way to foster a love of reading and cosy community spirit!

Year 4 showed great perseverance and enthusiasm as they braved the cold during a fantastic football session, while Year 6 enjoyed a thought-provoking trip to the Everyman Cinema to watch Kensuke's Kingdom.

To top it off, Year 6 also welcomed Tom Gordon, MP for Harrogate and Knaresborough, for an inspiring visit. His words encouraged the children to recognise the power of their voices and how they can be used to make a difference in the world around them.

A week full of curiosity, courage, connection, and community!