

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 15th February 2026	**Sixth Sunday in OT**	
	4:30-5:00pm (Saturday)	Confessions
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: Burns Family
	8:00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11:00am	Mass: Royston Kean (LD)
	12:30pm	**Baptism**
Tuesday 17th February	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	7:00pm	Mass: Holy Souls
Wednesday 18th February	**ASH WEDNESDAY**	**Day of Fasting & Abstinence**
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
	7:00pm	Mass: Agata Siewierski (A)
Thursday 19th February	**Thursday after Ash Wed**	
	9:15am	Mass: Holy Souls
Friday 20th February	**Friday after Ash Wed**	
	9:00am	**Stations of the Cross**
	9:30am	Mass: Special Intention (Doherty)
Saturday 21st February	**Saturday after Ash Wed**	
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Sunday 22nd February	**First Sunday of Lent**	
	4:00-5:00pm (Saturday)	**Confessions & Exposition**
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: People of the Parish
	8:00am	Mass: Holy Souls
	11:00am	Mass: Czeslaw Karbowniczek (A)

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: 14th & 15th February (6th Sunday in OT)
Vigil: M Gargan, R Currie (E & P Durbin)
8.00am: C Currie, D Bovo (V Burdon, G Turner)
11.00am: J Tweddle, M Smith (P Evans, A Roberts)

Next Weekend: 21st & 22nd February (1st Sun of Lent)
Vigil: C Devlin, P Rochester (M Flanagan, P Rochester)
8.00am: M Hardacre, J Walker (J Tweddle, J Walker)
11.00am: Pam Evans, C Antram (B Gotting, Pam Evans)

Join Bishop Marcus in praying for Vocations: Our Lady of Unfailing Hope! Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send labourers into his harvest and that He will grant an abundance of vocations to the priesthood, the Permanent Diaconate and the Religious Life within the Diocese of Leeds and throughout the world. Amen!

Offertory Collection: Loose plate & Envelope £346.92. Weekly average via bank and Dona £740. Diocesan Lourdes Fund Collection £150.74: **Thank you!**

Date for FIRST RECONCILIATION (First Confessions): is now set for Wednesday 25th March from 3-40pm. The dates for catechesis in the parish hall will be Saturday 7th March and Saturday 21st March from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Enrolment forms are available at the back of Church. Your child needs to be in at least Year 3, and you should have received an application form via St Joseph's School if your child is a pupil there. Please get your applications in ASAP now. Children need to be in at least Year 3 to make their First Confessions.

Parent's Evening for First Reconciliation: Will be in Church on **Wednesday 4th March at 6:00pm.** You will then receive the workbooks for your children, and we ask for a £10 donation to cover the cost of these books and other materials used.

Date for FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: Saturday 6th June. You can expect to receive an email if your child made their first Confession here last year. If that took place elsewhere, or your child hasn't made their Frist Confession yet, please take one of the enrolment forms from the back of Church, and return to Father Ben ASAP. Children need to be in at least Year 4 to make their First Holy Communions

St Joseph's Friendship Group: Meet most Tuesdays at 1:30pm in the Parish Hall. Please do join us for company, refreshments, quizzes, games, fellowship and the occasional trip out.

Rosary For Peace: Is prayed every Friday at 11am at the Cenotaph in the town centre, in commemoration of those who gave their lives in war, and for peace in the world. **All welcome.**

Festa di Carnevale: Italian Carnival: All are welcome to this annual celebration in the parish hall this afternoon from 3:00-5.00pm. There will be music, dances, games and prizes. A buffet and drinks will be provided. Entry tickets are £4 per child and £8 per adult. Children under 2 have free entry. Come in costume, and with a mask if you wish, but it isn't obligatory. Just come and have fun!

Lent at St Joseph's Church:
Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 9:00am
Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4-5:00pm on Saturday afternoons.

Ash Wednesday: Is a day of **Fasting & Abstinence** to mark the beginning of Lent. Whilst not a Holy Day of Obligation, there is an extra Mass at 7:00pm. Ashes will be distributed at both Masses on the day.

Mass For Healing: In the Chapel of the Bar Convent, 17, Blossom Street, York. 24th February at 11:45am with Fr Dominic Miskip, Canon Michael Loughlin and Fr Jo Michael. Contact Fiona Hill on 01904 464900 or fiona@stbedes.org.uk

Vacancies: List of current vacancies is available to consult downstairs.

Pyjama Appeal: Virginie Morris writes: My 9 year old daughter, Elspeth, was recently a patient in Leeds general Infirmary (LGI) for stomach surgery, She has had many hospital stays in the LGI and Harrigate, for a variety of illnesses and conditions since she was born. I consider myself a Veteran of being well prepared for these stays now.

However, sometimes, parents cannot always be fully prepared. An emergency may mean they are unable to pack a bag, so have no pyjamas or toiletries for their child. I witnesses this recently during Elspeth's stay. Some children didn't have pyjamas with them, and it isn't always possible for parents to pop home to bring them back to the hospital.

I am hoping to raise enough donations of pyjamas to ensure that all children will have a more comfortable and dignified stay whilst in hospital. I am asking you to consider gifting a **NEW** pair of pyjamas for either a boy or girl aged from 1-16 years. A clean pair of pyjamas will make such a difference to a child's hospital stay. Thank you in advance for contemplating donating a pair of pyjamas for a child's stay in the LGI.

Those of you who attend the Saturday Evening Mass will know Virginie and Elspeth. There will be a box at the back of Church for you to put any donated pyjamas in.

Franciscan Friars of the Renewal Discipleship Days: Please join the Franciscan Friars (CFRs) at St Patrick's Mission Church, Bradford. The theme is "Called to Holiness: The Second Vatican Council after 60 Years." Upcoming dates March 7th and May 2nd 2026. The days include Rosary, Holy Mass, a reflection on the Second Vatican Council documents, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration, concluding around 4:30pm. Lunch will be provided.

Priestly Vocations Discernment Meeting: 20th February @ 6:30pm at the Newman Centre at St Theresa's, Crossgates. If you are planning on attending for the first time, please contact Fr Simon Lodge to register your interest on vocations@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

The Fisher Singers: with orchestra and soloists present **Mozart's Requiem Mass & Coronation Mass,** conducted by John Longstaff. Saturday 28th March at 7:30pm. At St Wilfrid's Church, Harrogate, HG1 2EY. Tickets £15/£8 for under 18s. Tel 07958 665410 or 07411 258713. Also available at the door.

The Diocese of Leeds Community Choir: Welcomes all parish musicians and parishioners, all choir parents and friends, and all school and Diocesan staff to come together and sing! Rehearsals work towards singing at mass at Leeds Cathedral. Rehearsals will take place from 2:30pm-4:00pm on 22nd February, 8th, 15th and 22nd March at Immaculate Heart Church, Moortown. To sign up please email office@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk

Walk in Father Brown's Footsteps: Saturday 28th March. 3rd annual diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage for priestly vocations. From St Anne's, Keighley to Sacred Heart, Ilkley and Stations of the Cross at Myddelton Calvary. Follow the Ilkley Moor route walked by G.K.Chesterton and Fr John O'Connor, the Leeds priest who inspired "Father Brown." Sign up pilgrimage-walks@dioceseofleeds.org.uk. More details: https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/event/walking-pilgrimage-for-vocations-in-father-browns-footsteps/

Parish Lenten Project 2026: We invite nominations for our Lenten Parish Project for this year. Any nominations will be considered and shortlisted by the Parish Finance Committee. Please put your submission (no more than one side of A4) in an envelope, and hand it to Father Ben. Today is the last day to submit nominations. Voting will take place next weekend. Collections will be held after Mass on three Sundays in Lent. We need to establish sound audit trails for our donations, so only charities which are Registered with the Charity Commission will be considered. The aims of the charity also need not to be incompatible with the teachings of the Church and the stated objectives of the Diocese of Leeds in their own Charitable Registration with the Commission.

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

Young Catholic Artist Award 2026: Sponsored by the Catholic Union Charitable Trust. **Forgiveness – What does this look like to you"** is the theme. The winner will be announced before the end of the academic year., and will receive a cash prize. Parents, guardians or teachers of primary school aged children wishing to submit an entry should complete the application form and scan pictures to info@catholicunion.org.uk with the title Catholic Youn Artist Award by 22nd May 2026. More information downstairs.

SVP and CAFOD work experience: The SVP and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 21st-26th June in London. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old, but priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. Apply here: https://svp1.formstack.com/forms/work_experience_application_form_2026. Applications close on 6th April. For any queries, please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

News from the School: What a half-term it has been! The rainy days certainly haven't dampened our spirits — our school has been full of laughter, learning, and lots of kindness.

Year 5 have had a particularly exciting time, winning a dodgeball tournament with superb teamwork, enthusiasm, and skill. They represented our school brilliantly with their sportsmanship — well done, Team St Joseph's! They've also been busy in the kitchen, cooking up a delicious spaghetti Bolognese as part of their DT topic. The mouth-watering aromas filled the corridors and left the whole school feeling hungry!

Meanwhile, Year 4 have been producing fabulous artwork inspired by *The Iron Man* — their creativity and attention to detail have really brought the story to life.

Year 6 have now completed their sewing topic, transforming their classroom into a true atelier of creativity and craftsmanship. A heartfelt thank you to our amazing sewing volunteers who have given their time, patience, and talent over the last few weeks — we are so grateful for the joyful memories and beautiful waistcoats you've helped create.

Year 2 delighted everyone with their joyful singing during their class assembly — their rendition of *My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean* rang out loud and clear, filling the hall with smiles.

As we head into a well-earned break, we are so proud of all our pupils for their hard work, big hearts, and the joy they bring to our school community each day. We wish all our families a restful and happy half-term!