

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 March 2026	**Fourth Sunday of Lent**	**Laetare/Mothering Sunday**
	4:00-5:00pm (Saturday)	**Confessions & Exposition**
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: Edith Walton (RIP)
	8:00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11:00am	Mass: Mira Flor & Catherine Imee Rose Abaluyan (RIP)
	12:30-3:30pm	**Exposition & Benediction** (with the Jesus Youth Community of Harrogate)
Tuesday 17th March	**St Patrick**	
	No service here today	**Patron Saint of Ireland**
Wednesday 18th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
		No Morning Mass here today
	ST JOSEPH	
Wednesday 18th March	**7:00pm (Vigil Mass)**	**PATRON OF OUR PARISH & SCHOOL**
Thursday 19th March	**9:30am**	Mass: Holy Souls
		Mass: Special Intention (Doherty)
Friday 20th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	9:00am	**Stations of the Cross**
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Saturday 21st March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Sunday 22nd March	**Fifth Sunday of Lent**	(Statues are covered from today)
	4:00-5:00pm (Saturday)	**Confessions & Exposition**
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: Piotr Szczurek (A)
	8:00am	Mass: Daniele Bovo (Birthday)
	11:00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	12:30pm	**Baptism of Lia & Kayla Remencius**

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 –3:00pm.
Contact: Tracy Wilby 07395 877187

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 March (4th Sun of Lent)
Vigil: V Clemerson, I Morritt (D Olszewski, P Durbin)
8.00am: A Keith, C Currie (G Turner, V Burdon)
11.00am: C Bohills, Pam Evans (Paul Evans, A Roberts)

Next Weekend: 21st & 22nd March (5th Sun of Lent)
Vigil: W Considine, P Allinson (M Flanagan, P Durbin)
8.00am: G Turner, M Hardacre (D Bovo, J Walker)
11.00am: P Fletcher, A Roberts (C Hudson, A Roberts)

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 £369.16. Weekly average direct to bank and Dona £900. **Thank you!**

Lenten Project: Today is the second of three retiring collections in support of our Lenten Project, **Maggie's, Yorkshire.**

Catholic Care: Please note that the annual collection for Catholic Care, scheduled for next weekend, will now take place after Easter.

Counters: Will need to collect keys for the Sacristy and Safe from Fr Ben after Mass and/or the new code for the key-safe in the vestment cupboard.

Novena to St Joseph: Will be prayed after Mass from 10th to 18th March, in preparation for the **Patronal Feast of St Joseph** on 19th March. A box is available at the front of church to post your intentions for the Novena, and any contributions you wish to make towards Novena Masses being offered.

Date for FIRST RECONCILIATION: (First Confessions): is now set for Wednesday 25th March from 3-4:00pm. Catechesis started last Saturday and the final session is on Saturday 21st March from 10:00am to 2:00pm. 28 of our children are being prepared to make their First Confessions this year.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: If your child made their First Confession here last year you should receive an email asking for a reply regarding making their First Holy Communion here this year. **Dates for your diaries.**
Parent's Evening: Wednesday 22nd April at 6pm, in Church
Catechesis Sessions: 10:00am to 2:00pm in the Parish Hall on Saturday 25th April, Saturday 9th May and Saturday 23rd May
First Holy Communion Day: Saturday 6th June 2026.

LGBT+ Outreach Ministry: Middlesbrough Diocese. Masses giving an explicit welcome to LGBT+ Catholics, their families, and friends, take place at 3pm on the **second Sunday** of each month in the Chapel of the **Bar Convent, York** (17, Blossom Street, YO24 1AQ) just outside Micklegate Bar, 5 minutes' walk from York Railway Station, car parking nearby. Followed by refreshments. See our website for other social activities. **All are welcome.** Website: lgbtmiddlesbroughcatholic.org.uk Facebook: facebook.com/lgbtcatholic

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

Parish Piety Stall: We have a wide range of Easter cards, gifts for Mothering Sunday, and for First Holy Communion available in our parish stall, at competitive prices.

Jesus Youth Community of Harrogate will be having Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament here at St Joseph's on Sunday 15th March from 12:30-3:30pm.

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

Consultation on the future of the Dioceses of Leeds and Middlesbrough: As part of the consultation currently taking place across our two dioceses, there is an opportunity for all clergy, religious and members of the lay faithful to contribute by completing an online questionnaire, either individually or as a parish group. Prayerful reflection should be given to the questions so that the Holy Spirit may guide this process of discernment. Prayer resources and a presentation are available on the diocesan website to support this process. Responses should be submitted no later than Friday 22nd May 2026. For more information and to complete the questionnaire, please visit: https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/leeds-middlesbrough-consultation-2026/

Pyjama Appeal organised by **Virginie Morris** will continue until Easter. Please continue to bring any **NEW** pairs of pyjamas for boys and girls aged up to sixteen and put them in the box at the back of Church. Thank you to all who have made contributions so far.

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 date 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.

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 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

FLAME 2027: The largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales is back! Join 10,000 young people for a day of music, prayer, worship, talks from great speakers and much more at the DVO Arena, Wembley on Saturday 6th March 2027. Aimed at young people in Year 9+, including university students and young adults. Passes are currently at the super early bird rate of £75 per person, which includes return coach travel to/from the Diocese, until 31st July 2026. For booking email: youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 3rd-9th July 2026. The booking process is now open. They can be made online at https://www.tagney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-leeds/ You can also phone Tagney Tours direct on 01732 886666. Information also available at the back of Church.

Diocesan Vacancies: The latest vacancies in education and at Catholic Care are available for consultation downstairs on the wall above the table near the entrance.

Rotas for Palm Sunday and Holy Week: There are many needs in this period: extra readers and eucharistic ministers, servers for the Easter Triduum, Mandati on Holy Thursday (who will have a foot washed) Please see the lists near the Sacristy Door and be generous in your response. With your help we can make Holy Week happen in the parish for everyone.

Easter Triduum Services:

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30pm Thursday 2nd April

Celebration of the Passion (Good Friday) 3:00pm Fri 3rd April

Easter Vigil: 8:00pm Saturday 4th April.

Easter Sunday: Masses as usual at 8:00am and 11:00am.

Altar of Repose (Holy Thursday) As last year we are asking people to lend us their larger pot plants to set up a "Garden of Gethsemane" around the Altar of Repose in the Parish Hall. Plants can be left in the Hall from Palm Sunday onwards. See Fr ben for more information.

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 Young Artist Award by 22nd May 2026.

Online Stations of the Cross for Carers: Tuesday 24th March 7-8pm. Leeds Diocese older people's charity *Growing Old Gracefully* is hosting a special online Stations of the Cross, written by Fr Eamon Hegarty and Michelle Anderson. These Stations invite carers to see their own lives reflected in Christ's journey. To attend email Michelle at carersproject@growingoldgracefully.org.uk

News from the School: This week, the whole school has enjoyed celebrating National Science Week, with every class taking part in experiments and investigations to enhance the brilliant learning that takes place each day in our classrooms. We ended the week with a fantastic Science Fair, where children from Reception to Year 6 brought in their own home-made scientific creations. From erupting volcanoes to floating raisins, from human circuits to presentations about the heart, and from elephant toothpaste to optical illusions, the school hall was filled with fascination, awe and amazement. The conversations, collaboration and community spirit on display were wonderful to see. We are especially grateful to our families for supporting the children at home in preparing their projects — it truly showed how brightly our whole school community shines.
We were also delighted to watch Reception Class deliver a wonderful assembly all about mini-beasts. The children proudly shared their learning through beautiful artwork, mini-beast hotels, and joyful singing — even including sign language, which the whole school loved. We are incredibly proud of our youngest pupils for standing so confidently in front of such a large audience and sharing their learning with such enthusiasm.
Year 6 also enjoyed a special visit to the Harrogate Synagogue, where they learned more about the Jewish faith from two members of the congregation. The children were particularly interested in seeing the Torahs inside the Ark, and were amazed to discover that each one is handwritten, with no mistakes allowed. We are very thankful for the opportunity to learn more about another faith and to deepen our understanding of the world around us.