

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 1st March 2026	**Second Sunday of Lent**	
	4:00-5:00pm (Saturday)	**Confessions & Exposition**
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: In thanksgiving for prayers answered
	8:00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11:00am	Mass: Mira Flor Abaluyan (RIP)
Tuesday 3rd March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	7:00pm	Mass: Holy Souls
Wednesday 4th March	**Weekday of Lent**	**St Casimir**
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Thursday 5th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	9:15am	Mass: Holy Souls
Friday 6th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	9:00am	**Stations of the Cross**
	9:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
Saturday 7th March	**Weekday of Lent**	**Ss Perpetua & Felicity**
	9:30am	Mass: Priests of the Diocese
Sunday 8th March	**Third Sunday of Lent**	
	4:00-5:00pm (Saturday)	**Confessions & Exposition**
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: Audrey Byrne (LD)
	8:00am	Mass: Holy Souls
	11:00am	Mass: People of the Parish

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: 28th Feb & 1st March (2nd Sun of Lent)
Vigil: J Cooper, R Rouse (D Olszewski, P Durbin)
8.00am: Volunteer, A Keith (C Hudson, Volunteer)
11.00am: A Roberts, A Player (H & P Fletcher)
Next Weekend: 7th & 8th March (3rd Sun of Lent)
Vigil: P Durbin, A Player (E Durbin, M Gargan)
8.00am: J Walker, G Turner (J Tweddle, J Walker)
11.00am: S Butters, J Tweddle (A-M Perry, 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 £479.96. Weekly average via bank and Dona £740. Votive Candles £154.91, Coffee £25.00, Flowers £24.00 **Thank you!**

Counters: Money was stolen from the cash tin in the safe last weekend. Fortunately, the collection and other moneys had been removed for counting by the time the theft took place, so the thief only got away with a few pounds in coins. The key for the main safe was found on the window ledge. Counters will need the new code to get into the key-safe, and a key to the sacristy door, which will be kept locked much more than before. Please see Fr Ben for these if you are on duty.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY: Please return your CAFOD Fast Day Envelopes as you leave Church today.

Date for FIRST RECONCILIATION: (First Confessions): is now set for Wednesday 25th March from 3-4:00pm. 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.

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.

Deanery Day of Renewal: Saturday 14th March 11:30am-3:45pm @ St Aelred's Church Hall, Woodlands Drive, Harrogate. Speaker: Angela Powell (Community Participation Coordinator for the Diocese of Leeds) Title: "Hearts for the Kingdom of God.

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 stays in hospital in the LGI and Harrogate, for a variety of illnesses and conditions since she was born. I consider myself a V 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 witnessed 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.

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.

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.

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 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

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

Parish Lenten Project 2026: The clear winner of the ballot for the Lenten Project, by quite a wide margin, was to support the Maggie's (Yorkshire) Centre ("Everybody's Home of Cancer Care."), based at St James' Hospital in Leeds. Many in the parish have availed themselves of this facility since it opened 6 years ago, more especially recently, as one of our parishioners has been undergoing daily treatment in the Bexley Wing at Jimmies. Fr Ben can produce the actual voting figures if you wish to see them.

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 Young Artist Award by 22nd May 2026. More information downstairs.

Mary's Meals: I heard this week that the total of **£330.90** has been made for Mary's Meals from all the foreign coins and banknotes which were donated last Autumn/Winter. I have a complete list of what currencies were involved. You are very well travelled! **Thank you** for your generous response to the appeal.

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.

News from the School: We have returned to school refreshed and raring to go for the new half term!

Year 1 led a wonderful assembly showcasing their learning about animals in science. They confidently explained the different eating groups — including *carnivores, herbivores,* and *omnivores* — and delighted us all with a joyful rendition of *"The Animals Went in Two by Two."* It was a fantastic combination of singing and science!

In Year 3, pupils have been exploring the powerful world of mountains, earthquakes, and volcanoes in geography. Their curiosity has been ignited as they learn about tectonic plates, natural disasters, and the dramatic forces that shape our planet.

The school has also been buzzing with excitement over our Reading Raffle initiative, designed to encourage daily reading at home. It has been wonderful to see so many children eager to read regularly. The winners from last half term will receive a book token on Monday, allowing them to choose a new book and continue their reading adventures.

Meanwhile, our fantastic Year 6 Sports Leaders have been leading energetic and inclusive activities for Key Stage 1 at lunchtime. Their commitment, enthusiasm, and kindness make a real difference — they are superb role models for our younger pupils.

We are proud of the positive start everyone has made and look forward to another half term full of learning, teamwork, and joy!