

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 22nd March 2026	**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**
Tuesday 24th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	7:00pm	Mass: Special Intention (Alastair)
Wednesday 25th March	**The Annunciation of the Lord**	
	9:30am	Mass: Anna Danys (Special Intention)
	3:00pm-4:15pm	**First Confessions**
Thursday 26th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	9:15am	Mass: Holy Souls
Friday 27th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	9:00am	**Stations of the Cross**
	9:30am	Mass: Novena Intention (Hardacre)
Saturday 28th March	**Weekday of Lent**	
	9:30am	For Exam (JJ)
Sunday 29th March	**Palm Sunday**	(The beginning of Holy Week)
	4:00-5:00pm (Saturday)	**Confessions & Exposition**
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: People of the Parish
	8:00am	Mass: Donald & Betty MacCormick
	11:00am	Mass: Theresa & Alfred Kuzcera (RIP)

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: 21st & 22nd March (5th Sun of Lent)
Vigil: W Considine, P Allinson (M Flanagan, P Durbin)
8.00am: G Turner, Volunteer (D Bovo, J Walker)
11.00am: P Fletcher, A Roberts (C Hudson, A Roberts)
Next Weekend: 28th & 29th March (Palm Sunday)
(Readers please refer to Volunteer list in Church)
Vigil: (P. Rochester, M Flanagan)
8.00am: (V Burdon, J Tweddle)
11.00am: (P & P 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 £339.53 Weekly average direct to bank and Dona £900. Piety Stall £80 (cash) Flowers £10.02, Votive Candles £46.67, Coffee £15.00 **Thanks!**

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

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

Donations towards the cost of Easter Flowers: Will be gladly accepted, and can be placed in the box at the back of Church.

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.

Blessing of Easter Baskets: Święcenie pokarmów Wielkanocnych Will take place as usual at **11:00am on Holy Saturday (Saturday 4th April)**

First Holy Communions: If your child made their First Confession here last year you should have received an email asking for a reply regarding making their First Holy Communion here this year. If you are new to the parish and you wish your child to make their First Holy Communion this year please collect a form from Fr Ben to register. Children need to be in at least Year 4. **Dates for your diaries re FHC classes.**
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.

Divine Mercy Sunday (12th April) will be celebrated for our district here at St Joseph's this year. This will begin with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions at 2:00pm. At 3:00pm the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Veneration of the image of Divine Mercy. **All welcome!**

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

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.

Lenten Day of Reconciliation: If you work in Leeds you may wish to avail yourself of the opportunity of going to Confession at the Cathedral. They have Confessions from 7:00am to 7:00pm on **Tuesday 24th March,** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament all day.

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.

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.

Justice Themed Stations of the Cross: Join Leeds Diocesan Justice & Peace on 30th March (Tuesday of Holy Week) at 7:30pm for an online Stations of the Cross service using prayers and reflections about contemporary justice issues. See www.leedsjp.org.uk to register and receive the zoom link.

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.

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

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

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.

News from the School: It has been another full and joyful week at St Joseph's.

Year 5 delivered a wonderful assembly all about their recent retreat to Emmaus Youth Village. They spoke, sang and danced so enthusiastically about their time of prayer, reflection and friendship, and the younger children are now very excited for their own turn when they are older.

In Year 3, pupils have been exploring the question: *Would you like to live near a volcano?* They discovered that although volcanoes can be dangerous, the surrounding soil is very fertile and volcanic rock contains valuable minerals such as tin, lead, copper, gold, silver and even diamonds. After weighing up the risks and benefits, many of the class decided it might actually be a great place to live!

The whole school took part in a fantastic Games Week to raise money for St Michael's Hospice. Children from Reception to Year 6 designed and ran their own games for others to play, and the imagination, creativity and confidence on display were remarkable. It was wonderful to see the children growing in independence as they organised their stalls and welcomed players.

Our St Joseph's Feast Day Bake Sale was also a great success. We are incredibly grateful to our families for their generosity and support in both events — your help makes such a difference to our school community.

We celebrated our Patron's Feast Day with a beautiful Mass in church. The children took part with great reverence and the singing truly came from the heart.

As we enter the final week of term, we continue our Lenten journey, taking time to reflect, pray and grow closer to God together.