

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 11th October 2026	**Twenty Eighth Sunday in OT**	
	4:30-5:00pm (Saturday)	Confessions
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: Yorkshire Brethren
	8:00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11:00am	Mass: Jenny Roberts (4th Anniversary)
Tuesday 13th October		
	St Edward the Confessor	**King of England**
		No Mass here today
Wednesday 14th October		
	St Callistus	**Pope & Martyr**
		No Mass here today
Thursday 15th October		
	St Teresa of Avila	**Virgin & Doctor of the Church**
		No Mass here today
Friday 16th October		
	St Margaret Mary Alacoque	**Virgin**
		No Mass here today
Saturday 17th October		
	St Ignatius of Antioch	**Bishop & Martyr**
		No Morning Mass here today
Sunday 18th October		
	Twenty Ninth Sunday in OT	**World Mission Sunday**
	4:30-5:00pm	**No Confessions Today**
	5:30pm (Saturday)	Mass: Holy Souls
	8:00am	Mass: People of the Parish
	11:00am	Mass: Elzbieta Szczurek (A)

APF Mill Hill Red Mission Boxes
Contact: Liz Walker 07816 288125
Bereavement Support: Please contact Father

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

Ben

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 & Rich Gundich

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: J. Gibson 07905 993103

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: 10th & 11th Oct (28th Sunday in OT)
Vigil: W Considine, P Allinson (D Olszewski, M Flanagan)
8.00am: A Keith, C Currie (A Keith)
11.00am: Pam Evans, M Smith (H & P Fletcher)
Counters: Michelle Tod

Next Weekend: 17th & 18th Oct (29th Sunday in OT)
Vigil: E Durbin, M Gargan (M Gargan, P Rochester)
8.00am: G Turner, D Bovo (G Turner)
11.00am: A Roberts, A Player (A-M Perry, A Roberts)
Counters: Warren Considine & Denise Findlay

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 £346.46. Weekly average direct to bank & Dona £716. Votives £30.98, Coffee £9.75, Flowers £2.00 The CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Collection raised £181.00. Thank you.

Retiring Collection: Next weekend will be World Mission Sunday, and there will be a retiring collection to support the Association for the propagation of the Faith (APF)

CAFOD's World Gifts: Leaflets are available at the back of Church, if you are looking for "alternative" presents to give people this Advent and Christmas.

Harrogate Hospital: has withdrawn the part-time chaplaincy role that Canon Gerard Kearney held due to funding cuts within the Trust. Meetings and written complaints have been entered into with so far, no movement from the Trust. If you require a Catholic Priest to visit whilst you, or a relative, are in hospital please ask ward staff to facilitate this. In the meantime, please kindly write to Eileen Watson at Harrogate Hospital to register your dissatisfaction with the new arrangements. Here email address in eileen.watson3@nhs.net

Rosary for Peace: Every Friday at 11am the Rosary is prayed for world peace at the Cenotaph in Harrogate town centre.

Update on the Lift Repair: Yet another week of frustration. An email from Curti Lifts started "Unfortunately I don't have any good news." At the end of the email they said, "After talking to our other independent suppliers, we are informed that the only option is to get a full set of seals manufactured." Fr Ben has sought a second opinion from another lift company and is awaiting their report as the bulletin goes to press. Curti Lifts came on Friday afternoon to take away some of the seal casings.

Live Screening of the Mass in the Hall: With the lift not working, the Mass has been live-screened in the Parish Hall. We **strongly advise** that anyone who would normally use the lift to get to the church would remain downstairs. Holy Communion (under one-kind) will be brought to you. We had a "near.miss" incident last week where an elderly parishioner wobbled at the top of the stairs at the end of Mass. That could have had a catastrophic ending! Apologies for the inconvenience.

And as if that were not enough!

Problems with the Parish landline: We have been having problems with the parish landline for a while. People have been phoning and leaving messages on 1571, but I have not been receiving calls, nor had access to even the dialling tone and thus unaware that messages had been left, and unable to retrieve them even if I had been aware! I also have not been able to ring out on the landline. When this was resolved on Tuesday, I found my 1571 voicemail box was full and contained 30 messages! Sorry if you have been trying to contact me by the landline and failing to do so or wondering why I hadn't replied.

Next Weekend: We welcome and thank Canon Lawrie Hulme, who is well known to many of you, who will be saying all three of the Masses here. If someone could let him into the presbytery between the two Sunday morning Masses, I would be grateful. Please see Fr Ben if you can help with this.

Weekend of 24th and 25th October: Will see the annual Mission Appeal in the Diocese coming to our Parish. This year we welcome the Comboni Missionaries (formerly known as the Verona Fathers) There will, of course be a Retiring Collection to support their Missions.

Leeds Catholic Post: As we work more closely together as the Dioceses of Leeds, Middlesbrough and Hallam, the decision has been made to circulate a free monthly diocesan newspaper once again. It will help us to get to know what is going on in the Catholic Church across Yorkshire. Copies are available to take home with you after Mass today.

Silver Swans Ballet Sessions: In St Joseph's Church Hall every Thursday 10:30-11:30am. £7 per session. Silver Swans teachers are trained 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 975500

Friendship Group: Meet in the Parish Hall every Tuesday from 1:30-3:00pm. Come along for tea, coffee, cakes, quizzes and other activities. We sometimes have guest speakers and outings. A great way to have fun and to form and develop friendships. It's not just for parishioners or only for Catholics. **All Welcome.**

Sacrament of Confirmation: Application forms are now available for those whose children didn't make their First Holy Communions here. Those who did should have received an Email asking them to confirm their desire for their children to be Confirmed this year. Children need to be in at least Year 6. Forms must be returned no later than the Parent's Meeting on 14th October.

Dates for your diaries re: Confirmation.

Parent's Meeting: Wed 14th October 6pm (Church)
Catechetical Sessions: Sat 17th October, Sat 24th October and Sat 28th November 10am-2:00pm in the Parish Hall.
Confirmation Day: Thursday 3rd December at 6:00pm here at St Joseph's, celebrated by Fr Ben.

Gift-Aid Declarations: A special word of thanks to all who Gift-Aid your donations to the Parish, and to John Tweddle, Rich Gundich and John Gibson who each in their own way contribute to preparing our Gift-Aid reclaims through the Diocese. If you need your letter saying how much your contributions have been to help you complete a Self-Assessment tax form, please let Fr Ben know, preferably by email: benjamin.griffiths@dioceseofleeds.org.uk and he will provide you with the letter which has been sent from the Diocesan Gift Aid Administrator, Louise Ward.

Parish Kitchen: The new hob and oven will be fitted very soon. The new equipment, including fitting, and disposal of the old cooker and hob have cost £1,069.00.

Growing Old Gracefully Carers Project: An online support group for unpaid carers has two sessions on the first Wednesdays of the month at 2pm and 7:30pm. If you care for a friend, neighbour or family member you are invited to join us for the opportunity to make new friends, chat and have space and time to pray. Contact Michelle for more information or to register carersproject@growingoldgracefully.org.uk

News From the School: Our Mini Vinnies led a beautiful Harvest Celebration of the Word this week, inviting children to bring gifts of food and toiletries for the Harrogate and District Foodbank. Our young leaders guided the school in prayer with confidence and reverence, reminding us that when we care for those in need, we are following in Jesus' footsteps. We are so grateful to our families for their generosity, helping us put our faith into action and share Christ's love with our wider community.

Year 3 shared their learning in a wonderful Celebration Assembly, demonstrating just how much their confidence and presentation skills are growing. It is a real pleasure to watch our children develop the courage to stand before an audience and share their achievements with such pride.

Our Year 6 tour guides were back in action for another Open Day, welcoming prospective families and sharing what life at St Joseph's means to them. Visitors commented on the children's warmth, enthusiasm and the genuine affection with which they spoke about their school. What better way to discover the heart of St Joseph's than through the voices of the children themselves?

Finally, Year 6 returned from their much-anticipated residential adventure at Herd Farm — full of memories, stories and, in some cases, very little sleep! From soaring through the air on the giant swing and reaching dizzying heights while crate stacking, to tackling the assault course, orienteering and building woodland shelters, the children embraced every challenge. Evenings brought games of hide-and-seek in the woods after dark and marshmallows toasted beneath a beautiful starlit sky.

What made the visit particularly special, however, was the children's care for one another. The Herd Farm instructors took time to comment on the encouragement, compassion and genuine support they witnessed within the group. It was lovely to hear that the qualities we value so deeply at St Joseph's were so evident to others. We could not be prouder of the children's courage, kindness and determination.

Our thanks go to the fantastic Herd Farm team for their enthusiasm, care and delicious food. As for the accompanying staff, they may need approximately a week of uninterrupted sleep to recover!

Another week of gratitude, courage, humility and service, reminding us that our school vision, *"Let all that you do be done in love,"* is something our children carry with them wherever they go.

Come and See St Joseph's!

We would love to welcome you to our next **Open Day on Saturday 14 November, 10.00am–12.30pm**. If you, your family or someone you know is looking for a school, please come along and discover our happy, welcoming community. Meet our staff, explore our school and see what makes St Joseph's such a special place to learn and grow. Everyone is welcome, and no booking is needed. Can't make the date? You are always welcome to contact the school office to arrange a visit at a time that suits you. Places are currently available in Reception and Years 1 & 2. Please help us spread the word!

St Joseph, pray for us.

This cost is being met by an anonymous donation. **Thank you.**	