

Sacred Heart & St. Patrick

Bolton Brow, Sowerby Bridge HX6 2BA

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds | Registered Charity No. 249404

Parish Priest Fr Larkin | Tel: 01422 832085 | email pp.sacredheart.sowerbybridge@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Sunday 9th + FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 08 July	5-00pm 5-30pm	Confession VIGIL MASS	Deceased of the Oldfield & Teesdale families
Sunday 09 July	11-00am	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Michael Conway [LD]
Monday 10 July	Private Mass	Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tuesday 11 July	09-30am	ST BENEDICT, ABBOT AND PATRON OF EUROPE	November Dead List 2022/23
Wednesday 12 July		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Thursday 13 July	7-30pm	St Henry	Terry & Doreen Carroll
Friday 14 July	9-30am	St Camillus de Lellis, Priest	November Dead List 2022/23
Saturday 15 July	5-00pm 5-30pm	Confession VIGIL MASS	Arthur Oldfield [AB]
Sunday 16 July	11-00am	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	November Dead List 2022/23

Tea & Coffee after Sunday Mass today (From 11.45 - 12.45)

Welcome to our parish, looking toward the altar and the Heart of the church where the priest celebrates Mass in the midst of the congregation, the great image of Christ on the cross is there to remind you that he died that we might have life and that having risen from the dead he draws us with him into Resurrection - you can trust completely in Him. Thank you for your visit during and may you travel on in safety.

PARISH GIVING - Many thanks to all who are so generously continuing to give support to the Parish.

BANKED / 04 July £440 - standing orders total for **JUNE £1395**. Total banked for **JUNE £1421**

Switching to Standing Order If you have online or phone banking, then you can set this up yourself. Most people setup payments monthly. Please let Fr Larkin know if you do change to this system.

Bank details: HSBC / Sort Code: 40-27-15 / Account: 41017454

MASS ATTENDANCE 2018 - 2023

13,375 people attended Mass (Jan – Dec 2018)

14,358 people attended Mass (Jan – Dec 2019)

5168 people attended Mass (Jan – Dec 2020)

5979 people attended Mass (Jan – Dec 2021)

9392 people attended Mass (Jan – Dec 2022)

And so far, this year **5912** people attended Mass (Jan – June 2023)

The Mass attendance figures above have shown varying trends over the past few years, reflecting the impact of external factors and societal changes. In 2018, a total of 13,375 individuals attended Mass from January to December. This number saw a slight increase in 2019, with 14,358 people participating in Mass services. However, the year 2020 brought a significant decline in Mass attendance, as only **5,168**

individuals attended Mass amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions on public gatherings.

In 2021, there was a noticeable recovery in Mass attendance, with **5,979** people returning to worship. This increase likely indicates the gradual easing of restrictions and the willingness of individuals to resume religious practices. The following year, 2022, witnessed a further increase in Mass attendance, reaching 9,392 individuals. This recovery can be attributed to the continued relaxation of pandemic-related measures, allowing more people to safely attend religious services.

As of June 2023, Mass attendance figures stand at **5,912** people (compare total for 2021). It is important to note that this data represents only the first half of the year. Given the ongoing potential fluctuations in attendance due to various factors, it is difficult to predict the final figures for the year. Nonetheless, the gradual recovery observed in recent years suggests a positive trend, as more individuals continue to engage in religious practices and attend Holy Mass. It is good to be together...

PARISH ELECTRICITY CONTRACT Dear Father, I am writing to you following the renewal of the electricity contract by IFM, with an update on the prices.

Contract renewal

Over recent months there has been some easing within in domestic supply markets from the position in 2022, although the business supply markets continue to prove challenging. Given the size of dioceses and their consumption, each diocese would be classed as a commercial purchaser of energy, that means domestic (household) tariffs are not available to us. By being part of IFM we can use our buying power to soften the increases being felt in the commercial market in entering into the new contract with effect from 1 July 2023.

Following a competitive tender process, we are confident that we have obtained the best deal possible in the circumstances. I had been hoping to be able to talk about reductions in costs, however in the main unit prices are slightly above the previous contract, with some sites seeing larger increases. The new contract is for a two-year period, set at one tariff across the whole term of the contract. Unlike the gas contract, the electricity prices vary between sites as they are calculated on consumption as well as costs of transmission according to the part of the country in which you are based. To give you some idea of the impact of the new contract, the average parish consumes around 7,500kWh of electricity each year and the annual cost until 30 June 2023 under the current contract is around £2,800 with average contract prices of 34.9p/kWh and standing charges of 47.5p per day. Under the new contract this will be around £3,000 across the whole year, with average contract rates of 36.28p/kWh and standing charges of 81.45p/day. The significant increase in standing charges is also being felt in the domestic market and is something which we have looked at closely during renewal. Some sites are below this level; however, some are significantly higher due to their location and consumption of power.

Green energy and carbon footprint The electricity which will be supplied is from wholly renewable sources, namely wind, wave and solar. This means that we are living out what Pope Francis called us to in *Laudato Si'*, in minimising our impact on the Earth's resources in how our power is generated and contributes significantly to lowering the carbon footprint of the Dioceses.

Supplier The supplier for the new contract is Engie, and more details of this company can be found at <https://www.engie.com/en> and it was this organisation's work with renewable energy as well as competitive prices which made them the preferred supplier. As part of the tender process, we look at more than just price, and consider non-commercial factors such as service and ethical considerations.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN We are planning to run another 40 Days for Life Campaign from 27 September to 5 November, a peaceful and prayerful Christian witness outside the MSI Choices Leeds abortion facility. At the moment we are still free to witness and pray there. The Public Order Act 2023 section 9 would make it illegal for us to be nearer than 150m from the facility, but this section has not been put into effect as a commencement regulation is needed first.

This a peaceful and prayerful Christian witness outside the MSI Choices Leeds abortion facility.

MISSION HALIFAX REUNION MASS & SOCIAL Thursday 13 July, 7pm, St Mary's Church, Gibbet Street, Halifax HX1 5DH. Join Mission Halifax for a Reunion Mass & Social at St Mary's Church following on from the Mission. All welcome. After Mass, we will head to the Catholic Club (within walking distance) for our social.

SHALOM WORLD TV Shalom Media Ministry aims to proclaim the Gospel through the visual media around the world. Shalom Media is a Catholic media ministry with a vision to propagate the peace of Christ to all corners of the world through publications and television channels. Shalom World TV is a free 24/7 high-definition family entertainment Catholic channel. They are currently producing a series on the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales: <https://www.shalomworld.org/show/40-martyrs-of-england-&-wales>. Shalom have asked if a brief note about them could be published in parish Sunday newsletters.

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY is back in print as well as online. To subscribe for the paper to be sent direct to your home, please contact michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk or 07436 617650.

PIETY STALL As you enter our beautiful church through the side entrance you will see the well-stocked Piety Stall. We have a wide selection of suitable cards.

HOLY SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM A date and time for your child's Baptism can be provisionally given once you have completed the parish form and established a relationship with the parish. The choice of godparents is important. A godparent is a role model for your child by living a fully Christian life, there are usually two godparents. Godparents must be at least 16yrs of age, practising Catholics and should have received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Parents are responsible for instructing and forming their children in both the teaching and practice of the Catholic faith. Although Catholic schools exist to help parents in this regard, they are not a substitute for it. The best instruction that you can give your child is through commitment to the Mass. As you make this request for your child, it should also be a reality in your own life. If after reading this information you feel ready to present, your child to the Church for Baptism please see Fr Larkin after Mass for Pre-Baptism form.

CATENIANS Any Catholic men wishing to learn more about the Catenians can call Membership Officer Dennis Donnelly on 01484 606042.

ARE YOU GOING TO UNIVERSITY THIS YEAR? Make sure you look out for your Catholic Chaplaincy. To find your local Chaplaincy, and for contact details of all the University Chaplains and Catholic Student Societies, visit www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk.

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READINGS, PRAYERS AND MASS TEXTS can be found at: www.universalis.com

FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Zechariah Zechariah 9:9f
The Lord says this: Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,

from the River to the ends of the earth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 144(145):1-2,8-11,13b-14

RESPONSE: I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

I will give you glory, O God my king,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever. **R.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. **R.**

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Romans 8:9,11f

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf.Mt11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus *Ultimate Defence Against Modernism and the Culture of Death keep us safe.*