

# Sacred Heart & St. Patrick

Bolton Brow, Sowerby Bridge HX6 2BA

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds | Registered Charity No. 249404

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## Sunday 20th AUGUST + TWENTIETH SUNDAY

Saturday 19 Aug	5-00pm 5-30pm	Confession VIGIL MASS	Anthony McNicholas
Sunday 20 Aug	11-00am	TWENTIETH SUNDAY	Colette Kendall [LD]
Monday 21 Aug	Private Mass	St Pius X, Pope	
Tuesday 22 Aug	9-30am	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	For Daddy [B]
Wednesday 23 Aug		St Rose of Lima,	
Thursday 24 Aug	7-30pm	ST BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE	November Dead List 2022/23
Friday 25 Aug	9-30am	St Joseph Calasanz	For Friends in need
Saturday 26 Aug	5-00pm 5-30pm	Confession VIGIL MASS	Sarah Fagan [LD]
Sunday 27 Aug	11-00am	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY	Stephen Joyce [A]

### 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 and may you travel on in safety.

**PARISH GIVING** – A Testament to your generosity.

**BANKED | 14 AUG £340** plus standing orders of ~£1220 per month (approx. £281.53 per week)

**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. Your dedication and kindness play an integral role in our Parish's growth, and ongoing life.

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** It was exhilarating and heartening to see so many at Holy Mass for the feast. In these challenging times, when the world often feels fractured and uncertain, feasts like these remind us of the power of Holy Mass and the unbreakable bond of God's love for us.

**THE LADIES GROUP** will meet on Wednesday 23 August at 7pm to arrange the forthcoming Rushbearing event to be held in our grounds on Saturday 02 September. Any donations of cakes/ buns/ etc would be very welcome nearer the day. Thank you.

**ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD**, we will gather in reverence and joy to mark the 70th anniversary of the original school's opening in 1953. The Holy Mass, a cornerstone of our faith, will be celebrated with the

special intention of commemorating the auspicious day of August 31, 1953, when the doors of the school were first opened in the church house. This event is not just a testament to the enduring legacy of Catholic education but a heartfelt tribute to all who attended, walked its corridors, and became part of its rich history. After the Mass, in the spirit of community and shared memories, everyone is cordially invited for coffee and tea, accompanied by a special display of photographs capturing poignant moments from the school's first decade. It's a unique opportunity for all to reminisce, reconnect, and celebrate the institution that has shaped so many lives. The hall will be open to guests from 11-3pm, and all are welcome.

### **MASS ATTENDANCE 2023** Mass Participation Trends

**Background:** Over the last few years, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of attendees at Mass. By examining the figures from 2020 to 2022 and assessing the data from the first seven months of 2023, we can forecast potential attendance for the entire year.

#### **Analysis:**

1. In 2020, a total of 5,168 people attended Mass from January to December.
2. This number saw a notable increase in 2021, with 5,979 attendees, marking an increase of 15.7% compared to 2020.
3. 2022 witnessed a more substantial surge with 9,392 attendees, which is a striking 57.1% growth from 2021.
4. As of July 2023, the attendance figure is already 6,896, surpassing the whole-year attendance for both 2020 and 2021 within just seven months.

#### **Projection for 2023**

Given the data from January to July 2023, and assuming the monthly average attendance rate remains consistent for the latter half of the year, we can project the total attendance for 2023.

The average monthly attendance for 2023 thus far is approximately  $\{6896\}/\{7\} = 985.14$  (rounded off to 985 attendees per month). Considering this rate for the remaining five months of 2023, the projected attendees would be  $985 * 5 = 4,925$ . Adding this to the already accounted number of attendees in the first seven months, the total projected attendance for 2023 would be  $6,896 + 4,925 = 11,821$ .

**Conclusion:** There has been a consistent growth trend in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2022. If the current pace of attendance is sustained for the rest of 2023, we can anticipate a record attendance of approximately **11,821** people by the end of the year, marking yet another substantial increase from the previous years. The driving factors for this growth would need further research, but from a number's standpoint, engagement and participation in Holy Mass are on a positive trajectory. It is good to be together...

**THE SVP** will be having a tombola stall at the Rush Bearing Festival to raise money for our good causes. We are appealing to our parishioners to donate any unwanted gifts, toiletries, bottles etc for prizes for our stall. A box will be in the church porch for donations. Thank you.

**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](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk) or 07436 617650.

**FOUNTAINS ABBEY MASS** There will be a Mass for the Feast of St Bernard at Fountains Abbey on **Monday 21 August at 12 noon**. It will be celebrated by Canon Michael Loughlin, the parish priest of English Martyrs, York. Entry is via the Visitors' Centre. There is ample parking and a shuttle bus to the abbey available. The National Trust has kindly agreed to waive the normal admission charges for those attending Mass.

**CATENIANS** On **Monday 21 August**, many Catenians will be among the congregation at Fountains Abbey for the Annual Mass to celebrate the Feast of St. Bernard commencing at 12.00 noon. Any Catholic men wishing to learn more about the Catenians can call Membership Officer Dennis Donnelly on 01484 606042.

**SAFEGUARDING** Irene Hellowell 07432121757 is available to provide advice, support whenever it is needed along with Safeguarding Administrator – Joanne Clark at the diocesan office Tel: 0113 261 8046

**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.

**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.

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Firstly, our deepest gratitude goes to every member of our community who has consistently shown generosity in supporting the Parish. Your dedication and kindness play an integral role in our Parish's growth, sustenance, and ongoing life.

One of the remarkable tools that has made this generosity so effective and consistent is the adoption of standing order payments. Standing orders provide numerous benefits:

1. **Consistency and Predictability:** With standing orders, the Parish can anticipate a regular flow of funds, enabling us to budget and plan more effectively. This predictability ensures that programs, events, and essential services continue uninterrupted.
2. **Ease of Administration:** Standing orders eliminate the frequent handling of cash and manual entry of donations. This reduces the administrative burden, ensuring that funds are received and accounted for seamlessly.
3. **Security and Transparency:** Standing orders a secure method of transferring funds. The transactions are traceable, and donors have the assurance that their contributions are reaching the intended destination.
4. **Convenience:** Once set up, a standing order is an effortless way to contribute. There's no need to remember; the donation process is automated, making it easier for everyone.
5. Another instrumental component that further magnifies the impact of these donations is **Gift Aid**. For those who are UK taxpayers, Gift Aid allows the Parish to claim back 25p for every £1 donated at no extra cost to the donor. This means that a donation of £100, with Gift Aid, effectively becomes £125 for the Parish. We would strongly encourage those eligible to use the Gift Aid scheme. This enhances the value of your donation and provides additional vital funds to our Parish without you having to give more. Gift Aid forms available from Fr Larkin.

Furthermore, it's essential to highlight the beautiful link between the act of giving and our Catholic tradition. The Catholic Church has, for centuries, emphasized the importance of almsgiving and supporting one's church and community. This tradition is based on the teachings of Jesus, urging us to be selfless and considerate. In the act of giving, we not only support the church but also bear witness to our faith and commitment to the teachings of Christ.

By choosing to support the Parish through generous donations, our community is upholding this time-honoured Catholic tradition. Each contribution, whether big or small, strengthens the bond we share as a community and showcases our collective commitment to the church's mission.

In conclusion, our Parish thrives on the generosity of its members. Standing order payments, with their simplicity and effectiveness, act as a bridge, connecting the age-old Catholic tradition of generous giving with the modern methods of financial transactions. We are profoundly grateful for this unwavering support and pray for continued blessings on our parish.

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**  
**ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD**

Please keep the **Father Paul Moores** in your prayers Ordination to the Priesthood Saturday 01 July 2023.

Please pray for peace in Ukraine and Sudan, all who are sick, our housebound parishioners, for those in distress and bereaved; and for all who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Let us pray for all those who work for the protection and enrichment of human life, that they might maintain a positive approach to lending their support in difficult situations. Lord hear us

**Sunday 20th + TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**FIRST READING** A reading from the prophet Isaiah Isaiah 56:1,6f

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

The word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

**PSALM** Psalm 66(67):2-3,5-6,8

**RESPONSE:** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help. **R.**

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth. **R.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter to the Romans Romans 11:13-15,29f

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since

their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** cf. Jn10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,  
says the Lord,  
I know them and they follow me.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

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.*

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