

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 10th + SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT + SUNDAY YEAR B / WEEKDAY YEAR II

Saturday 09 Dec	5-00pm 5-30pm	Confession VIGIL MASS	November Dead List
Sunday 10 Dec	11-00am	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Joyce Carr [A]
Monday 11 Dec	NO PUBLIC MASS	St Damasus I, Pope	
Tuesday 12 Dec	09-30am	Our Lady of Guadalupe	November Dead List 2023/24
Wednesday 13 Dec		St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	
Thursday 14 Dec	NO PUBLIC MASS	St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church	November Dead List 2023/24
Friday 15 Dec	9-30am	Advent Weekday	Peter Bridges [A]
Saturday 16 Dec	5-00pm 5-30pm	Confession VIGIL MASS	Deceased of the Oldfield & Teesdale families
Sunday 17 Dec	11-00am	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY	Anne Barker [LD]

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

WELCOME to our parish during this most blessed season of Advent and Christmas. As we gather in the warmth of our church, gazing towards the altar, our hearts are drawn to the poignant symbol of our faith, the image of Christ on the cross. This powerful representation serves as a solemn reminder of His ultimate sacrifice, offering us the gift of life and the promise of Resurrection. In this time of Advent, we prepare our hearts with joyful anticipation, reflecting on the virtues of hope, peace, love, and joy that Christ's birth brought into the world. The flickering candles of the Advent wreath illuminate our path towards the celebration of Christmas, a time when our community comes together in harmony and gratitude. As we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, our church becomes a beacon of light and warmth, echoing the message of God's unfailing love and mercy. We cherish these moments of togetherness, sharing in the joy and wonder of the season. May this Christmas fill your hearts with peace and your journey with blessings, as we remember that in Christ, we find our truest source of comfort and joy. Thank you for joining us in this sacred celebration, and may you travel onwards in safety and God's grace.

PARISH GIVING – thank you for all your support it is very much appreciated.

TO BE BANKED | 06 DEC £370 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. Thank you.

MASS ATTENDANCE 2020 - 2023

November 2023, Mass attendance figures stand at **10145**.

We have already surpassed the figures of 2022. Just keep coming to Mass.

DIOCESAN YEARBOOK 2024 The annual publication provides a very valuable physical record and guide to the life and mission of our Diocese, not only for immediate use but also for archival reference. Available today £5.00.

ADVENT FAYRE 2023 - The following outlines the funds raised over the two days of the Advent Fayre

Stall			Stall Total
Cakes & Cake Raffle			185.30
Bottle			213.60
Coloured Stall			204.00
Piety – Religious Cards			74.00
Refreshments			52.50
Raffle Draw			435.00
		Sub Total	£1164.40
Costs			
	<i>Cost of printing tickets</i>		<i>£138.00</i>
		Total	£1026.40

A HUGE THANK YOU I'm delighted to share the remarkable success of the Advent Fayre in 2023. With a total of £1164.40 raised over two days, it's evident that the event was a resounding triumph. The various stalls, including Cakes & Cake Raffle, Bottle, Coloured Stall, Piety – Religious Cards, and Refreshments, all played a significant role in contributing to this achievement. The highlight, of course, was the **Raffle Draw**, which brought in an impressive £435.00. After deducting the costs, which included printing tickets and other expenses amounting to £138.00, the net proceeds of £1026.40 are truly commendable.

This success is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and generosity of everyone involved, from the organizers to the participants, as well as the supportive community of children, parents, and friends of the parish. The funds raised will make a positive impact, and it's heartening to see how the Advent Fayre brought joy and a sense of togetherness to the parish. Once again, a huge thank you to all who contributed to this wonderful event, making it a special and memorable occasion for everyone involved.

ADVENT – It was wonderful to welcome our families and children of the Sacred Heart school to the first Sunday of Advent, there was over 150 in attendance. The children helped us to sing & pray the Mass beautifully – well-done everyone.

PRINCIPAL SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE 24 December

5-30pm Vigil Mass of Christmas - Family Mass - a warm welcome to our families and children

CHRISTMAS DAY 25 December - Christmas Morning – 11-00am

ANNE BARKER AND KEITH MARSDEN, It is with great sadness to inform you of the death of Anne Barker and Keith Marsden who died recently. Please pray for the repose of their souls and for their families and friends. Funeral service for **Anne Barker 11.30am Tuesday 19 December and Keith Marsden Wednesday 20 December at 10.00am**. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

POST - PLEASE NOTE I would suggest that your last mailing day is the 18 December, if you are sending something which you want to be received before Christmas.

This would enable you to post 1st/2nd Class and it should arrive.

MASS INTENTIONS If you would like a Mass offering for a particular intention or for the repose of the soul of a loved one, please put your offering in an envelope and write the name of the intention, the date requested and your contact details & pop it into the collection box or through the presbytery letterbox. In most parishes, there are never more than two maybe three weeks of Mass intentions outstanding at any one time.

CAROL SERVICE, LEEDS TRINITY UNIVERSITY Carols by candlelight on **Monday 04 December** at 7.00pm in the Chapel including performances from the Leeds Trinity University Chapel Choir and Mount St Mary's Catholic High School. Complimentary mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards. For more information and to book visit: www.leadstrinity.ac.uk/events

ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSIONS on **Saturday 16 December** at St Mary's Halifax

Confessions Rota

9.00am	Mgr Michael McQuinn	1.00pm	Fr Michael Hall
10.00am	Mgr Michael McQuinn	2.00pm	Fr Joshua Hilton
11.00am	Mgr Paul Owens	3.00pm	Fr Bob Owens
12noon	Fr Larkin	4.00pm	Mgr Paul Owens

COMPLINE FOR ADVENT SUNG BY LEEDS CATHEDRAL CHOIR: A recording of Compline sung by the Cathedral Choir will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 at 9.30pm on **Monday 4 December**. The programme will also be available for 30 days after broadcast on BBC Sounds (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001svtx>).

LEEDS CATHEDRAL ADVENT DAY OF RECONCILIATION Tuesday 19 December, 7am to 7pm. There will be priests available to hear confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day.

PASTORAL STATISTICS 2023 the Parish Pastoral Statistics for 2023 will be completed and returned to Bishop's House by 31 January 2024.

NEW LECTIONARY A New Lectionary will come into use on the First Sunday of Advent next year. The Lectionary will be published in four volumes and, from the presentation made by the publishers (Catholic Truth Society – CTS) during the recent Plenary Assembly of the Bishops Conference, will be of a very high quality. For parish budgeting, the estimated cost is expected to be between **£500 and £600** for the full set of volumes. A Book of the Gospels will also be available.

THE LECTIO DIVINA GROUP Meetings will take place on Tuesdays at 1pm and will focus on the coming week's Gospel. More details or to join the group contact Malcolm or Mary Henry on 01422 831923.

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY To subscribe for the paper to be sent direct to your home, michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk or 07436 617650.

POST - PLEASE NOTE I would suggest that your last mailing day 1st Class 20/21 December, if you are sending something 2nd Class 18 December this would enable your letters to arrive in time for Christmas.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME for children in Year 6 will commence on **Thursday 16 November 2023 3:30pm** and the sessions, led by Mrs Hutchings will be held here in school, lasting approximately one hour. If you are available, attend with your son/daughter to support and share their continuing journey in faith.

DATE	LESSONS	Time
Thursday 11 January	(7-8) The Gift of the Church / The Gift of Faith Handed On	
Thursday 25 January	(9-10) Eucharist / Prayer	
Thursday 08 February	(11-12) The Gift of Service / The Gift of Confirmation	

If you are unable to attend here, alternative dates/times for our Catholic family of schools can be found on our School Website. Bishop Marcus Stock will be celebrating Confirmation for all candidates in our Halifax deanery on **Thursday 07 March 2024 / 7pm at St Mary's Church Halifax**.

VACANCIES

SECONDMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR DEPUTY HEADTEACHER, St John the Evangelist Catholic Primary School, Bradford. Required March 2024 – July 2024. Closing date:

Friday 12 January 2024. To discuss or arrange a visit, contact Ben Lavin, ben.lavin@bcwcat.co.uk. Further details attached.

CATHOLIC CARE VACANCY FOR VOLUNTEERS For further details and how to apply please visit <http://www.catholic-care.org.uk/recruit.../latest-vacancies/> or telephone 0113 3885400 to request an application form

CATHOLIC CARE VACANCY FOR PARISH REPRESENTATIVES For further details and how to apply please visit <http://www.catholic-care.org.uk/recruit.../latest-vacancies/> or telephone 0113 3885400 to request an application

CATHOLIC CARE VACANCIES Various paid roles and volunteer opportunities currently advertised including Senior Residential Childcare Worker and School Social Worker. For further details of individual roles, and how to apply please visit <http://www.catholic-care.org.uk/recruit.../latest-vacancies/> or call 0113 3885400.

**Sunday 10th + SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT +
SUNDAY YEAR B / WEEKDAY YEAR II**

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

FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 40:1-5f

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God.

‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.’

A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low.

Let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.

Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
‘Here is your God.’

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.

The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 84(85):9-14

RESPONSE: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of Peter

2 Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

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.*

Diocese www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk
Church www.sacredheartandstpatrickschurch.org.uk
School www.sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk

Readings and Holy Mass www.universalis.com
Safeguarding Diocesan Office 0113 261 8069
Safeguarding Parish Irene Hellowell 07432121757

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