

Sacred Heart & St. Patrick

Bolton Brow, Sowerby Bridge HX6 2BA

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds | Registered Charity No. 249404

Parish Priest: Very Reverend Canon M Larkin BSc (Hons) (Dunelm) STL VF

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Leeds Safeguarding - 0113 2618046 - www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/

Sunday 31st + TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 30 Aug	5-30pm	VIGIL	Thanks for all who prayed for Addison's recovery
Sunday 31 Aug	11-00am	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY	Stephen Joyce [A]
Monday 01 September	NO PUBLIC MASS	Weekday in Ordinary Time	November Dead List 2024/5
Tuesday 02 Sept	09.30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Maggie Butterfield [R]
Wednesday 03 Sept	NO PUBLIC MASS	ST GREGORY THE GREAT, POPE AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	In Thanksgiving for my wonderful parents
Thursday 04 Sept	NO PUBLIC MASS	St Cuthbert, Bishop	November Dead List 2024/5
FRIDAY 05 Sept	09.30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Christine & Jimmy Bainbridge 60th Wedding Anniversary
Saturday 06 Sept	5-00pm 5-30pm	Confession VIGIL MASS	Elizabeth Dearing [LD]
Sunday 07 Sept	11-00am	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	November Dead List 2024/5

Tea & Coffee after Sunday Mass (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.



MASS ATTENDANCE 2025 – 890 people attended Mass (July).

Just keep coming to Mass

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

BANKED | 26 Aug. 25 £321.00 plus, standing orders **£1415** per month. Thank you.

Standing Order - If you have online or phone banking, then you can set this up yourself. Most people setup payments monthly. Please inform Canon Larkin if you change to this system. Bank details: HSBC / Sort Code: 40-27-15 / Account: 41017454. Thank you for supporting standing orders.

STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE - ACTION NEEDED The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September. Right To Life UK has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. **Take action now and visit** www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds!

2025 RUSHBEARING will take place on the weekend of the 6/7 of September.

The Rushcart will arrive at church on **Saturday 06 between 12.45 and stay till 13.35.**

Rushbearing Festival – A Call for Bakers and Helpers As we prepare for the tradition of the Rushbearing Festival, we warmly invite anyone who is willing to bake **buns, tarts, or other sweet treats** to kindly contribute to our parish stall. These will be sold on the day to raise much-appreciated funds, and your generosity will make all the difference. If you can help by baking, please let **Fiona** know **as soon as possible.**

Additionally, any offers of help on the day itself, from 10:00am onwards, would be most gratefully received. I also extend a heartfelt invitation to join us for the Rushbearing Festival on Saturday, 6th **September at 12:30pm.** It promises to be a wonderful gathering. Thank you for your support and willingness to help.

THE SVP will be having a tombola stall at the annual Rush Bearing Festival on Saturday 6 September 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. Your support is appreciated. Thank you.

OVERGATE HOSPICE Midnight Walk, which will take place on **Saturday 13 September.**

As part of this year's walk, the church hall will be a checkpoint at the 5-mile mark. This will be a place for walkers to take a short break, grab a hot drink and biscuit, and use the facilities before heading off on the final leg of the walk back to the Piece Hall.

THE LATIN MASS SOCIETY You can sign-up as a Supporter for free but rely on Member subscriptions. Join up and help pass on the ancient Catholic Mass to future generations. Sign-up for Direct Debit and receive a 10% discount. <https://lms.org.uk/join-now>

“AD ORIENTEM”: Voices from the Early Church — Eastward Prayer in the Fathers

The practice of facing East in prayer, which we are rediscovering in the *ad orientem* celebration of the Holy Mass, is not a recent preference but an ancient expression of Christian worship. The Church Fathers—those bishops, theologians, and saints of the first centuries—spoke frequently of **turning to the East** as a symbol of Christ, the Light of the World and the direction of His anticipated return.

Here is a powerful voice from our tradition:

Origen (3rd Century) “A direction for prayer is that it should be made toward the East, in order to remind us of our souls' turning toward the rising of the true light.” (From *On Prayer*, Chapter 31)

Reflection: The early Church understood prayer as **spiritual orientation**, a turning of both body and soul toward the saving light of Christ.

Conclusion: A Living Tradition These ancient voices remind us that our liturgy is not something invented in modern times, but **a living participation in the Church's universal and apostolic tradition.** The posture of facing East is one way we enter more deeply into that mystery, allowing even our physical orientation to reflect our hope in the Risen and Returning Christ.

ANNUAL LEEDS DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM The Annual Leeds Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place this year on Saturday 27 September. It will begin with the Angelus and the celebration of Holy Mass at 12:00 Noon at the Shrine located near the Slipper Chapel. The Mass will be followed by a break for Lunch. At 2:30pm there will be a Solemn Procession into the village of Walsingham, concluding with Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the grounds of the Ancient Shrine around 3:30pm.

PRIESTLY VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT MEETINGS Time for prayers, questions, input from a priest and social time. There are two groups meeting simultaneously; under 18s and over 18s. Fridays 6.30pm- 8.15pm: 19 September (Hinsley Hall), 17 October (Hinsley Hall), 14 November (Cathedral Hall), 19 December (Hinsley Hall).

Under 18 participants must complete and return a permission form prior to attending. For permission forms and to notify of attendance (all participants) please contact Vocations Promoter, Fr Simon Lodge simon.lodge@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

PERMANENT DIACONATE MASS As St Francis of Assisi's memorial, who was a deacon, is on Saturday 4 October, Bishop Marcus will be celebrating the 12.00 Mass at Leeds Cathedral in thanksgiving for the permanent diaconate in our Diocese.

JUBILEE MASSES AT ST STEPHEN'S SKIPTON Masses for the Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee Year will take place at St Stephen's Skipton, on the following date. Please check the Skipton parish website for times. All welcome. 19 September, 8 October, 14 November, 10am, 16 December, 7pm.

ST MARK'S WAY ON THE NATIONAL JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE begins on Saturday 6 September with 8am Mass at Leeds Cathedral. Walk all or part of the way between the Cathedral and the Jubilee Pilgrimage Church of St Austin in Wakefield. See Diocesan website The National Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope starts at Leeds Cathedral: be part of it! | Diocese of Leeds.

CATHOLIC FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS By engaging in a heart-to-heart conversation with our loved ones about our final wishes, we can offer them comfort and clarity in a time of grief. Consider discussing preferences for your Requiem Mass or funeral Service, your chosen Hymns, and Scripture Readings. These intimate details will not only reflect your personal faith journey but will also provide solace and direction to those you leave behind. Once decisions have been made, we recommend penning down these arrangements and placing them alongside your important documents in a safe location. In doing so, you provide guidance when it's needed most, ensuring that, even in absence, your love and thoughtfulness continues to guide and comfort.

CATENIANS: FAITH, FAMILY AND FRIENDSHIP

Meet formally each month on the third Tuesday plus whenever another event has been arranged. Membership is open to any catholic men but wives/partners are encouraged to always be involved. Details about the association can be found at <https://thecatenians.uk> or you may wish to speak to our Membership Officer Dennis Donnelly on 01484 606042.

Sunday 31 August 2025 *Liturgical Colour: Green. Year: C(I).*

Readings at Mass

First reading

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 68(67):4-5ac. 6-7b. 10-11. R cf. 11b

R In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God;
they shall exult with glad rejoicing.

O sing to God; make music to his name.

The Lord is his name. R

Father of orphans, defender of widows:
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity. *℟*

You poured down, O God, a generous rain;
when your heritage languished, you restored it.
It was there that your flock began to dwell.
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor. *℟*

Second reading - Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 11:29ab

Alleluia, alleluia.

Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,
and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia.

Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.' He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'