



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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SEASON OF ADVENT

Sunday 30th FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 29 Nov	5-30pm	VIGIL MASS	Mary Oldfield [LD]
Sunday 30 Nov	11-00am	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR: A(II)	Deceased of Green, Todd and Andrewan families
Monday 01 Dec	NO PUBLIC MASS	Advent Wk. 1	Canon Larkin [GH]
Tuesday 02 Dec	09-30am	Advent Wk. 1	India [GH]
Wednesday 03 Dec		St Francis Xavier, Priest	
Thursday 04 Dec	NO PUBLIC MASS	St John Damascene, Priest and Doctor	Natalie [GH]
Friday 05 Dec	09-30am	Advent Wk. 1	Emily Power [A]
Saturday 06 Dec	5-30pm	VIGIL MASS	Missa pro populo
Sunday 07 Dec	11-00am	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	For SVP

**Deanery Sunday Masses St Mary's Halifax - 9:30am & 11am | Sunday St Alban's 6pm
Tea & Coffee after Sunday Mass (From 11.45 - 12.45)**

WELCOME to our parish during this most blessed season of Advent. 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. We cherish these moments of togetherness, sharing in the joy and wonder of the season. Thank you for joining us and may you travel onwards in safety and God's grace.

MASS ATTENDANCE 2025 – 763 people attended Mass (November). **Just keep coming to Mass**

PARISH GIVING – thank you for all your support.

BANKED | 24 NOV 2025 £425.00 plus, standing orders **£1415** per month. Thank you.

Collection for the Catholic Youth Service £46.00 thank you.

STANDING ORDER - 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. You can complete a Gift Aid form here: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/gift-aid-declaration/>. With very grateful thanks for your generosity to the parish.

FR JOHN BRENDAN MURPHY It is my duty to inform you of the death of Fr John Brendan Murphy who died peacefully yesterday afternoon (24th) at the Ouse View Care Home in York. Please pray for the repose of Fr John's soul and for his family and friends at this time. At the time of his death Fr Murphy was the longest serving priest of the Diocese of Leeds, having been ordained over seventy-one years ago.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

FR DAVID BULMER It is with great sadness to inform you that after a long illness Fr Bulmer died peacefully late evening (25th) at the Park Avenue Nursing Home, Roundhay, Leeds. Please pray for the repose of Fr David's soul and for his family and friends at this time. May he now rest in peace.

ADVENT FAYRE – TODAY Our Advent Fayre will take place today (Sunday) in the Church Hall from 12 noon until 1.00pm. Draw tickets are available throughout the weekend, with the winning tickets to be drawn in the hall today. Your presence, generosity, and kindly support is appreciated.

2026 DIOCESAN YEAR BOOKS 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 soon.

LEEDS CATHEDRAL - BBC radio 4 recording of morning worship for Christmas day on Sunday 7 December: If you would like to come along and be part of the recording, the Cathedral doors will open at 3pm; please be seated by 3.30pm. Recording from 3.30pm-4.30pm. All welcome.

ADVENT CONFESSION LEEDS CATHEDRAL Tuesday 16 December A full day of Confessions will be available at Leeds Cathedral from **7.00am until 7.00pm**, accompanied by **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**.

Canon Larkin will be present in the confessional from **11.00am - 1.00pm**, as part of his new duties in the Cathedral Chapter. If you find yourself in Leeds that day, you are warmly invited to step inside our beautiful cathedral; a quiet haven in the midst of winter streets to make your peace with the Lord and prepare your heart for the coming Feast. As we approach Christmas, the Church reminds us of the traditional practice of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially at **Christmas and Easter**, fulfilling our age-old duties with grace, humility, and renewal. A good confession restores the soul, lifts the conscience, and allows the light of Christ to shine more clearly within us. For further information please call **(0113) 245 4545**.

DEANERY ADVENT CONFESSION this year will take place **Saturday December 20, 2025** at St Mary's Halifax. 09.00 - 10.00 Fr Hilton | 10.00 - 11.00 Mgr. McQuinn | 11.00 - 12.00 Fr Hall

12.00 - 13.00 Canon Larkin | 13.00 - 14.00 Fr Owens | 14.00 - 15.00 Mgr. Owens | 15.00 - 16.00 Fr Hilton

I warmly invite all parishioners to take part in this Advent Confession on **20 December**. Let us embrace this time of penance and grace as we ready ourselves to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, renewed in spirit and heart.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

NOTE - Reconciliation - 11.00am - 28 March 2026 at St Bernard's (Children in Yr 3 or above) & First Holy Communion (Children in Yr 4 or above) Children in these year groups or above receive these sacraments in the spring/summer of 2026. Preparation takes place in school. If your child does not attend Sacred Heart or another Catholic primary school, please contact school and we can support you with preparations. Please speak to Mrs Mitchell in the office or email admin@sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk

SCHOOL Carols around the Tree will be on Friday 19 December at 1:15pm if anyone in the parish would like to join us. All welcome.

FURTHER ACTION NEEDED Please act now and visit <https://righttolife.org.uk/uptobirthlords> a new phase of our *No to Abortion Up to Birth* campaign for the House of Lords

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS Beginning on the **First Sunday of Advent (30 November 2025)** and continuing through to **Pentecost Sunday (24th May 2026)**, we are asked to pray the following at the end of each Sunday Mass—and at weekday Masses where possible:

Our Lady of Unfailing Help

Pray that the Lord of the Harvest
will send labourers into His harvest,
and that He will grant an abundance of vocations
to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life
within the Diocese of Leeds,
and throughout the world. **Amen.**

When the liturgical calendar allows, priests are also encouraged to celebrate the Masses found in the Roman Missal: *For Vocations to Holy Orders* (p.1319) and *For Vocations to Religious Life* (p.1330). Together, through faithful prayer and celebration, may we build a spiritual foundation that will help new vocations to grow and flourish in our diocese and throughout the Church.

PRIESTLY VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT MEETINGS Fridays 6.30pm-8.15pm: 19 December (Venue TBC). 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 vocations@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

HOLY SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM A date and time for your child's Baptism can be arranged once you have completed the parish form and begun to establish a relationship with the parish community. The choice of godparents is very important, as they are called to be role models in the Christian life. Normally, two godparents are chosen; they must be practising Catholics, at least 16 yrs old, and have received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Parents have the primary responsibility of handing on the faith to their children, both in teaching and in practice. Catholic schools exist to support you in this task, but they cannot replace your example, especially your faithful commitment to the Mass, which is the best instruction you can give your child. If, after reflecting on this, you wish to present your child for Baptism, please see Canon Larkin after Mass for the Pre-Baptism form.

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

Sunday 30 November 2025 *Liturgical Colour: Violet. Year: A(II).*

Readings at Mass

First reading - Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the Lord
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths.’
For out of Sion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob, come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 122(121):1-2. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R cf. 1

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when they said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. R

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord,
as it is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. R

For the peace of Jerusalem pray,
‘May they prosper, those who love you.’
May peace abide in your walls,
and security be in your towers. R

For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, ‘Peace upon you.’
For the sake of the house of the Lord, our God,
I will seek good things for you. R

Second reading - Romans 13:11-14a

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation - Psalm 85(84):8

Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia.

Gospel - Matthew 24:37-44

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Solemn Blessing

May the almighty and merciful God,
by whose grace you have placed your faith
in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son
and yearn for his coming again
sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent
and enrich you with his blessing.

Amen.

As you run the race of this present life,
may he make you firm in faith,
joyful in hope and active in charity.

Amen.

So that, rejoicing now with devotion
at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh,
you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life
when he comes again in majesty.

Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

MASS FROM LEEDS CATHEDRAL

To participate online, please access the following YouTube channel: www.leedscathedrallive.org.uk

Deanery Mass Times - <http://www.halifax-deanery.org.uk/halifax-deanery-parish-websites/>

Diocese www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Church www.sacredheartandstpatrikchurch.org.uk

School www.sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk

Readings and Holy Mass www.universalis.com

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