



# 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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[WWW.SACREDHEARTANDSTPATRICKSCHURCH.ORG.UK](http://WWW.SACREDHEARTANDSTPATRICKSCHURCH.ORG.UK)

Leeds Safeguarding - 0113 2618046 - Safe Spaces free helpline 0300 303 1056 - [www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/](http://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/)

## Sunday 15th + SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 14 Feb	5-30pm	VIGIL MASS	Jackie Lyons [A]
Sunday 15 Feb	11-00am	SIXTH SUNDAY	Peter Bridges [AB]
Monday 16 Feb	NO PUBLIC MASS	Weekday in Ordinary Time	November Dead List 2025/6
Tuesday 17 Feb	09-30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Geraldine Carter [LD]
Wednesday 18 Feb	09-30am	ASH WEDNESDAY	Peter McDonnell [LD]
Thursday 19 Feb	NO PUBLIC MASS	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	November Dead List 2025/6
Friday 20 Feb	09-30am	Friday after Ash Wednesday	Mum's Birthday
Saturday 21 Feb	5-30pm	VIGIL MASS	Jaqueline Ann Sweeney [A]
Sunday 22 Feb	11-00am	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	Peter McDonnell [LD]

### Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm – 5.30pm

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** Join us after Mass for a cup of tea or coffee in the parish hall, you are most welcome.

**PARISH GIVING** – thank you for all your support.

**BANKED | 09 FEB 2026 Total £405.00, SO average £1479 per month. Total Gift Aiders 55**

**Collection Diocesan Lourdes Fund £100.50** – thank you.

**STANDING ORDER (SO)** 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 grateful thanks for your generosity to the parish.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** the days are slowly getting longer heralding the imminent arrival of spring, with Shrove Tuesday, Lent and Easter around the corner. The season of Lent is naturally linked to spring - Ash Wednesday, which marks the start of Lent in the Christian calendar, has been observed for centuries. I invite you to attend join me at Holy Mass and receive the ashes on **Wednesday 18 February in the Parish at 09-30am**. Also, **Mass at The Good Shepherd, Mytholmroyd - 12noon** Ashes distributed at all Masses.

**MASS ATTENDANCE 2026** – 947 people attended Mass (January). **Just keep coming to Mass**

**THE RITE OF ELECTION** and Call to Continuing Conversion will take place on the 1st Sunday of Lent, 22 February at 2:30pm, Leeds Cathedral.

**STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE** - further action needed - Please take 30 seconds to stop assisted suicide from being forced into law. Right To Life UK has made an EasyAction tool to email your MP asking them to oppose attempts to force assisted suicide into law by bypassing the House of Lords. Visit [www.righ ttlife.org.uk/ASCommons2026](http://www.righ ttlife.org.uk/ASCommons2026) to ask your MP to oppose forcing the assisted suicide Bill into law.

**ORATORY OF ST JOSEPH** At Bishop Marcus' request, a monthly group for men aged 21-35 is launching for the Dioceses of Leeds and Middlesbrough. Last Thursday of the month starting 26 February, 6.30-8.30pm. Hinsley Hall, (62 Headingley Lane, LS6 2BX). Group prayer, guest speakers, talks, social time, supper, and Adoration. This new initiative is one of the first collaborations between the Dioceses of Middlesbrough and Leeds since the appointment of Bishop Marcus as Apostolic Administrator to Middlesbrough. For more details, see the poster on the noticeboard or contact: [benjamin.hilton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:benjamin.hilton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**SCHOOL PLACES** for any children needing a school place in other year groups at any time within the academic year, they are more than welcome to visit – please contact the school if you would like an appointment with the headteacher contact the school office on 01422 831360

**DIARY DATE** The Ladies' Group are running a fun little competition to raise funds and we'd love you to take part! It's just £1 per date from the calendar, and once all the dates have been chosen, the winning date will be drawn from a hat. The lucky winner will receive £60 towards a meal for two, plus a chauffeur driven trip to and from the restaurant of your choice (within a 5-mile radius of church).

**SACRED HEART** leads sacramental preparation sessions during school hours for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Preparations for Sacrament of Reconciliation will be on Friday afternoons 1-2pm from after the half term break (27 February). Preparations for Holy Communion will begin after Easter on Friday afternoons 1-2pm (17 April) If you would like more information or to arrange for your child to participate in sessions, please contact Mrs Hutchings via the school office or email [admin@sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk)

**DATES THAT CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE THEIR SACRAMENTS:**

First Reconciliation 29 March 2025 at 11am St Bernard's

First Holy Communion Sunday, 17 May 2026 11.00 at Sacred Heart

**THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY** To subscribe for the paper to be sent direct to your home, [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk) or 07436 617650.

**WE BELIEVE 2027** The second We Believe festival - a festival of Catholic life in the UK - will take place from 24 to 27 July 2027 at Oscott, Birmingham. Tickets will be on sale from February. For more information: [www.webelievefestival.com](http://www.webelievefestival.com).

**OUR PARISH FLOWER GROUP** has gradually reduced in numbers over the years, and we would love to welcome new volunteers to help care for and arrange the church flower displays. If you enjoy flowers, have an eye for colour, speak to Irene Hitchen.

**LOURDES** Booking for 2026 Lourdes Pilgrimage is now open at <https://www.tangney-tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-leeds/> If you feel that you could volunteer as a doctor, nurse or carer please get in touch with Julie at [chief.nurse@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:chief.nurse@dioceseofleeds.org.uk) for further information. You will need to register as a volunteer prior to booking a place.

**JUSTICE AND PEACE** Parishioners might like to know about the Christian Blind Mission, started in 1908 by German pastor Ernst Christoffel, who was moved to help the blind whom he encountered on a visit to Turkey. The mission now operates in many countries and helps with other disabilities as well, but

preventable blindness remains the priority. Cataracts are a leading cause of blindness, and their removal is relatively cheap but it's beyond the means of many of the world's poor. Just google Christian Blind Mission to learn more.

**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. According to Canon Law, the law governing the Catholic Church, godparents must be at least 16 years 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. If after reading this information you feel ready to present, your child to the Church for Baptism please see Canon Larkin after Mass for Pre-Baptism form.

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**Sunday 15 February 2026** *Liturgical Colour: Green. Year: A(II).*

#### **Readings at Mass**

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#### **First reading Sirach 15:15-20**

If you desire, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of choice. He has placed before you fire and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Life and death are in front of people, and whichever one chooses will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those who fear him, and he knows a person's every deed. He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly, and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 119(118):1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R1b**

***Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!***

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the Lord!  
Blessed are those who keep his decrees!  
With all their hearts they seek him. R

You have laid down your precepts  
to be carefully kept.  
May my ways be firm  
in keeping your statutes. R

Deal bountifully with your servant,  
that I may live and keep your word.  
Open my eyes, that I may see  
the wonders of your law. R

Lord, teach me the way of your statutes,

and I will keep them to the end.

Grant me insight that I may keep your law,  
and observe it wholeheartedly. R

### **Second reading 1 Corinthians 2:6-10**

Brothers and Sisters: Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the heart of man imagined,  
what God has prepared for those who love him’ —

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

### **Gospel Acclamation Cf. Matthew 11:25**

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Alleluia.

### **Gospel Matthew 5:17-37**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

‘You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

‘It was also said, “Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.” But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.” But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply “Yes” or “No”; anything more than this comes from evil.’

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## MASS FROM LEEDS CATHEDRAL

To participate online, please access the following YouTube channel: [www.leedscathedrallive.org.uk](http://www.leedscathedrallive.org.uk)

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

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Diocese [www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

Church [www.sacredheartandstpatrickschurch.org.uk](http://www.sacredheartandstpatrickschurch.org.uk)

School [www.sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk](http://www.sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk)

Readings and Holy Mass [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

Safeguarding Diocesan Office 0113 261 8069

Safeguarding Parish Irene Hellowell 07432121757