



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

Leeds Safeguarding - 0113 2618046 - Safe Spaces free helpline 0300 303 1056 - www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/

Sunday 8th + THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday 7 March	5-30pm	VIGIL MASS	Canon Firth [GH]
Sunday 8 March	11-00am	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT <i>No Gloria</i>	Elsie Helliwell LD
Monday 9 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	Weekday of Lent	Mary Lindley
Tuesday 10 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	Weekday of Lent	Mary Devereux [A]
Wednesday 11 March		<i>Weekday of Lent</i>	-
Thursday 12 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	Weekday of Lent	November Dead List 2025/6
Friday 13 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	Weekday of Lent	Deceased of the Oldfield & Teesdale families
Saturday 14 March	5-30pm	VIGIL MASS	Helena Mazur [B], Stefan Mazur [A] & Traudi Pickering [A]
Sunday 15 March	11-00am	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT <i>Laetare Sunday</i>	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.

8th March (3rd Sunday of Lent) - *"We pray for our society. That we would promote a culture that values life, and that we would seek the protection of all humans from conception to natural death. Lord hear us".*

JOIN BISHOP MARCUS IN PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS *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.*

MASS ATTENDANCE 2026 – 667 people attended Mass (February). **Just keep coming to Mass**

PARISH GIVING – thank you for all your support.

BANKED |02 March 2026 Total £450.00 | SO average £1479 per month. Total Gift Aiders 55

2026 -27 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES The new envelopes will be available **soon** at the back of church – please check your box carefully. The cost of the envelope scheme is **£178.09**. Thank you for helping reducing costs by Switching to Standing Order.

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.

LENT - HALIFAX DEANERY CONFESSIONS – Saturday 21 March - St Mary’s.

Confessions will be heard by the clergy of the deanery from **9am – 4pm**.

DATES THAT CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE THEIR SACRAMENTS:

First Reconciliation 29 March 2026 at 11am St Bernard's

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

EASTER CARDS AND MASS CARDS Available at the back of Church

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 and pop it into the collection box or through the presbytery letterbox. In most parishes, there are never more than three maybe four weeks of Mass intentions outstanding at any one time.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIED LIFE On Saturday 16 May 2026, there will be a special Celebration Mass for Married Life at Leeds Cathedral at 12noon for couples and their families celebrating their 25th (Silver), 40th (Ruby), 50th (Golden), 60th (Diamond) and 70th (Platinum) wedding anniversaries this year. There will be an opportunity for couples, who wish to do so, to renew their marriage vows during the liturgy. If you are celebrating the anniversary of your wedding and you would like to take part in this celebration, please fill out the application form which is available at the back of church and send it to the Bishop’s Secretary: Miss Anne Cooke, Bishop’s House, 13 North Grange Road, Leeds, LS6 2BR or Email it to: bishop.secretary@dioceseofleeds.org.uk, by Friday 1 May 2026

Please complete the following:

Wife’s First Name:

Wife’s Surname:

Wife’s Maiden name:

Husband’s First Name:

Husband’s Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Telephone Number:

Date of Marriage:

Place of Marriage:

(Please include the name, town and county of the church in which you were married)

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.righttolife.org.uk/ASCommons2026 to ask your MP to oppose the assisted suicide Bill into law.

CATHOLIC CARE’S ANNUAL APPEAL will take place in all parishes across the Diocese of Leeds on **14 & 15 March**. We ask every parish to support the Appeal. Your generosity is vital in helping us continue our work with those most in need. This year’s collection will support our community markets, Gianna Babybank and social isolation groups. Any donation is greatly appreciated, and we hope you can help us make this our most successful Appeal yet.

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 for further information. You will need to register as a volunteer prior to booking a place.

DIARY DATE The Ladies' Group are running a fun little competition to raise funds. 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 **£100.00** 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).

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

BISHOP JOHN CROWLEY 3-DAY PREACHED RETREAT 17 -19 March at The Briery, Ilkley. You are invited to join Bishop Crowley for a short retreat during Lent entitled "Rest and you will see, see and you will love, love and you will praise (St Augustine)" £230pp fully inclusive or £110 non-residential. For booking or more information contact the administrator on 01943 607287

WALK IN FATHER BROWN'S FOOTSTEPS Saturday 28 March. Third Annual Diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage for Priestly Vocations. From St Anne's, Keighley to Sacred Heart, Ilkley and Stations of the Cross at Myddelton Calvary. Follows the Ilkley Moor route walked by GK Chesterton and Fr John O'Connor, the Diocese of Leeds priest who inspired 'Father Brown'. Sign up: pilgrimage-walks@dioceseofleeds.org.uk More details: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/event/walking-pilgrimage-for-vocations-in-father-browns-footsteps/>

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

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CATHOLIC UNION

Monday 20 April, 18.00 The Art of Beauty. Join a webinar on Monday 20 April at 6.00pm to explore the place of beauty, amongst the other transcendentals, in the moral formation of the person and of society. Chaired by Catherine Pepinster, well known journalist, attendees will hear from Father Patrick van der Vorst and Stefan Kaminski. Father Patrick van der Vorst is a Belgian and British priest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster and former entrepreneur, dealer, art expert and winner on BBC's Dragons' Den. Father Patrick is the Founder of Christian Art which provides daily Gospel Readings paired with a related work of art and a short reflection. Stefan Kaminski is the Director of The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst, where he has been creating and delivering Catholic formation content for a wider audience. He gained a licentiate from the John Paul II Institute in Rome, having focussed his studies on theological anthropology. Inspired by Stonyhurst's collection of relics, artefacts and books, The Christian Heritage Centre exists to form the intellect and spirit of Catholics in the tradition of the English Martyrs. Those wishing to register for the webinar on Monday 20 April at 6.00pm please email info@catholicunion.org.uk and a zoom link will be provided. Booking is essential.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JUBILARIANS

Congratulations to all those clergy celebrating the Jubilee of their Ordination this year:

Platinum Rev Fr Eugene Pathe

Diamond Very Rev Canon Sean Durcan | Very Rev Canon Sean Gilligan

Golden Rev Fr Anthony Fenton | Very Rev Anthony Wilson

Ruby Very Rev Canon Ian Smith | **Rev Mgr Paul Owens** | Rev Mgr Andrew Summersgill
Silver **Very Rev Canon Martin Kelly** | Rev Fr Sean Parsons
The Venerable English College will host a Jubilarian Celebration of Priesthood at Palazzola
from 23 to 27 November 2026

VACANCIES

CATHOLIC CARE IS RECRUITING: Life Skills Mentor, Dewsbury, Full and Part time available. Salary £24,892 - £26,096 pro rata. Please email CV to recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk

HEADTEACHER VACANCY: St. Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School, Ripon. Start: September 2026. Closing date: Friday 13 March 2026. Further info: <https://www.bishopwheelercatholicacademytrust.org/Trust-Academy-Vacancies/> To discuss or arrange a visit, contact admin@stwcps.co.uk.

ASSISTANT HEAD OF CORE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VACANCY: Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College, Leeds. Start: As soon as possible. Closing date: 20 March 2026 Further info: please visit <https://www.notredamecoll.ac.uk/vacancies> To discuss or arrange a visit, contact Louise Jackson l.jackson@notredamecoll.ac.uk

Sunday 8 March 2026 *Liturgical Colour: Violet. Year: A(II).*

Readings at Mass

First reading Exodus 17:3-7

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' And the Lord said to Moses, 'Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.' And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R 7c, 8a

R O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts.'

Come, let us ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise. R

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the Lord who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand. R

O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' R

Second reading Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Gospel Acclamation Cf. John 4:42, 15

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.
Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel John 4:5-42

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come here.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming — he who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am he.'

Just then his disciples came back. They marvelled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you seek?' or, 'Why are you talking with her?' So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, 'Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?' They went out of the town and were coming to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, 'Rabbi, eat.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Has anyone brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, "There are yet four months, then comes the harvest"? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me all that I ever did.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.'

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.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