



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 15th + LAETARE SUNDAY

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]
Monday 16 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	Weekday of Lent	Adele Burns McDonough [LD]
Tuesday 17 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	SAINT PATRICK, BISHOP AND PATRON OF IRELAND	November Dead List 2025/6
Wednesday 18 March		<i>Weekday of Lent</i>	
Thursday 19 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	November Dead List 2025/6
	10-30am	FUNERAL SERVICE Mrs. Maureen Poundford	
Friday 20 March	09-30am	Weekday of Lent	Maria & Rosina Sirianni [A]
Saturday 21 March	5-30pm	VIGIL MASS	Wilfred Teesdale [AB]
Sunday 22 March	11-00am	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	Andrew & Antonio Pachowko

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.

15th March (4th Sunday of Lent) - *“As we celebrate the Solemnity of St Joseph on Thursday, let us pray for all fathers, that, through their example, they may demonstrate the loving provision and compassion of Almighty God to their children. 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.*

PARISH GIVING – thank you for all your support.

BANKED | 09 March 2026 Total £380.00 | SO average £1479 per month. Total Gift Aiders 55

TODAY Collection for Catholic Care - donation is greatly appreciated.

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.

FUNERAL SERVICE - 10.30 Mrs. Maureen Poundford RIP Thursday, 19 March 2026

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Maureen Poundford**, who has died recently. We pray for those who have died, and all who mourn their passing, asking that they may be comforted by the hope of eternal life and the tender mercy of Christ. *“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.”*

NOTICE OF THANKS Tad would like to extend his sincere thanks to all parishioners and friends for the many kind messages, prayers, and thoughtful expressions of concern he has received during his recent illness and surgery. He is pleased to say that he is recovering well and remains under the attentive care of his surgeon and supporting medical staff. Your prayers and kindness have been a great source of comfort and encouragement during this time. Tad is deeply grateful for the support of the parish community and holds you all in his prayers as he continues his recovery.

CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE DIOCESES OF LEEDS & MIDDLESBROUGH

As part of the consultation currently taking place across our two Dioceses, there is an opportunity for all clergy, religious and members of the lay faithful to contribute by completing an online questionnaire, either individually or as a parish group. Prayerful reflection should be given to the questions so that the Holy Spirit may guide this process of discernment. Prayer resources and a presentation are available on the diocesan website to support this process. Responses should be submitted no later than

Friday, 22 May 2026. For more information and to complete the questionnaire, please visit:

Leeds & Middlesbrough Consultation 2026 | Diocese of Leeds

<https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/leeds-middlesbrough-consultation-2026/>

Thank you for the time and prayer you can offer to this important task which has been entrusted to us by His Holiness Pope Leo XIV.

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

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.

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/>

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

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)

SCHOOL PLACES 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. 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).

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

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

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 Stonyhurt'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

Sunday 15 March 2026 *Liturgical Colour: Rose or Violet. Year: A(II).*

Readings at Mass

First reading - 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul. R̄

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. R̄

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. R̄

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending. R̄

Second reading Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Gospel Acclamation - John 8:12

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Gospel - John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him.

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