



# 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**

Tel: 01422 832085 | email pp.sacredheart.sowerbybridge@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

WWW.SACREDHEARTANDSTPATRICKSCHURCH.ORG.UK

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

## Sunday 29th + PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

<b>Saturday 28 March</b>	<b>5-30pm</b>	<b>VIGIL MASS</b>	<b>Anne Barker [A]</b>
<b>Sunday 29 March</b>	<b>11-00am</b>	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	<b>Peter Green [A]</b>
Monday 30 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	Holy Week	November Dead List 2025/6
Tuesday 31 March	NO PUBLIC MASS	Holy Week	November Dead List 2025/6
Spy Wednesday 01 April		CHRISM MASS <i>Leeds Cathedral at 11:00am</i>	November Dead List 2025/6
Maundy Thursday 02 April		MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER <i>Good Shepherd Mytholmroyd 7-30pm</i>	
<b>GOOD FRIDAY 03 April</b>	<b>3-00pm</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	<b>THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>
<b>HOLY SATURDAY 04 April</b>	<b>7-30pm</b>	<b>EASTER VIGIL</b>	<b>Anne Knowles [A]</b>
<b>EASTER SUNDAY 05 April</b>	<b>11-00am</b>	<b>EASTER</b>	<b>The Larkin Family [A]</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 28 March | 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)**

**AFTER** the Right Reverend Ralph Heskett C.Ss.R. resigned for health reasons, as Bishop of Hallam, His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed Bishop Marcus Stock as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Hallam. This is in addition to his ministry as Bishop of Leeds and his current role as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Middlesbrough. At this time of transition, we are invited to unite in prayer for Bishop Marcus as he undertakes this significant pastoral duty. See website <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/bishops-message-to-the-dioceses-of-hallam-leeds-and-middlesbrough/>

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

**BANKED | 23 March 2026 Total £370.00 | SO average £1479 per month. Total Gift Aiders 55**

**EASTER COLLECTION** The collections taken at Masses on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday are your Easter gift to your Parish Priest. 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.

**CANON TOM O'CONNOR RIP** It is with great sadness to let you know that Canon Tom O'Conner died at home at the Manor House, Otley, in the early hours of this morning (24<sup>th</sup> March). Please pray for the repose of Canon Tom's soul and for all his family and friends at this time. On **Saturday 11 April 12 noon**, Requiem Mass for Canon O'Connor will take place at the Cathedral Church of St Anne. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

**EASTER CARDS AND MASS CARDS** Available at the back of Church

**CHRISM MASS 2026** will be at **11:00am on the Wednesday of Holy Week (1 April 2026)** at Leeds Cathedral, Great George Street, Leeds LS2 8BE. All are welcome to attend. Please be seated by **10:45am**.

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### **THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM 2026**

The Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, includes Good Friday of the Lord's Passion and Holy Saturday, centres upon the Easter Vigil, and concludes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection.

I invite you to join me at **The Good Shepherd, Mytholmroyd: Holy Thursday – 2 April 2026 – 7:30pm**

Mass of the Lord's Supper – Watching before the Altar of Repose until 9:00pm. All welcome to attend.

- **Good Friday – 3 April 2026**

- **10:00am:** Christians Together in Sowerby Bridge - Walk of Witness. Starting from the church hall gathering at 10:00am ready to begin at 10:30am.
- **3:00pm:** Celebration of the Lord's Passion – Sowerby Bridge. *A Day of Fasting and Abstinence.*

- **VIGIL OF EASTER – HOLY SATURDAY – 4 April 2026 – 7:30pm** (Please be seated by 7:20pm.)

### **EASTER SUNDAY – 5 April 2026**

- **First Holy Mass of Easter Day – Good Shepherd – 9:30am**
  - **Holy Mass – Sacred Heart & St Patrick – 11:00am**
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### **CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE DIOCESES OF LEEDS**

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.

**DIARY DATE** The draw for the competition will be held on Easter Sunday 5 April. The winner will receive a voucher to the value of £100 and cash will be given on the night of the meal.

**PARISH COACH TRIP – 17 April** A 16-seater coach has been arranged for a parish outing to Bury on **Friday 17 April**. The coach will depart from the church at **10.00am** and return from Bury at **3.00pm**.

There are currently **8 places already booked**, and we are now opening the remaining seats to parishioners. If you would like to join us, please add your name as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

**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](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/ASCommons2026) to ask your MP to oppose the assisted suicide Bill into law.

**SCHOOL PLACES** please contact the school if you would like an appointment with the headteacher contact the school office on 01422 831360

**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

### LADIES GROUP INFORMATION

**Quiz night** - pencil in the date of **Friday 15 May (6.30pm)** in your diaries. Now that Christmas seems a distant memory and the lighter nights will be upon us, let us all join together for another exciting social evening of trivia! So, get swotting up on your general knowledge!

Tea, coffee, juice, and a pie & pea supper will be served. **It's a bring your own booze event.**

Tickets are priced at £5 per person. Tickets will soon be available to purchase from the Ladies Group following weekend Masses.

**Trips out** - We are planning some trips out, such as to Newcastle Christmas markets and Castle Howard Christmas markets. We would like parishioners to join us, therefore if you are interested, please keep an eye on the newsletter for further information.

### 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

**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](mailto: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)*

**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 2026 at 11am St Bernard's

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

**A MESSAGE TO THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND LAY FAITHFUL  
OF THE DIOCESES OF HALLAM, LEEDS AND MIDDLESBROUGH**

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Following the resignation of the Right Reverend Ralph Heskett C.Ss.R. as Bishop of Hallam, His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed me as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Hallam. This appointment is in addition to my office as Bishop of Leeds and my responsibilities as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Middlesbrough. I feel very humbled by the trust which His Holiness has placed in me with these appointments. The Holy Father has requested that I begin a consultation with the clergy, religious and lay faithful of the Diocese of Hallam about a possible reunification with the Diocese of Leeds, from part of which Hallam was created in May 1980.

While the potential changes that we are being asked to study together may present us with challenges, they will also offer us opportunities to strengthen our service of the mission which Christ has entrusted to His Church and to renew our vigour in responding to the work of evangelisation. Let us give thanks to Almighty God for the ministry that Bishop Heskett has given so devotedly as Shepherd of the Diocese of Hallam over the past twelve years and pray that the Lord will grant him health and strength as he begins his retirement from office as a Diocesan Ordinary.

I ask you kindly to keep me in your prayers and pray too for all the people of our Dioceses. As we explore together the future for our local Churches, may Christ Our Lord send the Holy Spirit into our minds and hearts to guide us and grant us the gift of wisdom.

With the assurance of my prayers and every blessing, I remain,  
Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ

+Marcus Stock  
Bishop of Leeds  
Apostolic Administrator of the **Dioceses of Hallam and Middlesbrough**

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**Sunday 29 March 2026** *Liturgical Colour: Red. Year: A(II).*

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*This gospel is read at the procession with palms before Mass.  
(School children to lead with a short dramatic presentation of the Gospel in the hall)*

**Gospel - Matthew 21:1-11**

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord needs them", and he will send them at once.' This took place to fulfil what was spoken

by the prophet, saying, 'Say to the daughter of Sion, "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.'

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*These are the readings for the Mass itself, after the blessing of the palms.*

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**First reading Isaiah 50:4-7**

The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of those who are taught,  
that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.  
Morning by morning he awakens;  
he awakens my ear  
to hear as those who are taught.  
The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;  
I turned not backwards.  
I gave my back to those who strike,  
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;  
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.  
But the Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like a flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 22(21):8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24. R2a**

***My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***

All who see me deride me;  
they curl their lips, they toss their heads:  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him, for in him he delights.' R

For dogs have surrounded me;  
a band of the wicked besets me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet;  
I can count every one of my bones. R

They divide my clothing among them,  
they cast lots for my robe.  
But you, O Lord, do not stay afar off;  
my strength, make haste to help me! R

I will tell of your name to my kin,

and praise you in the midst of the assembly;  
'You who fear the Lord, give him praise;  
all descendants of Jacob, give him glory;  
revere him, all you descendants of Israel.' R

### **Second reading Philippians 2:6-11**

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Gospel Acclamation Philippians 2:8-9**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Christ became for us obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

### **Matthew 27:11-54**

#### **The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.**

At that time: Jesus stood before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You have said so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.' Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' And he said, 'Why? What evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' And all the people answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two

robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, "I am the Son of God." ' And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, 'This man is calling Elijah.' And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

*All kneel for a period of silence.*

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, 'Truly this was the Son of God!'

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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)

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

**Church** [www.sacredheartandstpatrikchurch.org.uk](http://www.sacredheartandstpatrikchurch.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

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**NATIONAL SHRINE AT WALSINGHAM** has a live streaming service for Mass and other services:  
[www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream](http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream)

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