



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 3rd + FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday 02 May	5-30pm	VIGIL	For Pauline
Sunday 03 May	11-00am	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Mary Lewis [A]
Monday 04 May	NO PUBLIC MASS	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS FEAST	Francesco Sirianni [A]
Tuesday 05 May	09-30am	Weekday of Easter	Eileen Shea [R]
Wednesday 06 May	NO PUBLIC MASS	Annual presbyteral conference at Hinsley Hall Leeds from Tuesday 5th May at 11.00am until Wednesday 6th May.	
Thursday 07 May	NO PUBLIC MASS	St John of Beverley, Bishop	November Dead List 2025/6
Friday 08 May	09-30am	Weekday of Easter	For Friends in need
Saturday 09 May	5-30pm	Confession 5.00pm – 5.30pm VIGIL MASS	November Dead List 2025/6
Sunday 10 May	11-00am	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Alex Johnston [A]

Tea & Coffee after Sunday Mass (From 11.45 - 12.45)

Deanery Confessions: *Saturday 11am -12noon at St Mary's, Halifax*

Deanery Sunday Masses: *St Mary's, Halifax - 9:30am & 11am | Sunday St Alban's 6pm*

PARISH GIVING – With thanks for your generosity to the parish.

BANKED | 27 APRIL 2026 Total £550.00 | SO average £1479 per month. Total Gift Aiders 55

Priests' Training Fund £119.87

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/>.

SACRED HEART leads sacramental preparation sessions during school hours for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Holy Communion preparations have begun on Friday afternoons from 1 to 2pm (starting 17 April). If you want more details or wish to arrange for your child to join the sessions, please reach out to Mrs Hutchings through the school office or email admin@sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk.

DATES THAT CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE THEIR SACRAMENTS:

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

BISHOP'S PASTORAL - CHANGES TO THE HALIFAX DEANERY AND THE DIOCESE.

Bishop Marcus emphasised that the proposed changes within the Halifax Deanery should be understood within the wider context of the ongoing merger and amalgamation of the Dioceses of Leeds, Middlesbrough, and Hallam. These developments are not to be seen as a response to the retirement of a single priest, but rather as part of a broader and necessary reconfiguration of diocesan life.

Following the retirement of Fr Owen, Fr Hilton (St Mary's Halifax) will assume responsibility as Parochial Administrator for both St Bernard's and St Theresa's, ensuring continued pastoral care for their parishioners.

Also, that it would not be necessary for Fr Hilton to replicate all administrative structures across St Mary's, St Bernard's and St Theresa's. Rather, there is clear scope for a more streamlined and integrated approach to administration.

The new Mass schedule will be:

Saturday: 5pm St Bernard's

Sunday:

9.00am St Malachy's | 11am St Columba's

9.30am St Mary's | 11am St Mary's

6.00pm St Alban's

APPOINTMENTS TO PAROCHIAL OFFICES AND OTHER MINISTRIES AFTER EASTER 2026

Rev Fr Benjamin Hilton Parochial Administrator ad interim of Ss Peter & Paul, Yeadon

(From 21st April 2026 until 31st August 2026)

SUMMER 2026 Rev Fr Benjamin Hilton Parish Priest of the Parish of St Maximillian Kolbe, Leeds, & continuing as Priest Chaplain to HMP Leeds

RETIRING FROM HOLDING PAROCHIAL OFFICE - SUMMER 2026

Rev Fr Robert Owens Retiring from the Parish of St Bernard, Halifax, and the Parish of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, Queensbury

APPOINTMENTS TO PAROCHIAL OFFICES AND OTHER MINISTRIES FROM SUMMER 2026

Rev Fr Joshua Hilton

Parochial Administrator of the Parish of St Bernard, Halifax, and the Parish of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, Queensbury

(In addition to current responsibilities as Parish Priest of the Parish of St Mary, Halifax)

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

LADIES GROUP INFORMATION Quiz night - pencil in the date of **Friday 15 May (6.30pm)** in your diaries.

Now that the lighter nights are upon us, let us all join together for another exciting social evening of trivia!

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.

AD MULTOS ANNOS to our jubilarian (Ruby) - **Rev Mgr. Paul Owens** a retired priest associated with the Diocese of Leeds, Halifax Deanery, and formerly affiliated with the Roman Catholic Bishoprpic of the Forces (GB) *Ad multos annos* is a Latin phrase meaning "towards many years" or "for many years". It is a traditional celebratory acclamation, used to wish someone a long and fruitful life, often sung in Catholic and Orthodox traditions on anniversaries. Mgr. Owens will join us to celebrate 40yrs of Holy Priesthood on **Sunday 5 July at 11am.**

RENEWED CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 JUBILARIANS We offer our congratulations also to His Eminence Arthur Cardinal Roche, who this year celebrates the Silver Jubilee of his episcopal ordination on 10th May. As we approach our Celebration of Priesthood, we renew our congratulations to all those celebrating presbyteral Jubilees this year:

Platinum Rev Fr Eugene Pathe (22nd July 1956)

Diamond Very Rev Canon Sean Durcan (19th June 1966)

Very Rev Canon Sean Gilligan (19th June 1966)

Golden Rev Fr Anthony Fenton (3rd July 1976)

Very Rev Fr Anthony Wilson (4th July 1976)

Ruby Very Rev Canon Ian Smith (15th June 1986)

Very Rev Mgr Paul Owens (5th July 1986)

Very Rev Mgr Andrew Summersgill (7th September 1986)

Silver Very Rev Canon Martin Kelly (30th June 2001)

Rev Fr Sean Parsons (14th July 2001)

PEACE AND JUSTICE The Church's call to justice is lived out in practical charity and care for the vulnerable. One way to respond is by supporting Calderdale Credit Union in Halifax, a member-owned cooperative serving those who live, work, or volunteer in Calderdale or Kirklees. It offers affordable loans, promotes responsible saving, and provides guidance for those in need—helping protect individuals and families from high-interest and illegal lending. Even if you do not require its services, opening a savings account and contributing regularly strengthens the shared fund for others. In this quiet way, we uphold human dignity and build a more just community. Opening times: Tuesdays 9.30–2.00 | Fridays 9.30–12.00
Contact: admin@calderdalecreditunion.co.uk | 01422 386060

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 FAMILY HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. Head to www.castleriggmanor.com or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711

YOUTH MINISTRY GAP YEAR OPPORTUNITY Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. Interested? Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or www.castleriggmanor.com >> join the team

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

Sunday 3 May 2026 *Liturgical Colour: White. Year: A(II).*

Readings at Mass

First reading

Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33(32):1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R22

May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting from the upright.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp;
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.

The word of the Lord is upright,
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right,
and his merciful love fills the earth.

Yes, the Lord's eyes are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their soul from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Second reading

1 Peter 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious. You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Sion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has

become the cornerstone', and 'A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

Alleluia.

Gospel

John 14:1-12

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

'Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.'

Solemn Blessing

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son
was pleased to confer on you
the gift of redemption and of adoption,
give you gladness by his blessing.

Amen.

May he, by whose redeeming work
you have received the gift of everlasting freedom,
make you heirs to an eternal inheritance.

Amen.

And may you, who have already risen with Christ
in Baptism through faith,
by living in a right manner on this earth
be united with him in the homeland of heaven.

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

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

NATIONAL SHRINE AT WALSINGHAM

live streaming service for Mass and other services: www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream

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

The Sacred Heart of Jesus *Ultimate Defence Against Modernism and the Culture of Death keep us safe.*