

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 PP

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www.sacredheartandstpatrickschurch.org.uk | www.halifax-deanery.org.uk

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

Sunday 20th + TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY

Saturday 19 Sept	5-30pm	VIGIL	Rosemary Ann Foster [A]
Sunday 20 Sept	11-00am	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY	Edward Sulich [LD]
Monday 21 Sept	NO PUBLIC MASS	ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST FEAST	
Tuesday 22 Sept	09-30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Stephen Worrall [LD]
Wednesday 23 Sept		Padre Pio (b. 1887 - d. 1968)	
Thursday 24 Sept	NO PUBLIC MASS	OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM FEAST	Miss Gill [A] (d 22 March 2020)
FRIDAY 25 Sept	09-30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Emily Power [A] (d 1916)
Saturday 26 Sept	5-30pm	Confession 5.00pm – 5.30pm VIGIL MASS	Deceased of the Oldfield & Teesdale families
Sunday 27 Sept	11-00am	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY	Russel Gledhill [LD]

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*

Latin Mass: *St Alban's Tuesday Latin Mass - 7pm*

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

BANKED | 14 September 2026 Total £370.00 | **SO** average £1479 per month. **Total** Gift Aiders 55

Collection for the Catholic Education Service £73.60 thanking you

TODAY SUNDAY Collection for Home Mission Sunday

STANDING ORDER (SO) Payments are usually made monthly. Let Canon Larkin know if you switch to this method. Bank details: HSBC / Sort Code: 40-27-15 / Account: 41017454. Thank you for your support through standing orders. A Gift Aid form is available here: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/gift-aid-declaration/>.

ATTENDANCE 2026 – 660 people attended Mass (August). **Just keep coming to Mass**

CHURCH HALL IMPROVEMENTS: THANK YOU Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped prepare and upgrade the kitchen and toilets in the church hall. The work is now complete, and the refreshed facilities look very smart indeed, with improvements including new taps to help reduce water waste. We are especially grateful to all the volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talents, and to the Ladies' Group for their valued contribution towards the cost. Thank you for your hard work.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT - FROM SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER Mass attendance will be counted over the weekends of 19/20 and 26/27 September and 3/4 and 10/11 October. This avoids the school half-term holiday.

2026 RUSHBEARING Heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this year's Rushbearing Festival such a joyful and memorable occasion. Special thanks go to those who ran the stalls and groups. Your hard work made the day enjoyable and produced an encouraging financial result for the parish and wider community:

	2024	2025	2026
Bar Profit	311.00	355.00	367.50
SVP	163.50	160.00	175.00
Ladies Group	1016	818.81	845.25

SVP - The SVP would like to thank everyone for supporting the SVP by taking part in our National Raffle and donating prizes for our tombola stall for the annual Rushbearing Festival. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS we tend to shun thinking about death and preparations for funerals. But sometimes a little preparation can help, especially those who are left behind. It might be an idea to have a chat with your family and friends about your funeral arrangement – Requiem Mass or funeral Service, Hymns, Scripture Readings. Perhaps having a monthly Mass said for the first year. This will then be written down and placed with your papers in a safe place, so that when the time comes, we will know what to do.

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. As you make this request for your child, it should also be a reality in your own life for example: Do you regularly attend Mass? Do you make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Are you fully initiated into the Church through Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation? If after reading this information you feel ready to present, your child to the Church for Baptism please see The Canon after Mass for Pre-Baptism form.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE - 23 SEPTEMBER TO 1 NOVEMBER Prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil from 7.00am to 7.00pm, more than 150 metres from the MSI facility, at the junction of Chapeltown Road and Barrack Road, Leeds LS7 4AW, in accordance with buffer-zone law. Contact Chris Redding on 07815 681343 or 40daysforlifeleeds@gmail.com. Information: www.40daysforlife.com/leeds.

LEEDS CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND THE SIXTEEN - SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER At 3.00pm in Leeds Cathedral, the Cathedral Choir will perform with members of The Sixteen and the Genesis Sixteen young artist programme, conducted by Harry Christophers. Admission is free; suggested donation £10.

THE LATIN MASS SOCIETY The Society supports the traditional Latin liturgy, its sacred music and the Latin language. Supporter registration and membership information: lms.org.uk/join-now.

THE LEEDS CATHOLIC VOICE - LAUNCHES 3/4 OCTOBER Our new free monthly diocesan newsletter launches on the weekend of 3/4 October. This is also the deadline for sending articles, photographs or ideas for the November edition to communications@rcdmidd.org.uk or communications@dioceseofleeds.org.uk. Further information: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/new-newspaper-for-the-diocese/>.

ANNUAL BATLEY TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION - MONDAY 5 OCTOBER For its 75th anniversary, the Parish of St Mary and St Patrick, Batley and Birstall, warmly invites you to join Bishop Marcus for the procession from St Mary's Catholic Primary School to St Mary of the Angels' Church at 7.30pm. This public expression of Catholic faith honours Our Lady and unites us in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Friends from the Dioceses of Hallam and Middlesbrough are welcome. Refreshments afterwards. Contact Fr Eamonn on 01924 474650 or eamonn.hegarty@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

GROWING OLD GRACE-FULLY CARERS PROJECT - TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER An October series of devotions to Our Lady includes reflections and prayers for carers and loved ones. The Joyful Mysteries will be prayed in a live online session at 7.00pm. Recorded sessions covering the next three Mysteries of the Rosary will be released weekly during October on the Growing Old Grace-fully YouTube channel. For information or to attend, email Michelle at carersproject@growingoldgracefully.org.uk.

"IT IS BEAUTIFUL TO BE OLD" - TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER Growing Old Grace-fully hosts Older People and Catholic Social Teaching from 10.00am to 1.30pm in Cathedral Hall, Leeds. Theologian Dr Peter Kevern will explore Catholic Social Teaching on the blessings of later life. To book, email growing.old.gracefully@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

QUIET RETREATS FOR ADULTS - OCTOBER HALF-TERM Castlerigg Manor offers quiet retreats for individual adults seeking peace, prayer and rest in the Lake District. To enquire or book, telephone 017687 72711.

LEEDS CATHEDRAL INSTAGRAM HANGOUT - SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER Join a Cathedral tour created especially for Instagrammers, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Explore the history, architecture and design, access areas not usually open to the public and capture its beauty through photography. All are welcome. Tickets are free, but registration is essential: <https://bit.ly/4i9aEmV>.

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 grant an abundance of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life within the Diocese of Leeds and throughout the world. Amen.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM UNITED NATIONS PETITION Aid to the Church in Need has launched a global petition calling upon governments and the United Nations to defend freedom of religion and hold those responsible for persecution to account. Please stand in solidarity with the persecuted Church.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT Whether a marriage is in a rut or facing more serious difficulties, Retrouvaille may be able to help. Visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk or telephone +44 797 338 0443.

SUNDAY READINGS

Readings, prayers and Mass texts: www.universalis.com

Sunday 20 September 2026 Liturgical Colour: Green. Year: A(II).

Readings at Mass

First reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

‘My thoughts are not your thoughts.’

Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145(144):2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R18a

The Lord is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
The Lord is great and highly to be praised;
his greatness cannot be measured.
The Lord is close to all who call him.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.
The Lord is close to all who call him.

The Lord is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.
The Lord is close to all who call him.

Second reading

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

‘For to me to live is Christ.’

Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Acts 16:14b

Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord,

that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

‘Do you begrudge my generosity?’

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, “You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.” So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, “Why do you stand here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You go into the vineyard too.”

‘And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, “Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.” And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?” So the last will be first, and the first last.’

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- Diocese www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk
 - Church www.sacredheartandstpatrikchurch.org.uk
 - School www.sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk
 - Safeguarding: Diocesan Office 0113 261 8069 | Parish Irene Hellowell 07432 121757