

The Good Shepherd

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds - Registered Charity No. 249404

Royal Fold, New Road, Mytholmroyd, HX7 5EA

Parish Priest: Fr Larkin

Telephone: 01422 832085

Email: Parish Priest: pp.thegoodshepherd@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Website www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Facebook: [The Good Shepherd](#)

Website: www.thegoodshepherd.org.uk

Safeguarding: [Diocesan Office 0113 261 8069](#)



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

MASSES DURING THE WEEK Readings and Mass texts visit www.universalis.com

Sunday 12 Dec	9.30 AM	GAUDETE SUNDAY - YR C	Missa pro populo	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
Mon 13 Dec		St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	PRIVATE MASS	SOWERBY BRIDGE
Tues 14 Dec		St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor		
Wed 15 Dec	12.00 noon	Advent Weekday	Miss Gill [A]	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
Thur 16 Dec	REQUIEM MASS	-	ROBERT MORLEY [LD]	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
Fri 17 Dec		Advent Weekday	PRIVATE MASS	SOWERBY BRIDGE
Sat 18 Dec	10.00AM	Advent Weekday	Mr T Larkin [GH]	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
Sunday 19 Dec	9.30 AM	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Missa pro populo	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

PARISH NEWSLETTER Please submit notices (by Wednesday 8pm) - to Fr Larkin by email at pp.thegoodshepherd@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2021

Our Theme This Year - O come, all ye faithful Printed in 1751, the text was originally written in Latin as 'Adeste Fideles', generally credited to John Francis Wade. But the English translation, written by the English Catholic priest Frederick Oakeley in 1841, is the most commonly used version. Today, you might recognise it as the penultimate hymn sung at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols by the Choir of King's College, Cambridge. Wade's hymn is a simple carol that tells the story of baby Jesus. Its joyous lyrics ('Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!') invite us to join the angels in celebrating the Christ child's birth.

Advent

- Advent giving, as in previous years we will be supporting the Gianna project, a Moses basket will be placed in the foyer for you to add your gifts to. Donations of baby clothes, nappies, wipes etc to assist the Gianna Project and Bradford Baby Bank. This project is run by Catholic Care for any parent who needs help and support. Please be generous.
- There will be a collection bucket throughout Advent for Crisis (meals for the homeless) personal donation can be made online at <https://www.crisis.org.uk/>
- We will of course be continuing our support of the Halifax foodbank

Rotas

- From mid-January 2022 we would like to reinstate the rotas, if you were previously involved, we will assume that you would like to continue. If you would like to be involved or to opt out, get in touch with Fr Larkin asap. Readers, Welcome, Prayer Leaders, Children's Liturgy, Church cleaning, Drivers, Coffee after Mass.
- Coffee (tea) after Mass will begin again on Gaudete Sunday the 12 December. More details to follow. (To be kept under review.)

LOOKING FORWARD CHRISTMAS

Let us remind ourselves that Christmas is an octave – eight days – and that Masses celebrated between Christmas Day and New Year's Day are all Christmas Masses. The Church regards each day in an Octave as if it were the solemnity itself. So, for example, the prayers for Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours during the Christmas Octave refer to each day as if it were still Christmas Day. Despite having days within the Octave that are feasts: St Stephen, St John the Evangelist, the Holy Innocents and the Holy Family, and the concluding Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, each of these days is as the Roman Missal states, a "*day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord.*" This means that, liturgically, each of the octave is 'Christmas Day'. If you are anxious about the ongoing pandemic situation, consider attending church on one of the Octave days other than Christmas Day.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE + 5.30pm Friday 24 +THE CAROL SERVICE

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS + 09.30am Saturday 25 + THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

SUNDAY 26TH MASS + 09.30am THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH FEAST
WEDNESDAY 29TH + MASS 12.00noon ST THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP AND MARTYR
SATURDAY 1ST JAN 2022 MASS + 10.00am SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

GUIDANCE ON COVID – From the Diocese of Leeds

Government Plan B - Covid Guidance

Following the Government announcement made by the Prime Minister, 8 December 2021, please note the following to mitigate Covid-19 infections and reduce the risk of transmission:

- Be advised that if you have any symptoms of Covid-19, please stay at home and not travel to church.
 - Hand sanitiser continue to be available on entry to the church.
 - Good ventilation and airflow should be enabled throughout the church premises.
 - From **Friday 10 December 2021**, face coverings will become compulsory in most public indoor venues, such as cinemas, theatres and **places of worship** (Government announcement of the move to Plan B in England). Please wear a face covering when attending church unless you are exempt from doing so.
 - There is strong evidence to support that the main mode of transmission is through breath and nasal aerosols, and the risk from surface and touch transmission is small. Nevertheless, a thorough cleaning of the church premises using normal cleaning detergents remains important.
 - Everyone should test using a lateral flow device, particularly before entering a high-risk setting involving people you wouldn't normally come into contact with, or when visiting a vulnerable person (Government announcement of the move to Plan B in England). Clergy who are engaged in any form of pastoral ministry which involves visiting the housebound or those who are ill, should take regular lateral flow tests to ensure they are safe to do so.
- If these guidance points remain supported, then our churches will continue to be safe places for people to gather for prayer and liturgical celebrations, including over the Christmas period. Please note that, to date, the Government has not made the NHS Covid Pass mandatory for places of worship.

If any further advice or guidance is given by the Government regarding the developing situation with the new Omicron Covid variant, I will do my best to ensure that you are updated as soon as possible.

Face Coverings compulsory in indoor settings.

Hand Sanitiser available for people to use.

Congregational Singing to be kept under review.

The Communion Rite Sign of Peace remains suspended.

REMEMBER if your health is not good and you are vulnerable, if you have any cold symptoms you should stay at home. In all of this, I thank you for the generous way that you have looked after and assisted one another in feeling safe when coming before the Lord in prayer.

PRAY FOR THE DEAD

Please pray for the repose of Robert Morley. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

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. 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.

THE MARK 10 MISSION TEAM In this liturgy, we hope you can join us this week to listen to The Word of God, Pray and Worship together

Click on <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/new-202122-episodes>

Please visit **THE MARK 10 MISSION** YouTube channel – like, share and subscribe.

FLOWERS Rota: Thank you to all who have regularly donated to the Flower Funding Rota. To help, please contact Doris Moorhead on 01422 842931.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION The dates have been set for the Deanery celebrations for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and Confirmation for 2022.

CONFIRMATION ON WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2022 7PM, AT

ST MALACHY'S CHURCH OVENDEN

RECONCILIATION ON SATURDAY 2 APRIL 2022 AT 2PM AT ST BERNARD'S CHURCH, HALIFAX

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION IN OUR OWN PARISH ON CORPUS CHRISTI AT 9.30AM

If your child is in Y3 or above then they are welcome to join the Reconciliation group, Y4 and above for First Holy Communion.

We have not had a confirmation group at Good Shepherd for 2 years and we propose to run a group for any of our children/young people starting in January. This will be for anyone Y6 or older. Please contact me asap if you believe your child is the right age and ready for the next step in their faith journey. Jowoodhead1@gmail.com or mobile 07725 854932

THE CATHOLIC UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN Founded in 1870 to represent Catholic interests in Parliament and public life, the Catholic Union of Great Britain has a consultative status to Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It is a non-party political membership organization which includes people from all walks of life and every part of the country. With a wealth of lay-Catholic experience and expertise, its aim is to contribute in a well-informed and balanced way to the political issues of the day. The late Sir David Amess was a friend and supporter of many of their campaigns. They are keen to become better known, both at a diocesan and parish level, and have started a programme of encouraging parishes to become "Supporter Parishes" of the Catholic Union. They also produce a weekly briefing for

members and supports with a digest of topical news. Visit www.catholicunion.org.uk, Email them at info@catholicunion.org.uk or Tel: 020 8749 1321

HALIFAX FOOD BANK is still providing food to ~200 people each week. As we enter the winter months' items such as hats, scarves, gloves and socks are needed – please help if you can.

BRIERY ONLINE ZOOM MEDITATIONS on Thursday from 7.30pm to 8.15pm. Open at 7.15pm for a chat and start promptly at 7.30pm. It is a simple format of praying with the Sunday Mass Readings. Zoom link Meeting Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82009483498?pwd=OUMraDBqUy9YRmxseHdVekpyWlVlVQT09>
Meeting ID: 820 0948 3498 / Passcode: 421659

GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER ZOOM a discussion at the end of the prayer on 30 November concluded that there is a wish that we should continue. The sessions have proven to be a strong source of support and spiritual nourishment over the long and ongoing period of the pandemic. We have been impressed by the deep faith shared by members of the group and the many ways in which they have expressed this in their choice of music, prayers, visual images, and willingness to help each other out with readings, prayers of the faithful, live music, IT skills and hosting. So, we continue and Nick Burchnall is going to send a questionnaire to parishioners. In the meantime, if there is anyone else who would like to lead a session, email jeanmarsh48@btinternet.com

Tuesday Prayer Zoom Rota

Dec 14 Jean and David Marsh / Dec 21 John and Cathy Duffy

Jan 11 Deborah Rolland and Roger Masters / Jan 18 Maureen and Frank Flynn

Jan 25 Nick Burchnall / Feb 01 Patricia and Paul Newman

Feb 8 Anne and Mike Plunkett

The above is a suggested rota up to February 08 2022.

Please swap with someone else if you find you are unavailable on the date suggested.

PARISH GIVING If you wish to set up a standing order account details are:

Good Shepherd Mytholmroyd / Sort Code 40-27-15 and the Account No. 21023209

Thank you for supporting the parish financially it is appreciated.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR FR JOHN Landline: 01422 881190 / Mobile: 07856974301