

The Good Shepherd

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds | Registered Charity No. 249404

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DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/

Safeguarding Team - 0113 2618046

Website www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Facebook: The Good Shepherd

Website: www.thegoodshepherd.org.uk

Safeguarding: psr.jtalbot@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Sunday 1st + FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 01 Dec	9.30 am	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Paul Burns [A]
Monday 02 Dec		Advent Week 1	
Tuesday 03 Dec		St Francis Xavier, Priest and Doctor of the Church	
Wednesday 04 Dec	12noon	Advent Week 1	Very Rev Canon Joseph Taylor [LD][YB]
Thursday 05 Dec		Advent Week 1	
Friday 06 Dec		Advent Week 1	
Saturday 07 Dec	10.00am	St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Nov Dead List 2024/5
Sunday 08 Dec	9.30 am	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Missa pro populo

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

PARISH OFFERING - Average monthly SO **£1,912** - Thank you for your support.

17/11/2024 Week 33 - Total £72.48 | Coffee £16.48 | Candles £9.00 | WK32 CO £0.62

24/11/2024 Week 34 - Total £172.60 | Coffee £6.35 | Candles £13.90 | WK33 CO £2.10

Collection for the Catholic Youth Service £82.35

BANKED –25 November £170 | WK34 CO £4.70 Carried over.

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

Good Shepherd - Sort Code 40-27-15 - Account No. 21023209

Thank you for your support it is very much appreciated.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ALAN OSWIN The new Parish Mass Book: *Advent - Year C, Volume 1* (Revised Edition) has been generously donated to the church in memory of Alan Oswin. As we use these books for the first time to celebrate and pray the Holy Mass, let us remember Alan in our prayers. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Lynda for this beautiful and thoughtful donation.

2025 DIOCESAN YEAR BOOKS will be for sale soon at £5 each

FOOTSTEPS after Mass this Sunday. All children and Young People welcome.

THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER Envelopes are available for this purpose at the back of the church. Please PRINT the names of your deceased relatives and friends, in an envelope together with your offering. A total of 43 Masses were offered for the deceased relatives and friends of the parish 2023/24. Please return by **Sunday 01 December** thank you.

FR DONALD (DON) CLEMENTS It is with great sadness to inform you that Fr Donald (Don) Clements died in the early hours of Friday 22 November 2024. Fr Clements was a priest of the Diocese of Portsmouth who, in retirement, moved to the Little Sisters in Headingly before moving to a care home in Ipswich. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2024 - Verbum caro factum est

As we journey through Advent, we reflect on the profound mystery of the Incarnation, encapsulated in the words of St. John's Gospel: "Verbum caro factum est" – "**The Word became flesh**" (John 1:14). This inspiring truth reveals the immeasurable love of God, who entered into our humanity to redeem and restore us. In becoming flesh, Christ embraced the fullness of our human experience, bringing hope, peace, and the promise of eternal life. As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of His birth, let us marvel at the humility of the Word made flesh and seek to embody His love in our lives and our world.

Some Music to play from your streaming service.

1. Verbum Caro Factum Est - Gregorian Chant, Catholic Hymns
2. Make We Joy Now in This Fest, Choral Society of Durham, Rodney Wynkoop
3. Quid petis, o fili? by Richard Pygott (ca.1485-1549)
4. Stille Nacht (Silent Night) - Vienna Boys Choir

If you have the time search for the Classic FM 30 greatest Christmas carols of all time.

ADVENT DAY BY DAY I invite you to join me in reading the Advent Day by Day book – available at the back of church.

ADVENT

- Advent giving, as in previous years we will be supporting the Gianna project, Bradford Baby Bank Catholic Care

Each Advent we collect baby items for this project. As from Sunday 01 December, the customary Moses basket will be at the back of church and will remain throughout Advent for your kind donations. This year we are asked to provide baby and mother toiletries, nappies, shawls and knitted items.

- We will of course be continuing our support of the Halifax foodbank. Your donations make all the difference - one item per week would be a great help. In addition to food and toiletries – hats, gloves, scarves, warm socks would be most welcome – thank you.

CHRISTIAN AID BIG SING - 11 December in church, refreshments available. 7.00pm start.

HEBDEN BRIDGE BRASS BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Sunday 15 December 2pm start

ADVENT CONFESSIONS FOR THE DEANERY

Saturday 14 December - St Mary's from 9-00a.m. to 4-00p.m.

CHRISTMAS 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE + 4.30pm Tuesday 24 December + THE CAROL SERVICE

CHRISTMAS DAY + 09.30am Wednesday 25 December + THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

ADVENT CONFESSION this year will take place 14 December 2024 at St Mary's on Saturday:

09.00 - 10.00 Fr J Hilton | 10.00 - 11.00 Mgr. M McQuinn | 11.00 - 12.00 Fr M Hall

12.00 - 13.00 Fr M Larkin | 13.00 - 14.00 Fr B Owens | 14.00 - 15.00 Mgr. P Owens

15.00 - 16.00 Fr J Hilton

The Importance of Confession in Preparation for Christmas and Throughout the Year

As we approach the Advent season, a time rich with expectation and hope, the Church invites us to deepen our spiritual preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth. This year, Advent Confession will take place at St Mary's on Saturday, 14 December 2024, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. This sacred opportunity calls us to reflect on the transformative power of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

I warmly invite all parishioners to take part in this Advent Confession on 14 December. Let us embrace this time of penance and grace as we ready ourselves to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, renewed in spirit and heart.

CALDERDALE HOSPITAL Because of modern data regulations it is not always guaranteed that those who work in hospitals or nursing homes will know that you are a Catholic and would like a visit from a priest and to receive of the sacraments. As such, there are cards at the back of church for you to take away and keep in your wallet and purse. You need to sign and date them and keep them on your person. They state explicitly that you are a Catholic and give permission for a priest to be called to you in an emergency. There are plenty of cards available so please feel free to take them for family and friends who may wish to make use of them as well.

NEW MASS BOOKS As you are probably already aware from the beginning of Advent this year, we will be moving to a new lectionary which will mean a whole new set of Mass books. The previous sets are now outdated and effectively useless. We have hopefully got someone who will take them away to be recycled however we wondered if people would like to have a set at home- the readings themselves have not changed but the new ones are more authentic to the original texts. These will be available on the 01 Sunday of Advent, they will be on the spare chairs underneath the Peace window, they will only be there for 2 weeks and then will be recycled.

CATHOLIC FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS In the ebb and flow of life, there are some topics we instinctively shy away from, and one of those is the inevitable journey towards our own end. Though the thought of our mortality may be daunting, a small gesture of preparation can make a world of difference, particularly to those who mourn our passing.

By engaging in a heart-to-heart conversation with our loved ones about our final wishes, we can offer them comfort and clarity in a time of grief. Consider discussing preferences for your Requiem Mass or funeral Service, your chosen Hymns, and Scripture Readings. These intimate details will not only reflect your personal faith journey but will also provide solace and direction to those you leave behind.

Once decisions have been made, we recommend penning down these arrangements and placing them alongside your important documents in a safe location. In doing so, you provide a beacon of guidance when it's needed most, ensuring that, even in absence, your love and thoughtfulness continues to guide and comfort.

SOCIAL MEDIA USE All content on a Parish social media site is ultimately the responsibility of the Parish Priest. Any indication of risk or harm mentioned on Parish social media must be reported to the Safeguarding Team. Immediate harm should be reported to the Police (999) and then to the Safeguarding Team. - Safeguarding is a collective responsibility.

Safeguarding Training

I have written to the flower and music group to complete level 1 safeguarding training. This will only take approximately 15 minutes to register and complete. If you have not received an email from myself, please can you firstly check your junk email section and if there is still nothing, please can you let me know. Thank you, Julie.

WILDLIFE CALENDARS If anyone is interested, we have some wonderful wildlife calendars which local photographer Roger Docherty has produced, they are £10 each and all money received will be going to charity. Our local food bank and Medical Aid for Palestinians. If you would like one see Jo after church

DATES FOR THE SACRAMENTS 2025

First Reconciliation 29 March 2025 at 11am St Bernard's

Deanery Confirmation | Venue: St Malachy's Nursery Ln, Halifax HX3 5NS

Rehearsal: 25 February 2025 at 7pm | Confirmation: 4 March 2025 at 7pm

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Children who are in Y3 are old enough to make their First Reconciliation, Y4 for First Holy Communion and Y6 for Confirmation. If your child is in one of these year groups and you think they're ready for this next step in their faith journey have a chat with Jo or contact on 07725 854932. If your child/young person is older than this but wants to take part they're also very welcome, I try hard to tailor the sessions to suit everyone.