



The Good Shepherd

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds | Registered Charity No. 249404
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Sunday 2nd + EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 02 March	09-30am	EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	For Mum & Dad [A] Juli & Family
Monday 03 March		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tuesday 04 March		St Casimir	
Wednesday 05 March	12noon	ASH WEDNESDAY	Missa pro populo
Thursday 06 March		Thursday after Ash Wednesday	
Friday 07 March		Friday after Ash Wednesday	
Saturday 08 March	10-00am	Saturday after Ash Wednesday	Alexandria Breckin [A]
Sunday 09 March	09-30am	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	Deceased of Flynn & Lynch Families

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

PARISH OFFERING - Monthly SO **£1793.50** -

16/02/2025 Week 46 - Total £95.70 | Coffee £18.60 | Candles £12.60 | WK45 CO £0.60

23/02/2025 Week 47 - Total £106.90 | Coffee £13.60 | Candles £15.30 | WK46 CO £1.30

BANKED –24 February £105.00 | WK47 CO £3.20 Carried over. Thank you for your support.

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

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

POPE FRANCIS Slight improvement' in Pope's condition. The Holy See Press Office provides an update on the Pope's health: no new episodes of asthma-like respiratory distress; a slight reduction in oxygen flow and levels; and improved test results. His mild kidney insufficiency is not a cause for concern. Pope Francis has resumed work. Pope Francis thanks the entire People of God, who in these days have gathered to pray for his health.

ASH WEDNESDAY I invite you to attend Mass and receive the ashes on the **Wednesday 05 March in the Parish at 12noon**. Also, **Mass at Sacred Heart & St. Patrick Sowerby Bridge - at 7-30pm** Ashes distributed at all Masses.

FOOTSTEPS this Sunday after Mass, including a drumming workshop with Raphael!! See you there.

THE RITE OF ELECTION The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion will take place on the 1st Sunday of Lent, **09 March at 2:30pm, Leeds Cathedral**. Those preparing for the Sacraments of Christian Initiation, those to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church or who are to complete their Initiation through the Sacrament of Confirmation please make a note of the date. All welcome. Please pray for those preparing to receive the Sacraments at Easter.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held on Fridays at the Good Shepherd during Lent. As the World Day of Prayer will be on the first Friday, Stations will begin on Friday, 14 March at 12 noon.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT– pencil in the date of Friday 07 March (6.30pm) in your diaries. Now that Christmas seems a distant memory and the lighter nights will soon be upon us, let us all join together for another exciting social evening of trivia! So, get swotting up on your general knowledge and rebus puzzles! Tea, coffee, juice, and a pie & pea supper will be served. It's a bring your own booze event.

Ticket price £5 per person or £15 per family (2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children). Virtual tickets can be purchased from Julie & Jo following Sunday Masses.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE FOR THE MAYOR'S CHARITY CEILIDH on Saturday, 08 March at Mytholmroyd Community Centre. Doors at 7.30pm and dancing from 8pm. Also, a pie and peas supper will be included! If you wish to buy tickets, please click on the link below: Booking link: <https://tinyurl.com/musrdwx4> If you have already bought your tickets, thank you so much and we look forward to seeing you there!

LENT HOUSE GROUPS Please sign the list at the back of church by this Sunday 23 February so that the groups can be organised for the week beginning 10 March 2025.

SCHOOL PLACES for any children needing a place in other year groups at any time within the academic year, please contact the Sacred Heart School office on 01422 831360

CHRISM MASS The annual Chrism Mass will take place on Wednesday of Holy Week (16 April) at Leeds Cathedral at 11:00am. The sacred oils of Chrism, Catechumens and the Sick, used throughout the Diocese, will be blessed at the annual celebration. Our priests will also renew their priestly promises. All welcome to attend.

WE CAN STILL DEFEAT ASSISTED SUICIDE update you on the progress of Kim Leadbeater's assisted suicide Bill and share some very concerning news with you about its ongoing scrutiny in Parliament. Thank you to everyone who has written to their MP.

SENSIBLE AMENDMENTS REJECTED During line-by-line scrutiny; MPs have had the

opportunity to table amendments to the Bill. So far, over 80 amendments, which were proposed by MPs who are concerned that the supposed safeguards in the Bill are not strong enough, have been considered by the Committee and, in every case, rejected. Astonishingly, today, this included the assisted suicide Committee rejecting amendments, supported by a number of eating disorder charities, designed to explicitly prevent people with anorexia from being eligible for assisted suicide, as they have been elsewhere. The same Committee also rejected an amendment that would have required someone to have a consultation about palliative care options before being able to have an assisted suicide, so that all other options are made available to them. This was voted down.

CENTREPIECE 'SAFEGUARD' REMOVED The *Independent* reported that, during the Second Reading debate, 60 MPs identified the High Court judge safeguard as an important reason for their support, with a further 20 pointing to the necessity of “judicial oversight”. Since the announcement that Leadbeater would scrap this key “safeguard” in her Bill, five major national newspapers - *The Independent*, *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, the *Daily Mail* and *The Sun* - have run editorials that raise serious concerns about the Bill.

Most importantly, a number of MPs who supported the Bill have indicated to *The Times* that they are having second thoughts about voting for the Bill at Third Reading.

WHAT'S NEXT? We now have only 54 days left until 25 April, the date when it is currently expected that the Bill will be voted on at Third Reading. This is when we will have an opportunity to ensure that this dangerous Bill is defeated. Thank you for taking the time to read through this update and do keep up the great work that I know so many of you are doing to ensure this dangerous assisted suicide Bill is defeated. Take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/ASBillAction to write to your MP - it takes just 30 seconds!

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

Confirmation: 4 March 2025 at 7.00pm

THURSFORD CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR – Ladies and Gentlemen come and join the Sacred Heart & St. Patrick's Ladies Group on a festive adventure! Our trip will take place from Sunday 07 December to Tuesday 09 December at a cost of £345 per person (half-board). We plan to fill a 56-seater coach, allowing us to travel directly to our destination without any en-route pick-ups. For more details about the spectacular visit the Thursford website at www.Thursford.com or contact Marion (Chair of the Ladies Group) at 07873 907645. Posters are displayed on church noticeboards where you can add your name and contact details to register your interest. We look forward to sharing this magical experience with you!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE 2025 Please join us for this annual worldwide ecumenical service which will be held at St Michael's on Friday 07 March at 1.30pm. The service is open to all so we do hope you will begin your Lenten journey by taking this opportunity to join with others from our neighbouring churches and Christians across the world in prayer and

music as we reflect that God created each of us and that we are unique and special. 'I made you wonderful'. See you on Friday 7 March.

LEEDS DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025 Friday 04 – Thursday 10 July flying from Leeds/Bradford airport. Alternatively, Thursday 03 -10 July flying from Stansted airport (with coach transfer if enough passengers). Please book with Tangney Tours Tel: 01732 886666 Further information www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/lourdespilgrimage/

JUBILEE OF 2025 Pope Francis has proclaimed *Spes non confundit* ("Hope does not disappoint") as the Bull of Indiction for the Jubilee of 2025, emphasizing pilgrimage as a key aspect of the Holy Year. The Diocese of Leeds has designated ten churches as Jubilee Pilgrimage Churches, chosen for their accessibility, historical significance, and capacity.

They include:

1. Leeds Cathedral (St Anne's)
2. St Mary of the Angels, Batley
3. St Patrick's Mission, Bradford
4. **St Mary's, Halifax**
5. **St Patrick's, Huddersfield**
6. **St Joseph's, Keighley**
7. St Austin's, Wakefield
8. St Wilfrid's, Ripon
9. Our Lady of the Crag, Knaresborough
10. St Stephen's, Skipton
11. St Edward the Confessor, Clifford

These churches will offer special liturgies, devotions, and heritage events throughout the Holy Year.