

# The Good Shepherd

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds | Registered Charity No. 249404

Royal Fold, New Road, Mytholmroyd, HX7 5EA |

Parish Priest: **Very Rev Canon Larkin BSc (Hons) (Dunelm) STL VF**

Email: [pp.thegoodshepherd@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:pp.thegoodshepherd@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

Telephone: **01422 832085**

Diocesan Safeguarding [www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/](http://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/)

Safeguarding Team - 0113 2618046

Website [www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

Website: [www.thegoodshepherd.org.uk](http://www.thegoodshepherd.org.uk)



Facebook: The Good Shepherd

Safeguarding: [psr.jtalbot@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:psr.jtalbot@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

## Sunday 28th + TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>Sunday 28 Sept</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY</b>	<b>Missa pro populo</b>
Monday 29 Sept		SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS	
Tuesday 30 Sept		St Jerome	
<b>Wednesday 01 Oct</b>	<b>12noon</b>	<b>St Therese of Lisieux</b>	<b>November Dead List</b>
Thursday 02 Oct		The Holy Guardian Angels	
Friday 03 Oct		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
<b>Saturday 04 Oct</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>St Francis of Assisi</b>	<b>November Dead List</b>
<b>Sunday 05 Oct</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY</b>	<b>Missa pro populo</b>

**Mass Times - Sacred Heart & St. Patrick, Sowerby Bridge HX6 2BA - Saturday 5-30pm / Sunday 11-00am**  
Sunday Masses **St Mary's Halifax** - 9:30am & 11am / Sunday **St Alban's** 6pm

### **NB NO WEDNESDAY 8 OCTOBER LUNCHEON CLUB**

**Requiem Mass for Kathleen Metcalfe Wednesday 8 October at 1.15pm**

**PARISH NEWSLETTER** Please submit notices (by Wednesday 8pm) - by email at [pp.thegoodshepherd@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:pp.thegoodshepherd@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**PARISH OFFERING** - Standing orders Total (Aug - Sept 25) **£2088.20**

**21/09/2025 Week 25** Total £258.82 | WK24 CO £6.08 |

**BANKED – 22 September £260.00** | WK25 CO £4.90 Thank you for your support.

Collection for Evangelii Gaudium Day **£147.80** Thank you

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

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

**FIRST RECONCILIATION** If your child is in Y3 (or older) then they are in the right age group to prepare for their First Reconciliation, this is usually followed by preparing for and celebrating their First Holy Communion the following year.

I would like to start the preparation after October half term.

Please catch me at Mass or ring 07725 854932 if you are interested in this.

**FLOWER ROTA** | 28 September Mary Harwood | 5 October Mary & Tom O'Connell | 12 October Kay Pierce | 19 October Liz Godfrey | 26 October Vacant | If anyone would like to join the flower rota, talk to either Doris or Liz. Thank you.

**THE LATIN MASS SOCIETY** You can sign-up as a Supporter for free but rely on Member subscriptions. Join up and help pass on the ancient Catholic Mass to future generations. Sign-up for Direct Debit and receive a 10% discount. <https://lms.org.uk/join-now>

**SURVEY FOR ALL THOSE ENGAGED WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH** We are now asking every diocese to help us share a new survey inviting everyone engaged with the Catholic Church, including Parishioners et al to contribute their experiences. The aim of this survey is to better understand how the Catholic Church engages with Survivors.

Information regarding this survey can be found

here: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OpJmB\\_Xy63KLBE XoG2tIVAm\\_9UYqKjMSFUM1hSR1VCOEpYMUc4SDVQWTg3VkNDTzg5OS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OpJmB_Xy63KLBE XoG2tIVAm_9UYqKjMSFUM1hSR1VCOEpYMUc4SDVQWTg3VkNDTzg5OS4u)

**NEWS FROM THE ORCHARD** Patience has been rewarded! The trees, planted in November 2015, have all produced a good crop. It was very rewarding last Sunday (24.8) to see my hope realized: children picking plums after the Mass. I'm glad I took Fr Larkin's advice not to give up on the orchard. At one point when they were looking unpromising it crossed my mind to grub up the whole lot. It's good to know that the luncheon club and the Monday supper will use the fruit, so thanks to Jo and Steve for gathering up the plums that the wind had dispersed. The three compost bins are working well. The donations of grass clippings are appreciated. The bin on the left is producing a good quality compost which will be used to mulch the trees in the autumn. I will need help with this, more about that in due course.

**PRIESTLY VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT MEETINGS** Time for prayers, questions, input from a priest and social time. There are two groups meeting simultaneously: under 18s and over 18s - Fridays 6.30pm- 8.15pm: 17 October (Hinsley Hall), 14 November (Cathedral Hall) | 19 December (Hinsley Hall). Under 18 participants must complete and return a permission form prior to attending. For permission forms and to notify of attendance (all participants) please contact Vocations Promoter, Fr Simon Lodge [simon.lodge@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:simon.lodge@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**PERMANENT DIACONATE MASS** As St Francis of Assisi's memorial, who was a deacon, is on Saturday 4 October, Bishop Marcus will be celebrating the 12.00 Mass at Leeds Cathedral in thanksgiving for the permanent diaconate in our Diocese.

**ST ALBAN'S – A YEAR OF CATECHESIS** *St Alban's Croft, Halifax HX3 0AZ*

**"A Year of Catechesis"** at St Alban's Halifax — a wonderful opportunity to deepen our knowledge of the faith, guided by the wisdom of our priests. Each evening will offer a chance to learn, reflect, and grow. The talks will take place in the parish hall on **Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm**, followed by **Holy Mass at 7:00pm**.

**Programme of Talks 2025/26**

- **14 October** – Fr Simon Lodge: *Marian Dogmas*
- **11 November** – Mgr. David Smith: *Death, Judgement, Hell and Heaven*
- **10 February** – Fr Benjamin Hilton: *The Saints*
- **10 March** – Fr David Reilly: *The Church's Faith*
- **28 April** – Fr Andrew Bowden: *The Good Life and How to Live It*
- **2 June** – Fr Sean Elliott: *The Sacred Liturgy*

Come and join in discovering the riches of Catholic teaching and how it shapes our lives today.

## **CATENIANS: FAITH, FAMILY AND FRIENDSHIP**

Meet formally each month on the third Tuesday plus whenever another event has been arranged. Membership is open to any catholic men, but wives/partners are encouraged to always be involved. Details about the association can be found at <https://thecatenians.uk> or you may wish to speak to our Membership Officer Dennis Donnelly on 01484 606042.

**"WHEN SUFFERING HAPPENS, MAKE MEANING!"** Dr Dorothy Jonaitis of Loyola University will lead a retreat afternoon offering an opportunity to reflect upon journeys of faith and how healing can take shape, using prayer, art and music. 1.00pm-5.30pm Sunday 5 October. £15pp at The Briery, Ilkley. For more information and to book, contact The Briery on 01943 607287 or [admin@briery.org.uk](mailto:admin@briery.org.uk)

**"DELVE INTO THE BIBLE"** Dr Dorothy Jonaitis of Loyola University, Chicago, will lead a workshop exploring the reality of biblical authorship, the importance of context - audience, geography, and timeframe - and different translations. 10:00am - 3:00pm Saturday 11 October at Hinsley Hall. £20pp including lunch. For more information and to book contact [catechist.christtheking@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:catechist.christtheking@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE St Mary's Parish Ceilidh - Friday, 3 October at Pellon Social Club Halifax.** *No dance experience?* No problem. You'll be guided through the easy-to-follow-dances. *Two left feet?* No problem. It adds to the fun factor. *Low on energy?* No problem. Half-time supper will be provided to recharge your batteries plus Bar available to keep you refreshed throughout the evening. Ticket price: £20 (inc. supper). Cash only please. As well as tickets being on sale after our Sunday Masses (9:30am and 11am St Mary's and 6pm St Alban's), tickets can be arranged contact Julie on 07599 084360.

**STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE - FURTHER ACTION NEEDED** As the assisted suicide Bill progresses through the Lords, Peers have made it clear that receiving physical letters will have the most influence at this stage of the process. Right To Life UK has launched a new *EasyAction* tool that creates a personalised letter to be sent in the post to a Peer highlighting a key concern with the Bill, selects a Peer to receive it, and customises the letter so that it is addressed from you. Please take action now and visit [www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter) to send a letter to Peers asking them to oppose assisted suicide.

## **FAMILY AND GROUP STAYS AT CASTLERIGG MANOR THIS OCTOBER HALF TERM**

Castlerigg Manor is a Retreat Centre in the Lake District, owned by the Diocese of Lancaster, and they are opening their doors to family groups, individuals and other small groups once again during October Half Term (Oct 27-31). A good option for anyone looking for a budget get-away in a beautiful part of the country. Book at <https://castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us/> or contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

**THURSFORD CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR** – Join the Sacred Heart & St. Patrick's Ladies Group on a festive adventure! Our trip will take place from Sunday, 7th December to Tuesday, 9th 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](http://www.Thursford.com) or contact Marion (Chair of the Ladies Group) at 07873 907645.

Posters will be displayed at church where you can add your name and contact details to register your interest. We look forward to sharing this magical experience with you.

**THE ORION CHOIR** is making a very welcome return visit to St BERNARD'S CHURCH HX3 6DL on SATURDAY 4 OCTOBER at 7.30pm. Music to include Rachmaninov- All Night Vigil /Vespers (excerpts) Tchaikovsky- Cherubic Hymn Byrd - Ave Verum Rusby - Underneath the stars. Entrance by voluntary donation- suggested at £15( funds to church and choir). The concert will be followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. All welcome.

**UK-MED** is a medical aid charity born of the NHS, now helping in Gaza. There will be a fund-raising benefit to support their work on Saturday October 4, 6:30 - 11.00 at Wadsworth Community Centre, Billy Lane, Old Town HX7 8RY. Good food, great music and a chance to meet some UK-MED staff. £15 at the door or pay what you can.

**ANNUAL SERVICE AT KILLINGBECK CEMETERY NOVEMBER** – Month of the Holy Souls: Sunday 9 November at 2.30pm. All the Diocese are invited to come to the cemetery and pray for the deceased members of the Diocese and extended family. The service, led by Canon Patrick Wall, Dean of East Leeds, will be in the chapel with readings, hymns, and rosary. Weather permitting, we will walk around the clergy circle reciting the rosary.

**CELEBRATING LAUDATO SI** Mini-Pilgrimage to Kirkstall Abbey: Saturday 20 October 12:45 – 4pm. Join people from across the northern dioceses for this 4.7mile pilgrimage from Leeds City Station to Kirkstall abbey – mainly following the towpath of the Leeds & Liverpool canal. Full details on the Justice & Peace website [www.leedsjp.org.uk](http://www.leedsjp.org.uk)

**LEEDS CATHEDRAL GUIDED TOURS AUTUMN PROGRAMME** Free Guided Tours will take place on the following dates: Saturday 4 October, starting at 2.00pm; Saturday 8 November, at 1.30pm; and Saturday 13 December, at 1.30pm. The tours last about 1 hour. No booking is required. On arrival, please gather by the Baptismal Font at the back of the Cathedral.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE 2025** Prayer, fasting and (current 'buffer-zone-law'-compliant) peaceful vigil in support of the unborn, their mothers, fathers and families. 7am-7pm daily from 24 September to 2 November. More info here: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/event/40-days-for-life-2025/> Contact Chris via 07815 681343 & [40daysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlife@gmail.com)

**LIVING SIMPLY** Many of us feel helpless in the face of the reckless plan to expand so many airports, especially now that we are acutely aware of the danger to health of air pollution and noise. One positive thing we can do is to stop flying. There are countless wonderful holiday spots in Europe easily reached by train. European trains are fast, reliable and they deposit you in the centre of your destination. Some who don't want to give up flying altogether have decided to stay grounded just for a year. If flight numbers fall, the argument against airport expansion will be strengthened. For more information see [www.flightfree.co.uk](http://www.flightfree.co.uk).

**ANNUAL MASS COUNT** the annual count of Mass attendance should be made over the last two weekends of September (20/21 and 27/28) and the first two weekends of October (4/5 and 11/12). This allows for parishes to avoid the weekends of the school half-term holiday. Thank you for your cooperation in arranging the Mass count. Figures will be returned to Bishop's House as part of the annual pastoral statistics which will be submitted in January.

**MARK 10 MISSION ROSARY CHALLENGE** Pray the Rosary with Archbishop John Wilson and The Mark 10 Mission this October. The Rosary Challenge invites you to pray a decade of the

Rosary each weekday in October. The Mark 10 Mission has created beautiful online videos for each mystery of the Holy Rosary, led by Archbishop John. To watch the videos and learn more, please visit [www.themark10mission.co.uk](http://www.themark10mission.co.uk) or The Mark 10 Mission YouTube channel @themark10mission

**APPEAL FOR LUNCHEON CLUB HELPERS** We are all familiar with the Lord's words:

*"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few"* (Matthew 9:37–38).

For over 30 years the Good Shepherd Luncheon Club has welcomed around 36 guests each week. Most come from the wider community, so for many we are truly the "face of the Good Shepherd." Alongside a four-course meal, our guests treasure companionship, a focus to their week, and—often—relief from isolation or caring duties.

At present we have 16 faithful volunteers, most of us well past our *three score years and ten*. We are not looking for cooks, but for helpers—people to serve lunch, wash up, and clear away. Ideally, six helpers are needed each Wednesday, 12–2.30pm. Even offering your time once a month would make a real difference.

If you are unsure, simply come along one Wednesday and see what's involved.

At our Church Family Weekend, Emma, one of our young mothers, shared a meditation on Elisha and the widow's oil (2 Kings 4). She wrote:

*"God wants to work through us. So what have you got? What can you offer?"*

*We may feel we have little to offer, but however small, God can use it. When we offer Him the little we have, He can transform it into something far greater than we can imagine."*

So—what have you got? If it is simply the skill of knowing how to wield a tea towel, we need you urgently (and training will be provided) —Anne Plunkett.

## VACANCIES

**LTU FUNDED SCHOLARSHIP** Leeds Trinity University is inviting applications for a funded (Leeds Church Institute) scholarship in Ethics, Theology, Philosophy or related discipline to undertake a Masters by Research. Please contact Dr Ann Marie Mealey, Director of Catholic Mission at Leeds Trinity University for an informal discussion and the application details: [a.mealey@leedstrinity.ac.uk](mailto:a.mealey@leedstrinity.ac.uk) or search for the advert on [jobs.ac.uk](http://jobs.ac.uk).

**CATHOLIC CARE IS RECRUITING CARE BANK SUPPORT WORKERS IN SKIPTON** Post: Care Bank / Flexible (Shifts to include weekends and bank holidays) Location: Skipton. Salary Details £14.12 per hour inclusive. Please send CV to [recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk)

**CATHOLIC CARE IS RECRUITING SUPPORT WORKERS** 4 Waking Nights or 12 hours days. Location: Sutton-in-Craven. 31 hours days. Location: Bingley. Salary for all posts £24,892 - £26,096 pro rata. Please send CV to [recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk)