

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

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Diocesan Safeguarding www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/

Safeguarding Team - 0113 2618046 – Safe Spaces free helpline 0300 303 1056



Website www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk

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Sunday 4th + SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

Sunday 04 Jan	9.30 am	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY	Julie Talbot & family
Monday 05 Jan		Weekday of Christmas Time	
Tuesday 06 Jan		THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD At today's Mass, after the Gospel, the announcement may be made of the moveable feasts of the liturgical year.	(*09.30 Sowerby Bridge)
Wednesday 07 Jan	12noon	Wednesday after the Epiphany	GS Nov Dead List 2026
Thursday 08 Jan		Thursday after the Epiphany	
Friday 09 Jan		Friday after the Epiphany	
Saturday 10 Jan	10.00am	Saturday after the Epiphany	GS Nov Dead List 2026
Sunday 11 Jan	09.30am	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD <i>Christmas Time ends</i>	Kathleen Metcalfe [LD]

**Sunday Mass Times - Sacred Heart & St. Patrick Sowerby Bridge | Saturday 5-30pm | Sunday 11am
St Mary's Halifax – 9.30am & 11am | St Alban's 6pm**

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

PARISH OFFERING - Standing orders Total (Oct 2025) **£2047.54**

28/12/2025 Week 39 Total £339.75 | WK38 CO £0.00 |

BANKED – 29 DEC 2025 - £335.00 | WK39CO £4.75 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

CHRISTMAS OFFERING. Thank you for your kind support.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026 As we rejoice in the joy of Christmas and turn our hearts toward the promise of a new year, I offer my heartfelt thanks to each of you. Your kindness, your prayers, your thoughtful cards, and your generous support throughout the past year have been sources of encouragement. This year holds particular significance, as I reflect on a milestone in our shared journey. On **11 July 2016**, the Feast of St Benedict, I was appointed **Parish Priest of the Good Shepherd**, by **Bishop Marcus**. Since that day, I have walk with you

in times of celebration and in times of trial, and to pray with you at the altar of the Lord. Each year we share strengthens the bonds of faith and fellowship that define our community. As we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord and look forward to the unfolding year, I extend to you, your families, and all within our parish district my prayerful wishes for peace, health, and abundant grace. May the peace of Christ, born in Bethlehem, dwell richly in your homes and hearts throughout 2026. I am deeply grateful for all that you bring to our parish life. Canon Larkin.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD LUNCHEON CLUB I wish to inform all our guests that, regrettably, the reopening of the Luncheon Club scheduled for **Wednesday 7 January 2026** will need to be **delayed**. This is due to one of the industrial boilers that heats the lounge area requiring full replacement. The heating engineer inspected the system prior to our Christmas lunch and advised that the boiler has reached the end of its working life and should be replaced as a matter of prudence. I am currently awaiting confirmation from the engineer regarding the **installation date and final cost**. These boilers are of an industrial grade and, once fitted, are expected to serve reliably for **approximately 10–12 years**, offering warmth and comfort well into the years ahead. I am most grateful for your patience and understanding, and look forward to welcoming you back as soon as the work is completed and the lounge is once again properly warmed.

NO FOOTSTEPS this week. Postponed to Sunday 11 January after Mass. See you there.

FIRST RECONCILIATION Dates for Reconciliation classes:

Tuesdays, 13 Jan | 03 and 24 Feb | 10 and 17 March. All at 6.30pm until 7.30pm at Good Shepherd. The celebration of the Sacrament is on Saturday 28 March at St Bernard's church in Boothtown. Any questions speak to Jo at Mass or 07725 854932.

LOURDES- Booking for 2026 Lourdes Pilgrimage is now open at <https://www.tangney-tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-leeds/> If you feel that you could volunteer as a doctor, nurse or carer please get in touch with Julie at chief.nurse@dioceseofleeds.org.uk for further information. You will need to register as a volunteer prior to booking a place.

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

JESUIT INSTITUTE ONLINE 2025-26 PROGRAMME The online public programme has been developed to share the riches of Ignatian spirituality with as many people as possible. All details and events on website <https://www.jesuitinstitute.org/events>

THE MAYOR, CLLR KEITH BUTTERICK will be holding a fundraising quiz for his chosen charity White Ribbon UK, on Thursday, 29 January 2026 at 7.30pm at the Shoulder of Mutton in Mytholmroyd, HX7 5DZ. The quiz is only £2 per person to enter with up to 4 people per team. Each team will receive a free pizza on the evening too. Please see attached and below, flyer with more details. If you would like to take part, please reply to info@hebdenroydtowncouncil.gov.uk

SACRED HEART SCHOOL Our preparation is well underway. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Children in Yr 3 or above) & First Holy Communion (Children in Yr 4 or above) Children in these year groups or above receive these sacraments in the spring/summer of 2026. Preparation takes place in school. If your child does not attend Sacred Heart or another Catholic primary school, please contact school and we can support you with preparations. Please speak to Mrs Mitchell in the office or email admin@sacredheart.calderdale.sch.uk and we will get back to you.

ROGER O'DOHERTY is selling his bird/wildlife calendars for charity. All profits are split equally between Calder Food Support our local foodbank and Medical Aid for Palestinians - two incredibly worthy causes. The calendars are £10 each, please see Jo to buy one

FLOWER ROTA If anyone would like to join the flower rota, see Doris or Liz. Thank you.

JUSTICE AND PEACE. Our Justice and Peace group has been trying for some time to make our world, and our small part of it, a bit more just and peaceful. The shortage of affordable housing is an example of injustice. This is being addressed by Calder Valley Community Land Trust, founded in 2014 and serving Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge and Todmorden. So far, the Trust has, among other things, built 6 independent living bungalows for older people in Walsden, occupied since 2020, looked after Fielden Hall in Todmorden, has acquired a house in Hebden Bridge and has even been donated a semi-detached house in Todmorden.

The Trust has successfully bought two homes attached to Fielden Hall by raising investment from the community and supported this by also raising grant funding and is looking to repeat this success.

At present, funds are being raised to purchase a dwelling in Heptonstall which would have become another AirBnB without this campaign fails. So far, £165,000 has been raised, including over £40,000 in community share investments from local people, towards a target of around £250,000. This money would enable the Trust to buy the house, at a generous discount, and spend over £60,000 to improve it. If successful, this will be the second local dwelling to be bought by the Trust, refurbished and let to people in desperate housing need. The first, in Brunswick Street, Hebden Bridge now houses a woman and her child who had been sleeping on a settee in her parents' house. Local people should be able to live locally in a secure, warm, affordable home and the Trust, with help, is achieving this. For information about how to help leaflets are in the porch, or you can just look up [CVCLT](#) on your computer. The Heptonstall community share offer is open until 27 January 2026.

link to website:

<https://caldervalleyclt.org.uk/>

And this is the link direct to the Northfield share offer page.

<https://caldervalleyclt.org.uk/northfield-share-offer/>