

# 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 – Safe Spaces free helpline 0300 303 1056

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

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



## Sunday 10th + SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 10 May	9.30 am	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Claire Hannah Robertson [A]
Monday 11 May		Weekday of Easter	
Tuesday 12 May		St Pancras, Martyr (c.304)	
Wednesday 13 May	NO MASS TODAY	Our Lady of Fatima	
Thursday 14 May	12noon	+ THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD + Holyday of Obligation	Nov Dead List 2025/26
Friday 15 May		Weekday of Easter	
Saturday 16 May	10.00am	Weekday of Easter	Nov Dead List 2025/26
Sunday 17 May	09.30am	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Kathleen Metcalfe [A]

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

**NB + Thursday 14 + 12noon - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - Holyday of Obligation**

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

**PARISH OFFERING** Total SO (59) (2026) **£2078.50** If you wish to set up a standing order:  
Good Shepherd - Sort Code 40-27-15 - Account No. 21023209

**03/05/2026** Week 5 Total £290.90 | WK4 CO £1.23 |

**Donation** - Luncheon Club £200 – thank you

**BANKED – 05 MAY 2026 - £290** | WK5 CO £2.13 Thank you for your support.

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD** Holyday of Obligation. With reverence and joy, I warmly invite you to join me in celebrating the great feast of the Ascension of the Lord, when Christ our Saviour, having completed His earthly ministry, ascends in glory to the right hand of the Father. In this sacred mystery, heaven is opened to us, and our humanity is lifted in hope. Holy Mass will be offered: **Sowerby Bridge at 9.30am | Mytholmroyd at 12 noon**  
This Holyday of Obligation calls us, as ever, to gather faithfully around the altar, to give thanks, and to renew our hearts in the promise of eternal life. Let us keep this ancient feast with devotion, mindful of the generations who have gone before us in faith, and steadfast in our witness today.

## **BISHOP'S PASTORAL - CHANGES TO THE HALIFAX DEANERY AND THE DIOCESE.**

### **RETIRING FROM HOLDING PAROCHIAL OFFICE - SUMMER 2026**

Rev Fr Robert Owens Retiring from the Parish of St Bernard, Halifax, and the Parish of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, Queensbury

### **APPOINTMENTS TO PAROCHIAL OFFICES AND OTHER MINISTRIES FROM SUMMER 2026**

Rev Fr Joshua Hilton

Parochial Administrator of the Parish of St Bernard, Halifax, and the Parish of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, Queensbury (in addition to his current responsibilities as Parish Priest of the Parish of St Mary, Halifax). From August, it will no longer be possible to provide a priest to celebrate Masses in Queensbury, and the future of the church premises there will need to be considered. These decisions reflect the reality of current numbers and the resources available. The situation at St Bernard's, together with that of the other parishes in the town, also presents significant challenges. It is therefore important that all parishes within the deanery recognise and understand the factors shaping diocesan provision of clergy and the celebration of Mass.

### **NEW INTERIM MASS SCHEDULE FROM AUGUST**

From August, Masses across the deanery will be celebrated as follows:

- **Saturday:** 5.00pm – St Bernard's
- **Sunday:** 9.00am – St Malachy's | 11.00am – St Columba's
- 9.30am – St Mary's | 11.00am – St Mary's
- 6.00pm – St Alban's

This is our challenge, and it is our responsibility to address it. We all know Catholics who stay at home on Sundays or choose almost anything else over Mass and we must reach out to them. In my view, this process will lead to a positive outcome for the Halifax Deanery. Reshaping our structures gives us a rare chance to revitalise and renew Catholic life in our Deanery.

**LUNCHEON CLUB** I write with sincere gratitude for your generous donation of **£200** towards the cost of energy for the kitchens and parish room. Your kindness is deeply appreciated. This donation carries such meaning, your contribution helps to ensure that our parish remains a place of welcome, comfort, and fellowship. The kitchens and parish room are not merely spaces, but places of community life, where friendship is shared and no one is left isolated. It is especially heartening to see how your support sustains the Luncheon Club itself, a gathering that brings such joy each Wednesday to so many. Your generosity strengthens not only the fabric of the church, but also the bonds between those who come together in companionship, service and care. Please accept my thanks for all that you do.

**NEWS FROM THE ORCHARD** In a recent *Gardeners' World*, Monty Don shared a helpful insight: trees grown with plenty of compost and fertiliser may shoot up at first, but that doesn't always translate into long-term strength. When they are less pampered early on, their roots reach further for nutrients, and the tree often becomes more vigorous. On our site, a former row of stone cottages meant we couldn't dig holes as large as we would have liked, so growth was slow for the first five years. Now, eleven years on, all the trees are thriving. We lightly pruned the four apple trees this winter because they were heavily pruned last year, with a little more pruning planned later in the year. As a rule, winter pruning encourages growth while summer pruning slows it. Plum trees, however, should always be pruned in summer, as winter pruning can make them prone to disease.

**AD MULTOS ANNOS** to our jubilarian (Ruby) - **Rev Mgr. Paul Owens** a retired priest associated with the Diocese of Leeds, Halifax Deanery, and formerly affiliated with the Roman Catholic Bishopric of the Forces (GB) *Ad multos annos* is a Latin phrase meaning "towards many years" or "for many years". It is a traditional celebratory acclamation, used to wish someone a long and fruitful life, often sung in Catholic and Orthodox traditions on anniversaries. Mgr. Owens will join us to celebrate 40yrs of Holy Priesthood on **Sunday 5 July at 11am**. Sacred Heart & St. Patrick Sowerby Bridge. All welcome.

**SACRED HEART School Places** please contact the school if you would like an appointment with the headteacher contact the school office on 01422 831360

**PEACE AND JUSTICE** The Church's call to justice is lived out in practical charity and care for the vulnerable. One way to respond is by supporting Calderdale Credit Union in Halifax, a member-owned cooperative serving those who live, work, or volunteer in Calderdale or Kirklees. It offers affordable loans, promotes responsible saving, and provides guidance for those in need—helping protect individuals and families from high-interest and illegal lending. Even if you do not require its services, opening a savings account and contributing regularly strengthens the shared fund for others. In this quiet way, we uphold human dignity and build a more just community.

**Opening times:** Tuesdays 9.30–2.00 | Fridays 9.30–12.00

**Contact:** [admin@calderdalecreditunion.co.uk](mailto:admin@calderdalecreditunion.co.uk) | 01422 386060

**CATHOLIC FAMILY HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT** Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. Head to [www.castleriggmanor.com](http://www.castleriggmanor.com) or contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk) / 017687 72711

### **FLOWER FUND ROTA 2026**

10 May – Janet Almond | 17 May – Maureen & Frank Flynn |

24 May – Jeanette & David Marsh | 31 May – Sheila Pickles

**DANCING IN YOUR SEATS** a seated dance class for those who prefer a gentler way to exercise, every Friday 10.00 - 10.40am.

Come along or book a place with Laura on 0785 2971044

**LEEDS CATHEDRAL GUIDED TOURS SUMMER PROGRAMME** A Free Guided Tour will take place on the following Saturdays during the spring and summer months: 16 May (starting at 2.00pm) and 20 June, 18 July and 8 August, when the tours start at 1.30pm. The tour lasts about 1 hour. No booking is required. On arrival, please gather by the Baptismal Font at the back of the Cathedral.

## **VACANCIES**

### **Diocese of Leeds Music: Choral Director (Bradford)**

- **Role:** Choral Director (Schools Singing Programme)
- **Location:** Bradford
- **How to apply / find out more:** [dolmusic.uk/vacancies](http://dolmusic.uk/vacancies) or email [recruitment@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk)
- **Closing date:** 1 June 2026, 5.00pm

### [Ss. Peter and Paul, Yeadon: Class Teacher \(Start September 2026\)](#)

- **Start date:** September 2026
- **Closing date:** Monday, 18 May 2026
- **Further information:** [bishopwheelercatholicacademytrust.org/Trust-Academy-Vacancies](http://bishopwheelercatholicacademytrust.org/Trust-Academy-Vacancies)
- **To discuss or arrange a visit:** contact Lauren Copsey ([l.copsey@ssppyeadon.org](mailto:l.copsey@ssppyeadon.org))

### [Our Lady and All Saints Parish, Otley: Children & Young People's Ministry Co-ordinator \(Lay role\)](#)

- **Hours:** Part-time, 22.5 hours per week
- **Working pattern:** Evenings and weekends (term time only)
- **Contract:** Two-year fixed term
- **How to apply:** Request an application pack from Fr. Nicholas Hird (01943 462146) or email [office.ourladyallsaints@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:office.ourladyallsaints@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)
- **Closing date:** Tuesday, 12 May 2026

### [Catholic Care: Residential Childcare roles \(Wakefield / Keighley\)](#)

- **Roles:** Senior Residential Childcare Workers and Residential Childcare Workers
- **Location:** New children's residential home in Wakefield
- **Also recruiting:** Deputy Manager (to work with children's homes in Keighley and Wakefield)
- **How to apply:** Request a recruitment pack via email to [Alexandra.smith@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:Alexandra.smith@catholic-care.org.uk)

### [Catholic Care: Support Worker \(Leeds\)](#)

- **Salary:** £26,045
- **Hours:** Full time, 37 hours per week
- **Shift pattern:** Includes weekends and bank holidays
- **Location:** Leeds
- **Closing date:** Until position filled
- **Further details:** [www.catholic-care.org.uk](http://www.catholic-care.org.uk)

### [Marriage Care: Training & volunteering as a Relationship Counsellor](#)

Marriage Care (a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support) is looking for people who are empathetic, understanding, and keen to support adult relationships.

- **Training:** Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC)
- **Role:** Volunteer relationship counsellor (after training)
- **Costs:** Training costs apply (lower than many alternative providers); no one is excluded due to inability to pay
- **Find out more:** [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk)
- **Email:** [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk)