

Adult formation

Alpha Course: Got questions about life? You're invited to Alpha. Mondays 7th Jan - 25th March 19:00 - 20:30, The Presbytery. Alpha is the chance to explore the basics of the Christian faith. Each session starts with food, then a short film and time to discuss, ask questions or just listen. Alpha is friendly, informal and open to everyone. No pressure, no follow up, no charge. Want to know more? Contact the Parish Office.

Baptism classes for parents: Sats, 2nd & 9th Feb; 4th & 11th May 2019, 10.45am, St John's Hall. Parents are requested to complete a Baptism Application Form and give it to Fr Paul after a Vigil or Sunday Mass & attend *two classes*. Catholic parents are expected to attend Sunday Mass.

Deanery and local news

Tuesday 11th December, 6pm: **Wyke Christina Council of Churches Community Carols**, Westfield URC Church.

Tuesday 18th December, 7pm: **Advent Penitential Service**, St Williams.

Wednesday 19th December, 7pm: **Advent Penitential Service**, St Clare's.

Diocesan and other news

Tuesday 11th December, 7pm: **Human Life and Sacred Men Lecture**. Wheeler Hall, Leeds. Tel: 07949 223575, johnbeaumont315@gmail.com

Sun 16th Dec, 3pm: **Handel's Messiah**, Leeds Cathedral. Tickets £10. Info: www.skiptoncamerata.com

Friday 14th Dec, 7.30pm; Sat 15th Dec, 2.30pm: **Great Horton Singers** present their **Winter Magic** seasonal concert, St Winefride's Hall. All tickets: £8. Refreshments available. Contact: Audrey: 07968496181.

Weds 23rd—Sat 26th Jan: **Buttershaw St Paul's "Made in Dagenham"**, The Alhambra: 01274 432000

Briery Retreat Days (01943 607287)

Friday 15th to Sunday 17th December: **"The Ever-Coming God"**, led by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy, C.C.Sp. Shafts of Light Refracted through the Prism of Love. Insights from Fr Daniel O'Leary.

Short courses at Hinsley Hall, Headingley. In February & March 2019 there will be three short courses on Tuesday evenings. There is a choice of Catholic Social Teaching, Lay Chaplaincy in Schools or Liturgy. In May & June 2019 there will be another group of short courses offered. The choice this time will be Catholic Schools and Religious Education, Family Life Ministry or Youth Ministry. Contact: 0113 261 8043.

Vacancies

Financial Accountant based at Hinsley Hall. A good all-rounder to work in a small Finance Team providing financial and administrative support across our Diocese. Please contact john.moran@dioceseofleeds.org.uk for a job description.

Fr Paul's Diary: Tuesday 11th December, 11am - 3pm: **Deanery Conference**, Italian Catholic Mission, Bradford; Wednesday 12th December, 10am-3pm: **Confessions**, St Bede's and St Joseph's High School, Bradford; Thursday 13th December, 10-12pm: **Confessions**, St John the Evangelist School; Friday 14th December, 11am-12pm: **Partner's Breakfast**. Sandale Hub.

Cleaning dates for St Winefride's Church, Monday 17th December Please come along and lend a hand for the **BIG CHRISTMAS CLEAN**. Many hands make light work.

SAFEGUARDING: Concerned about the welfare of a child or a vulnerable adult? Please contact our Parish Safeguarding Representative, **Sam Poulton**: t: 07810770488; e: samjpoulton@gmail.com.



Parish of Mary, Mother of God, Bradford

Parish Priest: Mgr. Paul Grogan

St Winefride's Presbytery, 54 St Pauls Avenue, Wibsey, Bradford BD6 1ST

01274 677992

The Parish Office is ordinarily open Monday - Wednesday, 9am - 12 noon.

Office: MaryMotherofGod@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Parish of Mary Mother of God, Bradford

www.marymotherofgod.org.uk

@MMOG2008

St John the Evangelist's School

St Winefride's School

Church hall bookings (£15 per hour):

Headteacher: Mrs K Spillane

Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Cairns

Please contact the Parish Office

01274 679030

01274 677705

01274 677992

The parish, which has two churches, St Winefride's and St John the Evangelist's (BD6 3NS), incorporates Wyke, Low Moor, Oakenshaw, Wibsey, Horton Bank Top, Clayton Heights, Buttershaw, Shelf and Woodside.

Sunday 9th December 2018

Second Sunday In Advent (Year C)

First Reading Bar 5: 1-9 *God means to show your splendour to every nation.*

Resp Psalm Ps 125: **Response: *What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.***

Second Reading Phil 1: 4-6, 8-11 *Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.*

Gospel Luke 3: 1-6 *All mankind shall see the salvation of God.*

Saturday 8th December VIGIL	6.15pm <i>St Winefride's</i>	For an end to abortion
Sunday 9th December SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT <i>Bible Sunday</i>	9.15am <i>St Winefride's</i> 11.15am <i>St John's</i> 1.15pm <i>St Winefride's</i> [3.00pm <i>St Peter's, Bfd</i> 4.00pm <i>St Winefride's</i>	Bridie Doran RIP Jacqueline Proctor A Baptism: Denis Bird Baptism: Olivia Knight] Holy Hour
Monday 10th December	8.00am <i>St Winefride's</i>	Kathleen Darcy LD
Tuesday 11th December St Damasus1, Pope OM	3.00pm <i>Cooper House</i> 7.00pm <i>St John's</i>	Service of the Word with H Communion Betty Welton RIP
Wednesday 12th December Our Lady of Guadalupe OM	9.00am <i>St Winefride's NB</i>	Irene Goulding A
Thursday 13th December St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr MEM	7.00pm <i>St John's NB</i>	Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the retirement of Kathryn Spillane
Friday 14th December St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church MEM	9.15am <i>St Winefride's Sch</i>	Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the retirement of Maureen Cairns
Saturday 15th December VIGIL	10.00am <i>St John's</i> 6.15pm <i>St Winefride's</i>	Stefan Lytwyn LD Stanley Anderson LD
Sunday 16th December THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT <i>Gaudete Sunday</i>	9.15am <i>St Winefride's</i> 11.15am <i>St John's</i> 1.15pm <i>St John's</i> 4.00pm <i>St John's</i>	People of the Parish Int of Maria Gallagher (Birth) Baptism: Dylan and Evie-Mae Lynch Holy Hour

Confessions: Sat (8th December & 15th December), 5-5.45pm, St W's; Tues 6.30-6.50pm, St J's.

Rosary: Saturday 15th, 9.40am, St J's.

Parish news

Offertory: 2/12/18: Envelopes: £645.50; Loose: £465.02. Second Collection: Envelopes: £174.80; Loose: £95.90. Donations: £20. Baptism: £35. Piety Stall St W's £70. Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a retiring collection at all Masses next weekend for **Christmas flowers**.

Thank you for your continuing patience during the illness of our Parish Secretary, Terry Sutcliffe. Thank you, also, to our voluntary secretaries who are doing a great job in processing all the administration.

Are you new to our parish? Or have you recently begun to come to Mass again after a period of not practising your faith? Please identify yourself to Fr Paul so that he can greet you.

Fr Paul will visit **sick & housebound parishioners** in **Group 1** (Shelf, Wibsey Slack & Woodside) this week.

Thank you to everybody who worked so hard to make today's (Saturday's) **Parish Christmas Fair** such a marvellous success. Thank you in particular to our coordinator, Bernadette Benyon (who is Parishioner of the Month), to Mrs Spillane and Mrs Walsh and their teams of staff members from St John's and St Winefride's Schools respectively, to all the parishioners who looked after the numerous stalls, to the children and young people who helped out, and to the members of Catholic Care for their stall. We raised **£1771.38** for the parish!

This Advent we are supporting **Catholic Care's Gianna Project Christmas Appeal**. Please leave good-quality items which will help young women who have become unexpectedly pregnant to look after their babies in or around the Moses baskets at the front of both of our churches.

This Sunday is Bible Sunday. We will **commission Readers** for the coming year at the end of all Masses this weekend. I should be grateful if all the Readers who wish to continue in this ministry would ensure that they have added their names to the lists in our church porches. We also need new Readers. Simple training can be given. Thank you to all the parishioners who enhance our liturgies through this ministry.

We have been blessed in our parish to have two such excellent Headteachers of our Primary Schools: **Maureen Cairns** at St Winefride's and **Kathryn Spillane** at St John the Evangelist. Both women are retiring at the end of this term after having served 12 and 14 years respectively in their posts. I have learnt a lot from both over the last three years and I should like to express my profound gratitude to them formally in our parish newsletter. Under their leadership, both schools have provided our children with a first-class education and a solid formation in our Catholic faith. Moreover, each has been very open to collaborating with me such that a true professional and evangelical partnership has developed. I always leave their schools confirmed in our shared faith. I shall miss my frequent meetings with Mrs Cairns and Mrs Spillane and I wish them well for the years ahead. *Fr Paul*

Please inform Fr Paul if you know of somebody who would like to receive **Holy Communion** at home.

Do you find that when you listen to my homilies, you would like to hear them again? You don't need to answer that question. Well, from now on, **an audio version of my homilies** will be available on our parish website. Please just click the Sound Cloud button which is next to the Facebook and Twitter buttons. I hope that this facility may help some of our housebound parishioners to feel more part of our parish life. Thank you to Jeremy and Alison Park for making this possible. *Fr Paul*

Inn Churches Night Shelter for the homeless will be running at St Winefride's Hall the week beginning **Monday 21st January**. We need more volunteers. Please contact maryjo.daly@icloud.com. Volunteers will be asked to undergo a simple safeguarding check: please take a form from a church porch.

The Parish **Union of Catholic Mothers** has kindly donated £100 to the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund, £50 to the Diocesan Peru Mission and £50 for the upkeep of retired priests.

We need a few parishioners to provide a **simple one-pot meal** for our forthcoming **Alpha Course**, which begins in January (please see overleaf). If you could help, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you to **Monica Spyrka** and **Trish Barstow** for offering to join the rota of Readers for the 9.15am Mass at St. Winefride's.

Welcome to **Sarah Kenyon** who is to be the **Interim Headteacher at St John the Evangelist Primary School** (she is currently Deputy Headteacher at St Clare's Primary School in Bradford) and congratulations to **Faye Stillman** and **Repreet Basra** who have been appointed as Acting Assistant Headteachers.

Christmas Mass Times

Monday 24th, 4pm: Vigil Mass St Winefride's; 6pm: Vigil Mass, St John's; Midnight: Mass during the Night, St Winefride's; 7.30am: Mass at Dawn: St Winefride's; 9.15am Mass during the Day, St Winefride's; 10.30am: Mass during the Day, St John's.

Thank you to **Sandra Scully** for liaising with the **Royds Community Association** on behalf of the parish as a result of which several groups have received substantial VCS Community Grants to promote health and well-being: the Wednesday Friendship Group (£880); Faith and Light (£1,000) and St John's SVP (£400).

Parish events

Sat 8th/Sun 9th December: (Bible Sunday): Commissioning of Readers for 2019 at all Masses.

Wed 12 December, 1pm: Lunch & Friendship Group, St Winefride's Hall. Christmas Lunch. Everyone welcome. A traditional two course meal, cost £4. If you have never joined us before, do come along on that day to give us a try! Our Christmas bingo will be led by Moira Page and our Christmas quiz by Sylvia Morgan. For further information please contact Michelle on 07739 975000. Everyone always welcome!

Thurs 13th Dec, 7pm: Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the retirement of **Kathryn Spillane** as Headteacher of St John the Evangelist Primary School, St John's Church. There will be a buffet in St John's Church Hall after this Mass. The bar will be open and there will be music. Parishioners can just come along without notifying the Parish Office beforehand. If you can (but don't worry if you can't), please bring something to contribute to the shared table.

Fri 14th Dec, 9.15am: Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the retirement of **Maureen Cairns** as Executive Headteacher of St Winefride's (& Our Lady and St Brendan's) Primary Schools, St Winefrides's School. Please inform the School if you are attending this event.

Sat 15th Dec, 11am: Mass with Anointing of the Sick, St John's Church and Hall. Lunch afterwards. Please sign up on the list in each church porch if you are able to join us (or phone the Parish Office)

Sun 16th Dec, 12.15pm: Parish Christmas Bazaar, St John's Church Hall. Please leave items such as fancy goods, toiletries, toys and books in the church porch during the week; also, on the day, cakes & buns.

Tuesday 18th Dec, 2pm: Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the retirement of **Kathryn Spillane** as Headteacher of St John the Evangelist Primary School, St John the Evangelist Primary School.

Tuesday 18th December, 7pm: Parish Carol Service, St Winefride's Church.

Thursday 20th December, 6.30pm: Parish Walking Group Christmas Meal, The Grove Training Restaurant. £17.50 per person. To reserve place: Susan 07984370380.

Thurs 20th Dec, 7pm: Parish Advent Penance Service, St Winefride's Church. Several priests will be available to hear Confessions on this occasion. See overleaf for other Deanery Advent Penance Services.

Children's Sacramental Catechesis

Thank you to all the parents who attended the launch of our **First Sacraments Programme** last week. Please hand in your completed application forms to Fr Paul after any Mass and please collect a Mass attendance sticker chart from the porch of either church.

Youth

Our Parish **Senior Youth Group** (for children in Years 7, 8 and 9) will be relaunched on Fri 4th Jan. It will meet between 6.30 and 8pm in St John's Hall. Young parishioners in this age range can bring along as many friends as they like. We will start each session with a time of prayerful reflection; then there will be an activity to help us understand a bit more about our faith; then there'll be lots of free time; there'll be music, a tuck shop and games. The group will meet on the first Friday of each month We will also be starting a **YouCat Group for Young Adults** (17-21 years old) on Sun 13th Jan, 5-6.15pm, in the Presbytery (this will meet on the second Sunday of each month) and a **YCW Impact Group for young people** in Years 9,10 and 11 on Sunday 20th January, 5-6.15pm in the Presbytery (this will meet on the third Sunday of each month).

Please pray for the **sick, those who have died recently**, & those with **anniversaries** at this time.