



Parish of Mary, Mother of God, Bradford

St Winefride's Church, St Paul's Avenue, Bradford BD6 1ST (open daily 7am-7pm)

St John the Evangelist's Church, Cooper Lane, Bradford BD6 3NS

Parish Priest: Mgr Paul Grogan Ep Vic Education: paul.grogan@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Sunny Joseph CST: sunny.joseph@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Anna Kujaczynska (Tues- Fri 9am-2.30pm): office.marymotherofgod@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

The Parish Office and Presbytery, 54 St Paul's Avenue, BD6 1ST; Tel: 01274 677992

Chair, Parish Pastoral Council: Helen Wain: chairppc.marymotherofgod@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Chairs: Finance & Property: Paul Rafferty/Trish Barstow; Social: Linsey Holmes.

Website: www.marymotherofgod.org.uk; Facebook: Parish of Mary Mother of God, Bradford; X: @MMOG2008

Executive Head of Parish Primary Schools (St John's & St Winefride's): Ben Lavin: ben.lavin@bcwcat.co.uk

Parish Pastoral Worker: Dr Frances Norton: pwop.marymotherofgod@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Ruth Westbrook: psr.rwestbrook@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Catholic Care in our Parish: Michelle Vink: michelle.vink@catholic-care.org.uk

St Winefride's Church is open from 7am until late every day for people to access as they wish.

Sunday 29th March 2026

Saturday 28th March Weekday of Lent SUNDAY VIGIL	8.00am NB St John's 9.00am NB St John's 5.15pm St Winefride's	<i>Holy Hour with Rosary</i> Priests' Intentions Rita Bolland A
Sunday 29th March PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	8.15am St Winefride's 9.45am St Winefride's 11.15am St John's 5.00pm St John's 6.15pm St John's	Charles and Patricia Whelan A People of the Parish Priest's Intention <i>Adoration, Vespers, Benediction</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Monday 30th March Monday of Holy Week	7.00am St Winefride's 8.00am St Winefride's 12.30pm St Winefride's	<i>Holy Hour with Lauds</i> Maureen Parkin LD Gladys Hastie LD
Tuesday 31st March Tuesday of Holy Week	10.00am St Winefride's 12.00 St John's 5.15pm NB St John's 6.15pm NB St John's 7.00pm St Winefride's	Requiem Mass: Maureen Parkin RIP Priest's Intention <i>Holy Hour with Vespers</i> Gladys Hastie LD <i>Parish Lenten Penance Service with the opportunity for individual Confession</i>
Wednesday 1st April Wednesday of Holy Week	7.00am St Winefride's 8.00am St Winefride's 11.00 Leeds Cathedral	<i>Holy Hour with Lauds</i> Joseph McKendrick LD CHRISM MASS
Thursday 2nd April Thursday of Holy Week	9.30am St Winefride's 8.00pm St John's	<i>Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 3rd April FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (GOOD FRIDAY)	9.30am St Winefride's 10.00am St Winefride's 3.00pm St Winefride's 7.00pm St Winefride's	<i>Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>Ecumenical Walk of Witness</i> The Celebrn of the Passion of the Lord <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 4th April HOLY SATURDAY	11.00am St Winefride's 8.00pm St Winefride's	<i>Easter Food Blessing</i> Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
Sunday 5th April EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	8.15am St Winefride's 9.45am St Winefride's 11.15am St John's 5.00pm St John's	People of the Parish Andrew Byrd, Monica, Eddie O'Hara RIP Nolan Talbot A; Patrick Lowery A; <i>Adoration, Vespers, Benediction</i>

Confessions: Sat, 4.30-5pm, St W's; Tues, 11.40am-12noon, St J's; Tues, 7-8pm, St W's.

Please pray for the sick & those who have died.

Parish Mission Statement: *We reach out to all people in Jesus' name.*

Finances

Offertory: Sun 22nd March: E: £206.00; L: £433.55. Second Collection (Catholic Care): E: £35.00. Refreshments (St W's): £4. St Patrick's Party: £422.12. Clothing Stall: £16. Average weekly income through standing orders: £450. You may also contribute through the contactless payment machines in our porches or through the donation button on our parish website. Please contact the Parish Office for a set of weekly envelopes.

Parish matters

Thank you to the 21 parishioners who participated in our **Retreat in Daily Life** last week. Thank you also to Vron, Jean, Sophie and Ian, the Prayer Guides from the Jesuit Institute who accompanied us during these blessed days. We are especially grateful to Vron, who then led the Parish Pastoral Council in a **Discernment Morning** on the Sat. In the document distributed at the Closing meeting, Fr Paul wrote: *Through our participation in this Retreat in Daily Life we have become newly aware of the beauty and the importance of prayer in our lives. As well as considering what God is saying to each of us personally in terms of our relationship with Jesus, clearly God is also speaking to us as a parish, inviting us to go deeper in prayer so that our mission, God's mission, might, in God's time become more fruitful.*

It would be good therefore if we were to reflect on whether and how we might develop our provision for prayer in the parish and if we the retreatants were to commend our ideas to the Parish Pastoral Council. A key step forward might be if some of us were to grow in confidence to exercise leadership in a prayer group, a faith-sharing group or a Bible study group. To facilitate this we could arrange some training and some ongoing support and accompaniment. When would be good days and times to have a group or groups?

It also seems clear that our PPC meetings need to be preceded by a period of prayer – say 20 minutes – so that we can all tap into what the Holy Spirit is saying to us. Lastly should we make sure that we have a mission or a retreat each year from now on and if so, what would that look like?

Please add your name to the **Holy Week readers' rota** which is available in both porches.

Please hand in your **Red APF Boxes** today.

We are participating in Bradford Council's **Holiday Activities & Food Programme** during Easter Week. We will be laying on a variety of activities for local children. We need volunteers to cook healthy lunches in St W's Hall on Thurs & Fri & other volunteers too. Please offer your time by contacting Parish Office this week. There are still available places for children: registration forms from the Parish Office.

Thank you to **Maria Karas** and **Carol McKenny** for leading our First Confessions Catechetical Programme, to **Sean Kilduff** for clothing all our statues & religious pictures for Holy Week and to **Geraldine Kilduff** for fashioning crosses from palms.

The **UCM** will be selling tickets for an **Easter Egg Raffle** after all Masses this w/e.

Adult formation

Wed 8th April, 6-7.15pm: Catholic Enquiry Group: The Christian vocations.

Sat 18th & 25th April, 11am-12noon: Baptism **preparation classes** for parents, St J's Church Hall.

Thurs 14th May, 7pm: Parish Men's Group.

Safeguarding

We are grateful to all the parishioners who have obtained **DBS clearance** to work with children and vulnerable adults. A number of our volunteers need to have their clearance renewed. Our Parish Secretary will contact these people this week and invite them to attend an **ID verification session** with our Parish Safeguarding Representative, Ruth Westbrook, any time between 10am to 12noon on Saturday 25th April in the Presbytery. The next such session will be the autumn. Constraints of time mean that it is no longer possible to arrange bespoke sessions in the parish with individual parishioners. However, volunteers who are unavailable on 25th April may present their documents on a day of their choosing at the Diocesan Safeguarding Office in Hinsley Hall.

Forthcoming events

Tues 30th March, 7pm: Parish Penance Service, St W's. Please take this or other opportunities to go to Confession this Lent as Bishop Marcus has encouraged us to do.

Wed 1st April, 11am: Chrism Mass, Leeds Cathedral. Bishop Marcus invites all parishioners to participate in this Mass at which the clergy repeat their ordination promises & the Bishop consecrates the oils for use in the Diocese during the coming year.

Sat 11th April, 11.30am: Mass with Anointing and lunch, organised by the SVP, St Win's Hall.

Tues 14th April, 3-4.30pm: Grief Share Bereavement Support Group, St J's Hall.

Wed 26th May, 7pm: Parish Pastoral Council, St John's Church Hall.

Young people and children

Wed 1st April, 5-6pm: Altar Servers' Practice for the Triduum Liturgies at both churches, St Win's.

Sats, 18/4, 25/4, 2/5, 9/5, 6.30-7.30pm: Confirmation Prep for secondary school students, St Winefride's Room. Sign up: Parish Office.

Fri 17th April 6.30pm: St J's Hall, Youth Group: Theme: A personal relationship with Jesus Christ, through prayer and listening.

Group meetings/regular events

Cath Care Stay & Play: Mon, 9am: St W's Hall.

UCM: 1st Mon, 7.30pm: St J's Hall.

Catholic Care Lunch Groups: Tues, 1pm, St J's Hall: Wed, 1pm, St W's Hall.

St J's SVP: Alternate Tues, 5.30pm: Wdside Ct.

Bible Study: Wed, 10.30-11.15am, St W's Hall.

St W's SVP: 2nd Wed, 11.15am: St W's Room.

CC Community Market: Wed, 10am: St W's Hall.

Youth Group: Fri, 6.30pm: St J's Hall, (term time)

St W's Gardening Grp: Every Sat, 11am-12noon.

DIOCESAN, DEANERY AND ECUMENICAL NOTICES

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.

JUSTICE THEMED STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR HOLY WEEK: 31st March at 7:30pm an online Stations of the Cross service using prayers and reflections about contemporary justice issues. See www.leedsjp.org.uk to register and receive the Zoom link.

CHRISM MASS: The annual Chrism Mass will take place on Wednesday of Holy Week (1st 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.

LEEDS CATHEDRAL GUIDED TOUR AT EASTER: A Free Guided Tour will take place on 8th April 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.

DAY FOR CATECHISTS, CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Sat 11th April, 10am-3pm, Hinsley Hall. Please register your free place no later than 3rd April by emailing formation@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

ST AUGUSTINE'S YOUTH DAY: There will be a Youth Day on the 19th April. The Youth Day is open to all children and young people. Lunch will be provided, along with an afternoon programme. Please note that children under 11 will need to be supervised. office.staugustines@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

SVP AND CAFOD WORK EXPERIENCE: 21st – 26th June, London. The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old, priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. https://svp1.formstack.com/forms/work_experience_application_form_2026.

A DAY WITH MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS: 10am-4pm Wed 6th May at The Briery Retreat Centre, Ilkley. Join us for a day entitled 'Do whatever he tells you', to explore how Mary guides us towards a greater understanding and relationship with Jesus. Requested offering £35pp inclusive of a home-cooked two-course lunch and refreshments. 01943 607287 or admin@briery.org.uk

"GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES" DAY OF REFLECTION: Saturday 9th May, 10am-3pm, Hinsley Hall. A day of reflection with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph on our mission to share the faith. Explore the implications of the Great Commission and our call from God to make disciples of all nations, as well as some practical ways to pass on the faith. An uplifting day for all! Lunch included. Register your free place by Friday 1st May by emailing formation@dioceseofleeds.org

6-DAY PREACHED RETREAT: "Fire to the Earth! Rediscovering the Surprising Freshness of Jesus through His Parables" Led by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy CSSp 10th – 16th June at The Briery Retreat Centre, Ilkley. Requested offering £675pp fully inclusive, or £250 non-residential. admin@briery.org.uk

CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE DIOCESES OF LEEDS & MIDDLESBROUGH: As part of the consultation currently taking place across our two Dioceses, there is an opportunity for all clergy, religious and members of the lay faithful to contribute by completing an online questionnaire, either individually or as a parish group. Prayerful reflection should be given to the questions so that the Holy Spirit may guide this process of discernment. Prayer resources and a presentation are available on the diocesan website to support this process. Responses should be submitted no later than Friday, 22nd May 2026. For more information and to complete the questionnaire, please visit: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/leeds-middlesbrough-consultation-2026/>

ONLINE GOSPEL MEDITATIONS: Throughout the year, the Briery Retreat Team deliver fortnightly guided meditations via Zoom, with time for reflection and sharing. These are on Thursday from 7.30pm to 8.15pm. The 'doors' open at 7.15 for a chat and introductions. All are welcome. admin@briery.org.uk

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026: The 2026 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place Fri 3rd to Thurs 9th July 2026. It is hoped that there will be two flights from Leeds. Bookings: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-leeds/> or 01732 886666.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

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.

