

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish

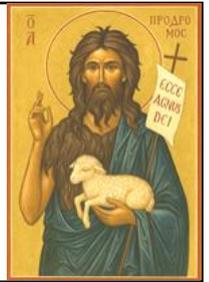
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[facebook.com/people/St-John-the-Baptist-Roman-Catholic-Church-Normanton-Parish](https://www.facebook.com/people/St-John-the-Baptist-Roman-Catholic-Church-Normanton-Parish)

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

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Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration week beginning 21/02/26	Intention
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 1st Sunday of Lent	Harold Massey
SUN	10am	1st Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Mon	9:30am	Weekday of Lent (St Polycarp)	Sarah Cowley
Tues	9:30am	Weekday of Lent	Donald Hartill
Wed	12noon	Weekday of Lent	Madhusudan Bangaru
Thurs	9:30am	Weekday of Lent	Kitty Langley and Margot Newman
Fri	9:30am	Weekday of Lent - followed by Stations also at 7pm	David Kaye
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 2nd Sunday of Lent	Alfred & Mary Lister
SUN	10am	2nd Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)

**Confessions: Before Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:15—5:45pm or on request in Church**

**Alms Box supporting - Bethlehem Hospice**

QR Scan for Parish website



**Sick List:** Please remember in your prayer: Molly Newton, Marie Vella, Connor Harrington, Dianne and Simon MacDermott, Dr John Gallagher, Trevor Durant, John Ellis, Eddie Gillen, Peter Farrell, Ann Cunningham, Julie Morrison, Pascalina Notsi, Shelia Kaye, Lynne Hartill, Justin Martin, Grahame Walker, Margaret Crompton, Jimmy Bradley, John O'Hara, John McGowan

**In your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of: Mr & Mrs Kaye and George Gunn,** formally of Whindale, Normanton, who died within hours of one another.

Please remember their family in your prayers.

Their joint Requiem Mass will be Tuesday 17th March in St John's.

**In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul Barry Mumby** who died peacefully at Wakefield Hospice. Barry's Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday 4th March at 11am in St John's.

Please remember Pat and her family in your prayers.

**In your charity please pray for the repose Gillian Kinsey** who died on Sunday 1st Feb.

Gillian's Funeral Service will be Thursday 19th March in St John's.

Please remember her family in your prayers.

**May they rest in peace.**



**The young people accompanying the infirm to Lourdes will make an appeal at both Masses this weekend.**

**Lenten Series - Tuesdays at 7pm in the hall.**

**"The Holy Mass is the greatest act of love we can offer to God." – Saint Maximilian Kolbe**

**We will be having a series of reflections and discussions on the Mass - come to even one session to deepen your understanding of what we celebrate.**

**Stations of the Cross after Friday morning Mass and at 7pm.**

**Reflection for the 1st Sunday of Lent (Year A. St Matthew)**

Each Lent begins with Jesus in the wilderness, facing temptations that echo our own: the pull toward comfort, the desire for certainty and the lure of control.

Jesus resists not with power, but with trust—rooted in the Father's Word.

As we enter this holy season, we are invited to let God meet us in our own wilderness places.

Lent is not about proving our strength; it is about allowing God to reshape our hearts.

May this season help us return to what truly nourishes, deepens our trust and draws us closer to the One we worship and serve. The Temptations of the Lord are a comfort to us because He was tempted, He trusted and He overcame by focusing upon the Father and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Since Christ, in his human nature, has been tempted he knows what it is like to both be tempted and to overcome.

Where Christ has gone before us, we are called to follow.

Temptation is not sin but can become a means of greater spiritual maturity and grace.

**Safeguarding:** Please pass any safeguarding issues to Matthew Harris at [PSR.Mharris@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:PSR.Mharris@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**1st Sacraments 2026:  
Applications have closed for this year.**

**Required Preparation Day for 1st Confession (Year 4 and above) will be 21st March.**  
**Required Preparation Days for 1st Holy Communion will be 25th April and 9th of May 2026.**  
Once they have completed the required Preparation Days dates for 1st Holy Communion, throughout the summer months, may be booked.



**DIOCESAN**

**NEW MEN'S GROUP:** The Oratory of St Joseph, for young Catholic or other interested laymen aged between 21 & 35. Monthly meetings at Hinsley Hall LS6 2BX, for prayer, Benediction, talks, social time & free supper. Inaugural meeting Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, 6.30-8.30pm. Contact: [benjamin.hilton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:benjamin.hilton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**LOURDES NURSES VOLUNTEER APPEAL:** Are you a qualified nurse? Would you like to join the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes (3-9 July 2026)? Please contact: [lourdes.enquiries@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:lourdes.enquiries@dioceseofleeds.org.uk) for further information. We desperately need registered nurses to join the team to enable our assisted pilgrims to travel to Lourdes. This is a wonderful experience and many nurses return year after year. Please consider joining our friendly, happy team and enjoy a truly blessed week with our assisted pilgrims.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026:** The 2026 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026. It is hoped that there will be two flights from Leeds. The booking process is now open. Bookings can be made online on <https://www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-leeds/> or by phone direct with Tangney (01732 886666).

**FLAME 2027:** The largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales is back! Join thousands of young people for a day of music, prayer, worship, talks from great speakers and much more at the OVO Arena, Wembley on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2027. Passes are currently at the super early bird rate of £75 per person, which includes return coach travel to/from the Diocese, until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026. Email [youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk) to book yours!

**THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS COMMUNITY CHOIR:** welcomes all parish musicians and parishioners, all choir parents and friends, and all school and Diocesan staff to come together and sing! Rehearsals work towards singing Mass in Leeds Cathedral. Rehearsals will take place from 2.30pm- 4pm 8, 15 and 22 March at the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Moortown. To sign up please email: [office@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk](mailto:office@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk)

**SVP AND CAFOD WORK EXPERIENCE:** 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. The experience will run from 21st – 26th June in London. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old, but priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. Apply here: [https://svp1.formstack.com/forms/work\\_experience\\_application\\_form\\_2026](https://svp1.formstack.com/forms/work_experience_application_form_2026). Applications close on 6<sup>th</sup> April. For any queries, please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

**VACANCIES**

**HEADTEACHER VACANCY:** St Paulinus Catholic Primary School, Dewsbury. Start: September 2026. Closing date: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026. Visit <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/148485/EDV-2026-SPCPA-18824> for more details and to apply.

**CATHOLIC CARE RECRUITMENT - CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL HOME:** Keighley. Senior Residential Childcare Support Workers, Full Time, Salary *includes 8 sleep-ins per month:* £34,163 – £35,668. Residential Child Care Workers, Full Time, Salary £28,265 - £29,674 plus 1-2 "sleep -In" per week. If you complete 8 "sleep ins" per month that will add approximately £4,000 to annual salary. (Bank positions also available.) Please contact [recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk). MUST have experience of residential childcare. Current valid driving license is essential.

**SMART PHONES:**

It is important to remember that Smart Phones listen to, record and retain everything. The Seal of Confession is absolute for the priest, although there have been moves in the US and in Scotland to remove the Seal. Such a move will bring priests and the whole Church into conflict with the State. The Seal (confidentiality of the Sacrament) is also incumbent upon the penitent. If one overhears a Confession then one is also bound by the Seal.

Confession must not be recorded, for any reason.  
Please DO NOT take your phone into Confession.

Indeed, phones should be turned off, or at the very least turned to silent / flight mode and **mic switched off** in Church.

Please also be aware that when taking photographs with others in them it is good manners to ask first and seek permission if they are to be posted on social media. There may be very good and serious reasons why someone would not wish to be included, not least due to the new Online 'safety' Act.

**Remember,**  
**O most gracious Virgin Mary,**  
that never was it known  
that anyone who fled to thy  
protection, implored thy help  
or sought thy intercession,  
was left unaided.  
Inspired with this confidence,  
I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins,  
my Mother.  
To thee I come; before thee  
I stand, sinful and sorrowful.  
O Mother of the Word  
Incarnate,  
despise not my petitions,  
but in thy mercy hear  
and answer me. Amen.

**Bishop Marcus'  
Prayer for Vocations:**

*Prayer cards are available  
at the back of the Church*

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.



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**Thank you to all who support the Parish using EASYFUNDRAISING**



QR code in the narthex for those who wish to donate to the Parish via the internet, or scan here: