

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish

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

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Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration week beginning 24/01/26	Intention
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	John & Theresa Bourke & Kathleen Higgins
SUN	10am	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Mon	9:30am	Sts Timothy and Titus	Mary Walsh
Tues	9:30am	St Angela Merici	Maurice Nixon
Wed	12noon	St Thomas Aquinas 7pm - Confirmation at Sacred Heart, Hemsworth. 	Gerard Braim
Thurs	9am	Feria 11am - Funeral Service—Paul Henry	Mary Durkin
Fri	- - -	8:15 (St. Wilfrid's) NO PARISH MASS	Sarah & John Clark
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	James & Mary Monaghan
SUN	10am	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	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



N.B. Mass and Service Time changes.

NO PARISH MASS ON FRIDAY

THIS WEEKEND: SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE POOR MISSION FUND  
WHICH SUPPORTS SMALL PARISHES AND THEIR PRIESTS IN OUR OWN DIOCESE

**Sick List:** Please remember in your prayer: Molly Newton, George & Kaye Gunn, 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, Margaret Wilmott, Grahame Walker, Margaret Crompton, Jimmy Bradley, John O'Hara, Barry Mumby.

In your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of:  
Paul Henry (Service 29th Jan at 11am). Mary Ball and Anthony Bills (Cecilia's brother)  
May they rest in peace.



## Confirmation:

Confirmation celebrated by Bishop Stock, January 28th at 7pm in **Sacred Heart Parish, Hemsworth.**  
**Completed Confirmation cards, with the patron saint and sponsor's details must be returned no later than THIS SUNDAY**

**Adults to be Confirmed— Please speak to Fr Mark after weekend Mass.**

Please remember in your prayers all the candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation as they approach this important step in completing their baptism and full initiation into the life of the Church.

## 1st Sacraments 2026:

**Applications are available after Vigil and Sunday Masses this weekend and will close next weekend. Applications after this will be held over until next 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.



**RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA:** The Diocese will have the privilege of hosting the relics of St Gerard Majella at various venues across the Diocese in the week of 26<sup>th</sup> January. He is popularly invoked as a patron of mothers, particularly expectant mothers, couples trying to conceive and those looking for work. Come along to pray in front of his relics, celebrate Mass and receive a blessing with his relics. For times, dates, venues please see poster on the noticeboard.

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January, Holy Redeemer Parish, Huddersfield—** Mass at St Patrick's at 7pm and blessing with his relics.

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January, St Joseph's, Bradford—** Mass at St Joseph's at 6.30pm and blessing with his relics.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, St Austin's, Wakefield -** Mass at St Austin's at 7pm and blessing with his relics.

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, Leeds Cathedral—** Mass at the Cathedral at 5.30pm and blessing with his relics.

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

## DIOCESAN

**ANNUAL LOURDES DINNER DANCE:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at the Met hotel in Leeds. Tickets are available from Phil Marshall at £45 or £400 for a table of 10. The ticket price includes reception drink, a 3 course Meal, Tea & coffee, DJ and entertainment throughout the evening. To secure your tickets for this popular event, contact Phil on 07766 148375 or email [philmarshall49@outlook.com](mailto:philmarshall49@outlook.com). All profits at the event go to the Diocesan Lourdes fund.

**IRISH NIGHT FUNDRAISER: in aid of the Little sisters of the Poor** rebuild fund February 27<sup>th</sup> 2026, Irish Centre, York Road, Leeds commencing at 7.30pm. Irish meal soda bread and Irish dessert, music and dancing. Auction, raffle and football card, tickets on sale in Irish Centre and also contact Sister Christina email [funds.leeds@lsplondon.co.uk](mailto:funds.leeds@lsplondon.co.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.

**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 25 January, 8 and 22 February, 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)

**VIVALDI'S GLORIA WITH GABRIELI ROAR:** Hear Vivaldi's ever-popular *Gloria* in a vibrant performance by Gabrieli Roar, bringing together Gabrieli's professional singers and orchestra with young singers from choirs across the Diocese of Leeds Schools Singing Programme. The programme opens with Baroque favourites by Monteverdi and Purcell, showcasing music written nearly 350 years ago and still thrilling young singers today. Sat 7 Feb, 7.45 pm

Leeds Cathedral. Book here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/gabrieli/baroque-masters-with-gabrieli-roar/e-xpbxzv>

## VACANCIES

**SENIOR GRANTS AND FUNDRAISING OFFICER VACANCY:** The Finance Department of the Diocese of Leeds, is recruiting a Senior Grants and Fundraising Officer. Based at Hinsley Hall, Leeds. More details at [www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/vacancies/](http://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/vacancies/). Deadline for applications is Friday, 30 January 2026 and first interviews to be held on Wednesday, 4 February.

**DEPUTY HEADTEACHER VACANCY:** St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School, Normanton. Start: **September 2026**.

Closing date: **Monday, 2 February 2026**. Further info: [https://ce0218li.webitrent.com/ce0218li\\_webrecruitment/wrd/run/ETREC179GF.open?WVID=797592QEN&VACANCY\\_ID=992803rP0v](https://ce0218li.webitrent.com/ce0218li_webrecruitment/wrd/run/ETREC179GF.open?WVID=797592QEN&VACANCY_ID=992803rP0v)

To discuss or arrange a visit, contact [sbm@sjb.bkcat.uk](mailto:sbm@sjb.bkcat.uk) or call 01924 891685

**HEAD OF FINANCE VACANCY:** Ten:Ten Resources, a provider of online Catholic teaching content is recruiting. Please visit <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/recruitment/head-of-finance/> for more details.

**PRISON CHAPLAIN VACANCY:** (Open to Roman Catholic Ordained Priests, Deacons, Religious Brothers, Sisters, Lay Person). HMP & YOI New Hall is a closed female prison in Flockton, Wakefield serving a community of around 350 prisoners. Many of our prisoners have complex needs and have lived chaotic lifestyles, therefore this role is both challenging and rewarding in equal measure. Further details at: <https://jobs.justice.gov.uk/careers/JobDetail/13870?entityId=13870> Closing date: 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 For further information/informal chat please contact:

Rev. Lesley Greenwood-Haigh— [Lesley.GreenwoodHaigh@justice.gov.uk](mailto:Lesley.GreenwoodHaigh@justice.gov.uk)

**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.

### Reflection for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."*

This Sunday highlights a central truth of our faith: God's revelation is not abstract or distant. It breaks into human history and into our personal lives.

Isaiah's prophecy of light shining in darkness prepares us to recognize Jesus as the fulfilment of God's promise—a light that guides, heals, and restores.

In the Gospel, Jesus begins His ministry by calling ordinary fishermen.

This is not accidental. It teaches us something essential about discipleship:

- God calls real people in real circumstances, not the already-perfect.
- The call to follow Jesus always involves conversion, a turning away from darkness toward His light.
- Discipleship is active, not passive. The first disciples "left their nets," showing that following Christ reshapes priorities and daily life.

For us, the same pattern holds. Christ's light reaches into our routines, our struggles, our relationships. He invites us to respond—not necessarily by leaving our jobs or homes, but by allowing His Word to reorder our hearts and choices.

**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.

**EASYFUNDRAISING**, a fantastic online platform that enables you to raise **FREE donations with every purchase you make - it won't cost you a penny!** With 8000+ participating retailers, each purchase earns a free donation for our church restoration! Signing up is easy - just use this link: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/cause/st-john-the-baptist-catholic-church-normanton/>  
**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: