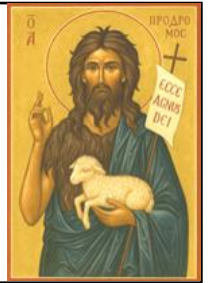


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish

Newland Lane. Normanton. WF6 1BA. PP: Rev. Fr. Mark Naughton MA. KCHS.
Tel: 01924 892172. Email: office.stjohnthebaptist@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Website: www.stjohnthebaptistnormanton.org.uk
facebook.com/people/St-John-the-Baptist-Roman-Catholic-Church-Normanton-Parish
BACS/SO/DD - Sort: 40-27-15 Acc No: 11018094



Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration week beginning 18/04/26	Intention
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 3rd Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
SUN	10am	3rd Sunday of Easter	John Durkin
Mon	9:30am	Weekday of Easter (Class attending)	Anthony & Stephanie Clark
Tues	9:30am	Weekday of Easter (St Anslem)	Alice Wilkinson
Wed	12noon	Weekday of Easter	McDonnell and Roche families
Thurs	9:30am	Solemnity of St George, Patron of England	John Piercy
Fri	9:30am	Weekday of Easter	Lydia Zemnyuska
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 4th Week of Easter	Sarah Ellis & Christine Philips
SUN	10am	4th Week of Easter	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

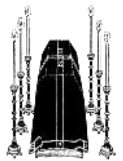
QR Scan for Parish website



Sick List: Please remember in your prayer: Marie Vella, Connor Harrington, Simon MacDermott, Dr John Gallagher, Trevor Durant, John Ellis, Eddie Gillen, Ann Cunningham, Julie Morrison, Pascalina Notsi, Shelia Kaye, Lynne Hartill, Justin Martin, Grahame Walker, Margaret Crompton, Jimmy Bradley, John O'Hara, Zakiia Horodnichenko, Erik Zaskalko.

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Richard Swan who died this past week.
Please remember Margaret and Jim and their family in your prayers. *May he rest in peace.*

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Dr John Gallagher MD. KSG, KSS, KGCHS
Please remember his family in your prayers.
Dr Gallagher's Requiem Mass will be Tuesday 28th April at 11:30am in St John's.
May he rest in peace.



Presbytery:

Due to damage to the roof we are awaiting repairs in the next several weeks in the hopes of limiting water damage etc. In the meantime I STRONGLY suggest people avoid parking by the Sacristy door immediately next to the Presbytery Office.
N.B. We currently have only intermittent email and internet access. This may take some time be restored.

A very sincere thanks to Everyone who worked so hard and in various ways for the Wine Tasting evening.
Many people were involved in the event giving time and energy to make it such a great success.
Thank you to everyone who supported the event. It was, as always, a great night and success!
The event raised a remarkable £727.85!!

My thanks for the recent funeral donations of £115 to the Parish and £115 to CAFOD

NEXT SATURDAY:

1st Sacraments 2026:
Required Preparation Days for 1st Holy Communion
will be 25th April and 9th of May 2026.

Although there is no 10am Mass next Saturday children should come to the HALL for 10am, with a packed lunch and drink.

Once they have completed the required Preparation Days dates for 1st Holy Communion, throughout the summer months, may be booked.

All the children should have made their 1st Confession BEFORE the 25th April Prep Day.

Safeguarding: Please pass any safeguarding issues to Matthew Harris at PSR.Mharris@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Catholic 'Just War theory' is the Church's thousand year moral framework for determining when the use of military force may be morally permissible. At its core, it insists that war is never desirable, always tragic and only tolerable under strict, exceptional conditions. The modern formulation is found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2307–2317) and it builds on the work of St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas. There are four simultaneous requirements for legitimate defence by military force (CCC 2309).

- Lasting, grave and certain damage by an aggressor **must already be occurring**.
- **All peaceful alternatives** must have been **exhausted** or shown to be ineffective.
- **Serious prospects of success** must exist; futile wars are not justified.
- **Proportionality** - Use of arms must not create greater evils than the evil being resisted, especially given modern destructive power.

Catholic Just War teaching is rooted in Scripture and developed through tradition: St. Augustine first articulated the idea that war may be morally permissible when aimed at **restoring peace and justice**. St. Thomas Aquinas systematized the doctrine, identifying three classical requirements: **Legitimate authority. Just cause. Right intention**. These remain foundational to all later formulations.

The Church treats the deliberate targeting of civilians as **a grave moral evil that can never be justified**.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that even in a justified war. If a conflict cannot be fought without significant civilian harm, Catholic teaching leans strongly toward saying: The war cannot be considered just.

Modern Catholic teaching emphasizes that peaceful settlement of disputes is the norm and force is only allowed in exceptional cases. Popes, past and present, have consistently taught that **only defensive war**—never offensive war—is **morally justifiable** and **only after all peace efforts have failed**. The Church teaches that evaluating whether these conditions are met belongs to those responsible for the common good—typically legitimate political authorities. But even then, the moral burden is heavy, and **the goal must always be restoring peace, not conquest or revenge**. In an age of nuclear weapons, drones, and large-scale civilian vulnerability, the Church stresses that the threshold for a just war is **extremely high**. Modern destructive capacity weighs heavily against the moral permissibility of armed conflict.

The problem with wedding oneself to a Political Party, rather than a Political Ideal or Philosophy, is that it makes disagreement with or critical judgement of the actions of a Party far more difficult; it is easy to find oneself having to defend the indefensible. Irrespective of our politics or Party, we are called first to listen to the Gospel and apply it first to ourselves and then to neighbour which include the social and political sphere, Government, Party and wider society. If this is true of each one of us, how much more is it required of the Vicar of Christ who is to proclaim the Gospel, 'in and out of season'! Challenge, the call to accountability, conversion and responsibility of a Party, Leader and Government IS right and appropriate both as part of a healthy democracy and our own Christian duty.

DIOCESAN:

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, <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/leeds-middlesbrough-consultation-2026/>

Solemn Mass in Latin, Vespers and Benediction: Leeds Cathedral, Mass at 12Noon (all welcome to join chant rehearsal at 11am), Saturday 25th April 2026: Join in Sung Mass celebrated by Bishop Marcus Stock, in Latin and with Proper chants from the Graduale Parvum. All welcome. Book online www.latin-liturgy.org/meetings

Vacancies

Catholic Care IS recruiting: Service Manager – Adult LD Services – Fixed Term for 6 months Salary £34,033 - £35,940 pro rata. Based across Leeds & Calderdale. Send CV to recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk

CATHOLIC CARE RECRUITMENT: Two Part-Time Key Leadership roles: Head of Finance & Head of Corporate Services. Salary for either role is £60,000 per annum, pro rata for 22.5hrs per week. Both roles are permanent and based at Head Office, Leeds. Please email charlotte.grinham@catholic-care.org.uk to arrange a mandatory pre-application discussion with Matt Lomas – CEO.

CATHOLIC CARE IS RECRUITING: Care Bank Workers. £14.12 per hour, various locations in Bradford. Support Worker - Part time available to work 16 hours a week. Salary £26,045 – £26,879 pro rata, location: Keighley. email your CV or completed Application Form to recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk Please see website for full details: www.catholic-care.org.uk

Easter Marian Anthem

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare,
alleluia.

Resurrexit, sicut dixit,
alleluia.

Ora pro nobis Deum,
alleluia.

*Queen of Heaven, rejoice,
alleluia.*

*For He whom you did merit
to bear, alleluia.*

*Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.*

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—Thank you!



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