

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish

Newland Lane. Normanton. WF6 1BA. PP: Rev. Fr. Mark Naughton MA. KHS.

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BACS/SO/DD - Sort: 40-27-15 Acc No: 11018094



Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration week beginning 02/08/25	Intention
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Ann McDonnell
SUN	10am	18th Sunday in Ordinary	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Mon	9:30am	St John Vianney, Patron of Parish Priests	Tom Holmes
Tues	9:30am	Dedication of St Maria Maggiore (Our Lady of the Snows)	Tommy Newton
Wed	12noon	The Transfiguration of the Lord	Ruth Burton
Thurs	7pm	St Cajetan	Kathryn Mary Dring
Fri	9:30am	St Dominic (Adoration to 10:30am)	Delia and Jack Crane
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Susan Hartley
SUN	10am	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12:30 — Wedding Service	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo) Sarah Blackburn & James Francy-Frost

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, George & Kaye Gunn, Marie Vella, Connor Harrington, Dianne and Simon MacDermott, Dr John Gallagher, Trevor Durant, John Ellis, Eddie Gillen, Peter Farrell, Brian Lavin, Ann Cunningham, Julie Morrison.

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Sarah Clegg
who died 24th July. Please remember her husband and family in your prayers.
Sarah's Funeral Service—12noon 14th August at St John's. *May she rest in peace.*



In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Bruce
who died peacefully on Friday 25th July. Please remember her family and friends in your prayers.
May she rest in peace.



1st HOLY COMMUNION PARISH CELEBRATION: **10 am Sunday 7th September 2025.**

All those who have celebrated their 1st Holy Communion during the Summer will come together as a group (all dressed up) for the Parish celebration and receive their certificates at the Sunday Mass on the 7th Sept.

Parents and parishioners are asked to bring food along for a 'Shared Table' in the Hall after Holy Mass.

Prince of Wales Hospice, Pontefract:

James will be abseiling down the tower of Wakefield Cathedral in aid of the Hospice, on 16th August, your sponsorship would be much appreciated. A sponsorship form is available in the Narthex.
Fruit baskets can be ordered from plastercast-4-u.com

Altar Servers - Bowling

By way of thanks to our excellent Servers we will take them Bowling on Thursday 28th August (Thursday before their return to School). We will pay for their Bowling and something to eat (dry bread and water). However, parents will need to bring them to Junction 31. To help with booking parents should let me know if their child server intends to come along—no later than MONDAY 11th August. Please either email, WhatsApp or in person after Mass.

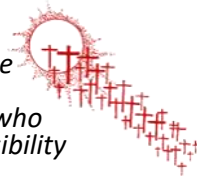
Normanton Town Council will be holding a Free Summer Band Concert at Haw Hill Park, Normanton on Sunday 17th August, from 1pm to 3pm, featuring the Altofts and Normanton Brass Band.

Refreshments after Sunday Mass will resume in September with the 1st Holy Communion celebration.

Pope Leo XIV has expressed his great sadness at Sunday's attack on Christian worshippers in the DRC by an affiliate of the so-called Islamic State. The victims were taking part in an all-night vigil in a church in Ituri province, when fighters attacked them with machetes. Nine of those killed were children.



"I renew my deep pain for the brutal terrorist attack that occurred on the night between 26 and 27 July in Komanda, in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo where more than 40 Christians were killed in a church during a prayer vigil and in their homes. While I entrust the victims to God's loving mercy, I pray for the wounded and for Christians who around the world continue to suffer violence and persecution, exhorting all those with responsibility at the local and international level to collaborate to prevent similar tragedies."



DIOCESAN:

JUBILEE YEAR PRAYER VIGIL: St Mary's, Batley are hosting a Prayer Vigil on the 1st Friday of each month in 2025 entitled: "Crucem, Hostia et Virginem" - *the Cross, the Host and the Virgin*. Opportunity for Confession/receiving the Jubilee Indulgence. Next date Friday 1st August.

FOUNTAINS ABBEY MASS: Mass for the Feast of St Bernard, Wednesday 20th August, 12noon. All welcome.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/yorkshire/fountains-abbey-and-studley-royal-water-garden/events>

ST MARK'S WAY ON THE NATIONAL JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE: begins on Saturday 6 September with 8am Mass at Leeds Cathedral. Walk all or part of the way between the Cathedral and the Jubilee Pilgrimage Church of St Austin.

[See Diocesan website for details of how to sign up.](#)

CATHOLIC CARE ARE RECRUITING: Social Media and Communications Co-ordinator - Salary: £28,726 - £30,163 (Pro Rata), based at Head Office in Leeds. Closing Date: 10 August 2025 please contact recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk for an application form.

Pope Leo XIV has bestowed one of the Church's highest honours on the English saint, St. John Henry, Cardinal Newman, declaring him a "doctor" of the church. The rare designation was announced on Thursday from the Holy See. This decision holds personal resonance for our Holy Father, given St John Henry, Cardinal Newman's profound admiration for St. Augustine, the foundational inspiration for Pope Leo's own Augustinian religious order. The title of "Doctor of the Church" is reserved for individuals whose theological writings have profoundly served the universal church. In the 2,000-year history of the Church, only three dozen figures have been granted this honour, including revered saints such as St Augustine, St. Francis de Sales, St Thomas Aquinas and St. Teresa of Avila.



Sunday Reflection:

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23: "Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!" The author laments the futility of human toil, especially when its fruits are passed on to someone who did not labour for them.

Luke 12:13-21: Jesus tells the parable of the rich fool who stores up wealth but dies before he can enjoy it. "This is how it will be for those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God." The author's cry—"vanity of vanities"—is not a rejection of work or wisdom, but a sobering reminder that **earthly achievements are not ultimate ends**. The rich man in Jesus' parable mirrors this: he builds bigger barns, plans a life of ease, and yet his soul is demanded of him that very night. Man proposes, God disposes. Both readings confront us with the **illusion of permanence**. We labour, we plan, we accumulate—but we cannot control time, not one penny will prolong our life but the stress in striving for it may shorten it. The tragedy is not in wealth itself, but in **placing our trust in it**. Jesus doesn't condemn productivity or planning. What He condemns is **greed and spiritual blindness**. The rich, in pursuit of more and even more, fail to consider other, never thank God, never asks what wealth is for. Life becomes closed circuit of self-indulgence or at least self-centredness and others relegated to the periphery.

The author of Ecclesiastes' lament and Jesus' parable converge on one truth: **life's meaning is not found in possessions, but in purpose and relationship**. That purpose is found in being "rich toward God"—a phrase that invites us to invest in: **Compassion and generosity, Faith and trust in God and Relationships that reflect divine love**.

In our consumer-driven world, success is often measured by accumulation. But Scripture challenges us to ask:

What will endure? What legacy do we leave—not in wealth, but in witness? Do I define my worth by what I own or by who I am in Christ? Am I building barns or building bridges? Do I labour for things that perish, or for treasures that last?

Let us not be fools who build without considering eternity. Let us be wise stewards who recognize that **everything is gift**, and that the greatest investment is in the Kingdom of God. As St. Paul reminds us in Colossians 3 (also part of the Sunday readings): "Seek what is above... not what is on earth." For in Christ, our life is hidden, secure, and eternal.

N.B. During the summer vacation period Matthew Harris will be updating the DBS checks for those that have or are about to run out. Thank you for your help and patience.

Mr Matthew Harris is our Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator:

Safeguarding is important to us all and Matthew does an excellent job, which requires a great deal of time and skill, in keeping up to date with what is required and best practise.

Please note: no adult without a DBS should be in the Sacristy and no adult should be alone with a child or vulnerable adult. The Sacristy door should always be open when servers are present. The Sacristy has CCTV recording at all times and a register of those present in the Sacristy is kept. Photography of children, not your own, is not permitted without consent of the child's parent(s). If you have concerns please raise them with Matthew.

Safeguarding: Matthew Harris at PSR.Mharris@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

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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: