



St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish

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

Tel: 01924 892172. Email: office.stjohnthebaptist@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Website: www.stjohnthebaptistnormanton.org.uk

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Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration week beginning 30/08/25	Intention
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Julie Raby
SUN	10am	22nd Sunday in Ordinary	People of the Parish (<i>Missa pro Populo</i>)
Mon	9:30am	Feria	John Shepherd
Tues	9:30am	Feria	Mary Wong
Wed	12noon	Pope St Gregory the Great, Apostle of the English	Private Intention (AB)
Thurs	9:30am	St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne	Yarema Nagovsky
Fri	9:30am	Feria (<i>Adoration-10:30</i>)	Anthony and Michael Cunningham
SAT	6pm	Vigil for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Patrick McDonnell
SUN	10am	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (1st Holy Communion)	People of the Parish (<i>Missa pro Populo</i>)

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.

Let us, in a particular way this week, remember those who have lost children and family members to violence, hatred and war. Let us remember our brothers and sisters who are grieving and injured after the attack on the parish of the Annunciation in the U.S. this week. Let us remember those killed, grieving and injured in Ukraine



NEXT SUNDAY - 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.

The 1st Communion children should be in the HALL NO LATER THAN 9:45am to form-up for the procession into the Church. They will sit together at the front of the Church.

Cake Stall will resume in September (usually 1st Sunday) but with the First Communicants Shared Table next week, the next Cake Stall will be on 14th September.



This year is a Jubilee Holy Year. In our deanery there will be special Jubilee Masses in each of the parishes. Parishioners are encouraged to go to some or all of these Masses and so become 'pilgrims' in the Holy Year whose theme is Pilgrims of Hope.

The next Mass is: 9th Sept - St. Michael's, Knottingley.

Race Night - Sponsored by: Manufacturing Consultants Ltd.

The Race Nights are very popular indeed and great fun!

The next is on Friday 10th October. 1st Race at 7.30pm.

Tickets - £10 which include Pie & Peas. Bar available. We will soon be looking for Race Sponsors and Owners. The 1st race will be sponsored by #Make-Him-A-Mgr (*Anonymous*)



Server's Bowling - Parent's please note: you will need to collect a form from Fr Mark THIS WEEKEND for Bowling on Tuesday 16th September, 5 –7pm.

We will pay for the Bowling and food, you just have to get them there.

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

DIOCESAN:

MARCH FOR LIFE 2025: Join March for Life UK, Saturday 6th September, London. The right to life underpins every other right and without it every other right is rendered meaningless. Abortion denies the most vulnerable in our society of their most basic right which is why this year's theme is "Human Rights For All Humans." Join thousands at this family-friendly event to recognise the value of life from conception and stand up for all those who have been impacted by abortion.

<https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/> or email: info@marchforlife.co.uk.

ANNUAL LEEDS DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: The Annual Leeds Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place this year on Saturday 27th September. 12:00Noon Angelus and the celebration of Holy Mass, 2:30pm Solemn Procession into the village of Walsingham, 3.30pm Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the grounds of the Ancient Shrine. Bring a picnic lunch!

RACE NIGHT: Catholic Care is hosting a Race Night on Friday 12th September at St Winefride's Church Hall, Bradford.

Tickets are £6 which includes a pie supper. A horse can be secured for £10.

Contact Katrina.Greenhalf@catholic-care.org.uk or 0113 3885400 for tickets.

CATHOLIC CARE COOK VACANCY: Salary: £24,892 to £26,096 pro rata, Post: Permanent. Part Time. 12 hours a week, Location: Based at Bradford, Interview Date: Flexible to suit candidate. Please contact recruitment@catholic-care.org.uk

CATHOLIC CARE RECRUITMENT - REGISTERED MANAGER (ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES): Salary: £40,303 (plus pension and many other benefits) Post: Full Time, 37 hours per week. Location: Based in services across West and North Yorkshire. Closing Date: September 19th. Please see website for details. www.catholic-care.org.uk

CHRIST THE KING/HOLY FAMILY SVP FUNDRAISER: Friday 26th September 2025. Tara Suite, Leeds Irish Centre, York Road, LS9 7NT. Doors open 7.30pm. Entertainment to include a Ceilidh, Leeds Irish Choir, Joyce O'Donnell Irish Dancers, songs from Paul and John. Raffle, Tombola/Bottle and Cake Stall. "Roll the Coin" Whiskey Bottle Challenge. Adults £5/Children £3. Tickets available from Julie (Irish Centre) 0113 2480887, Peggy Sarsfield (07885 582824), Mollie Jackson (07403 660081).

I can not believe how humble I am!

"Conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts." — Sirach 3:17

Today's readings form a symphony of humility, hospitality, and heavenly hope. They invite us to step away from the clamour of self-promotion and into the quiet grace of God's banquet.

The Wisdom of Humility (Sirach 3)

Sirach is probably the oldest of the Greek books in the Old Testament. Originally it was written in Hebrew by an experienced Scribe at Jerusalem a couple of centuries before Christ. The version we have was translated into Greek for Jews of Alexandria by the author's grandson. The book is full of worldly and divine wisdom and a real appreciation of human nature. There is often not a little dry wit too! He reminds us that pride is often a cover-up for personal insecurity. The truly great person has no need to create an impression. Ben Sirach, that ancient sage of practical holiness, urges us to embrace humility—not as weakness, but as spiritual clarity. *"The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself,"* he writes, reminding us that true greatness lies not in status but in surrender. Humility is not self-deprecation. It is the honest recognition of our place before God. It is the soil in which mercy grows. The proud may build monuments, but the humble build relationships. And in the economy of grace, relationships matter more than resumé's.

The Mountain of Encounter (Hebrews 12)

The author of Hebrews contrasts two mountains: Mount Sinai, trembling with fire and fear, and Mount Zion, radiant with joy and communion. We are not called to a religion of terror, but to a covenant of relationship. We approach *"the city of the living God,"* where angels sing and saints rejoice. This is not just poetry for the end of the world—it is a call to live now as citizens of heaven. The humble heart, like Moses removing his sandals on Mount Sinai, knows that every moment can be holy ground. We are not spectators at God's feast; we are guests. And guests do not demand or take—they ask and receive.

The Table of Grace (Luke 14)

Jesus, ever the master of reversal, watches the scramble for seats at the feast and tells a parable that flips the social script. *"Take the lowest place,"* He says. Not because it's strategic, but because it's sacred. In the Kingdom, the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame are not burdens—they are honoured guests. The table of Christ is not reserved for the influential, but for the invisible. And when we invite those who cannot repay us, we mirror the generosity of God.

It is important to remember that some 'disabilities' are seen, others are not.

The word parable means 'throw or to cast alongside' it has the idea of a story which will show us another or deeper way of think about things. Today's parable is certainly about who is called to the table of the Lord, or rather, to the kingdom of the Lord symbolised by the feast. But it also challenges us to think about who is poor, crippled, blind and lame. These things apply certainly to the temporal world and physical body, however, they apply equally to the spiritual world and to the heart, mind and soul. They apply to me, if I have the honesty and courage to accept and understand. They apply to me and so the Lord calls me to the table at the banquet—whether I respond and accept that invitation is part of my lifelong journey of trying to follow Him which begins by accepting that only my pride will keep me from sitting down with the Lord. Humility is not just a virtue—it is the language of heaven. It is the posture of those who know they are loved, not because they earned it, but because God is good and outrageously gracious to those who will allow and receive it.

**Any society that will give up a little liberty
to gain a little security will deserve neither
and lose both.**

Ben Franklin

**Dance like no one is watching,
but text, message, post and email
like they will be exhibit A**

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: