

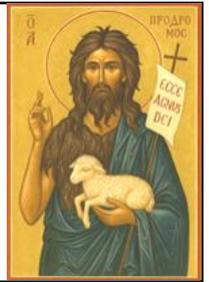
St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish

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

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Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration week beginning 28/03/26	Intention
SAT	6pm	Vigil for Palm Sunday (Clocks Forward 1 hour)	Pat Mumby's Intentions.
SUN	10am	Palm Sunday (Beginning in the Hall)	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Mon	9:30am 1:45pm	Weekday of Lent (Confessions after Mass) Funeral Service for Donald Purdy	Bernard Gees Intentions
Tues	9:30am	Weekday of Lent (Confessions after Mass)	Ann Ward
Wed	12noon	Spy Wednesday (Confessions 11-11.45 + after Mass)	Deceased members of Devine Mercy Group
Sacred Triduum			
Thurs	7pm	Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7pm. 'Watching' for one hour after reposing the Blessed Sacrament	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Fri	3pm 7pm	Good Friday Commemoration of the Lord's Passion Stations	Good Friday is the only day when Mass may not be celebrated for any reason. Instead we commemorate the Lord's Passion
Sat	11am	Polish Blessing of Paschal Food - Świąconka -	
SAT	7:30pm	SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
SUN	10am	EASTER DAY	For Peace in Ukraine and the Middle East

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

Alms Box supporting - Bethlehem Hospice

QR Scan for Parish website

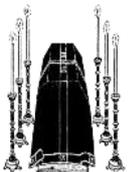


Sick List: Please remember in your prayer: Molly Newton, Marie Vella, Connor Harrington, Simon MacDermott, Dr John Gallagher, Trevor Durant, John Ellis, Eddie Gillen, Peter Farrell, Ann Cunningham, Julie Morrison, Pascalina Notsi, Shelia Kaye, Lynne Hartill, Justin Martin, Grahame Walker, Margaret Crompton,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

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Donald Purdy.

Please remember Gwen and family in your prayers.
Donald's Funeral service will be on Monday 30th March at 1:45pm. *May he rest in peace.*

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of John McGowan
who died peacefully, fortified with the Rites of Mother Church. Please remember Kath and the family
in your prayers. John's Requiem will at 11:30am on Wed 8th April. *May he rest in peace.*



1st Sacraments 2026:

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.



LENTEN DAY OF RECONCILIATION AT THE CATHEDRAL: Tuesday 24th March, 7.00am – 7.00pm.

Confessions available all day with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Confessions at St John's - before Palm Sunday Vigil ending at 5:45 and after also after Mass

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

Easter Egg and Wine Raffle:

There are three hampers with (very nice!!) bottles of wine and Easter Eggs in the Easter Raffle. Tickets are £1 each. Funds to the Lighting Appealing. Tickets on sale in the Narthex.

Wine Tasting Night

Wine Tasting Night - Tickets On Sale

The annual Wine Tasting Night is back! Join us on Friday 10th April from 19:30 in the Canon O'Grady Memorial Hall. Tickets are limited and cost £10 per person, payable cash or card. **50% of tickets are now sold - get yours after Mass this Sunday to not be disappointed.**

Raffle Prize Donations – Wine Tasting Evening (Friday, 10th April)

For our upcoming Wine Tasting Evening, we will be holding a raffle to raise funds for the parish. Tickets will be available beforehand, and you don't need to attend the event to take part in the raffle. We would be very grateful for donations of prizes. **Please bring your contribution to the narthex, clearly marked "raffle donation."** Thank you for helping us make this a memorable and successful evening!



Readers: new rotas are available in the Narthex. Sacred Triduum is a separate list.

Ministers and Stewards: Rotas and lists are also available in the Narthex.

Foot Washing / Mandatum: Please sign up!!!!

The Sacred Triduum—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil—

stands at the heart of the Christian story. It is not just a sequence of liturgies but a single, unfolding mystery: Christ's self-giving love poured out, broken open and raised in glory.

Maunder Thursday: Love That Kneels

Holy Thursday reveals a God who stoops low.

The washing of feet is not a gesture of politeness; it is a radical redefinition of power. Jesus shows that true authority is expressed in service, tenderness and vulnerability.

- The Eucharist becomes the perpetual presence and means of grace.
- The commandment to "love one another" becomes the measure of discipleship.
- The night in Gethsemane exposes the cost of love: the loneliness of obedience and the weight of surrender.

Good Friday: Love That Suffers

Good Friday confronts us with the stark reality of human brokenness—and the even deeper reality of Divine Mercy.

- The cross is not defeat but the fullest expression of love.
- Jesus enters the darkest corners of human experience: betrayal, injustice, abandonment, suffering and death.
- Nothing is too shattered, too sinful, or too lost for God to enter and redeem.

Good Friday invites us to stand at the foot of the cross and let ourselves be seen—fully, honestly—by the One who loves without condition.

Holy Saturday: Love That Waits

Often overlooked, Holy Saturday is the day of silence, absence and uncertainty.

- It is the space between grief and hope
- It mirrors the seasons of life when God feels hidden and the future unclear.
- Yet even in the silence, God is at work in ways unseen.

Holy Saturday invites us to trust in the quiet, to rest in the in-between and to believe that waiting is not wasted.

Easter Vigil: Love That Rises

The Vigil bursts forth with light, fire, water and proclamation.

It is the triumph of life over death, hope over despair and love over every darkness.

- The Resurrection is not just an event; it is a whole new creation.
- The empty tomb is God's definitive "yes" to humanity.
- Baptismal waters remind us that resurrection is not only Christ's story but ours.

The Easter Vigil invites us to step into the light and live as people of the Resurrection—courageous, joyful and renewed.

The Triduum (three days) as a Single Movement of Love.

Taken together, the Triduum is a journey:

From service to sacrifice. From surrender to silence. From silence to uncontainable joy. It is the story of a God who goes to the very depths of human experience to bring us into the fullness of divine life.



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.



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: