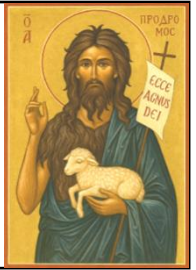






St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish

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 - 30/05/26	Intention
Sat	6pm	 Vigil for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	Yarema
Sun	10am	 Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Mon	9:30am	St Justin, Martyr	Anne-Marie Gallagher
Tues	9:30am	Sts Marcellinus and Peter	John McGowan
Wed	12noon	Sts Charles Lwanga and Companions	Dr John Gallagher
Thurs	7pm	Feria (9 th week in Ordinary Time)	Sheila Martin
Fri	9:30am	St Boniface (Adoration until 10:30)	SVP Intentions
Sat	6pm	Vigil for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi 	People of the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Sun	10am	The Solemnity of Corpus Christi 	Tony Cunningham

Confessions: Saturday - 5:15pm - 5:45pm or on request in Church

Alms Box – Bethlehem Hospice Care

Parish Website QR code



Sick List: 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, Peter Roche, Connor Harrington and Gloria Lenord.

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Eileen Saul

Please pray for Chris Saul and all the family. *May she rest in peace.*

Eileen's Requiem Mass will be at St Joseph's, Pontefract on Thursday 11 June at 1.45pm.

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Sandra Gallivan,

who died peacefully on 26th May, fortified with the Rites of Mother Church. Please pray for her family.

Sandra's Requiem Mass will be Monday 15th June at 10:30am in St Johns. *May she rest in peace.*



This Monday - "Starting from Jerusalem"

Four evening meetings beginning Monday 1st June also 8th, 15th and 22nd at 7 –8:30pm in Canon O'Grady Hall. With the success of the Deanery Masses last year these talks and discussion are aimed at the Deanery and will be given by Provost Canon Aveyard, PP of Castleford and myself.

The first will be on the site, development and recent archaeology of the Holy Sepulchre (the tomb of the Lord) in Jerusalem. Provost Aveyard will lead the second and third sessions on the Eucharist, its development and meaning. Everyone is welcome and there will be refreshments available.

Normanton SVP meetings are now being held in the Narthex at 7.15 on the last Thursday of the month. If you wish to find out a little more about the SVP come along to the meetings. The SVP also wants to thank people for the continued donations that are accepted at the back of the church (placed in the wicker basket). These are greatly appreciated by The Well Food Bank in Normanton and the SVP shop in Wakefield.

Blessed Sacrament Procession: York Oratory 7th June.

The Procession begins at St George's Church, Peel Street, York YO1 9ZP at 3pm and goes, via the Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow on The Shambles, to the Oratory Church of St Wilfrid, Duncombe Place YO1 7EE for approx. 4pm Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with Bishop Marcus. The route is approx. 1 mile.



Cake Stall and Plant Sale

Our next Cake Stall will be Sunday 7th June following Mass, and we'll also be holding a Plant Sale too! If you have any plants or garden items that you would like to gift to support fundraising in the parish please bring them along on 7th June, and you can drop them off before Mass (latest drop of at 09:55 please) in the Canon O'Grady Memorial Hall (opposite the Church). We look forward to you joining us.



June, Month of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart of Jesus:

June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, intimately linked to the Holy Eucharist.

Both the solemnity of Corpus Christi and the Most Sacred heart fall in the month of June.



The Church invites us to contemplate the pierced Heart of Christ, a sign of God's faithful, merciful and inexhaustible love for humanity. It has, for centuries been a Catholic devotion, as prompted by Divine revelation, to have a picture of the Sacred Heart in every home as a means of increased devotion to God's all-embracing love.

The wearing of the Scapula is also strongly encouraged for personal devotion.

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

DIOCESAN:



CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE DIOCESES OF LEEDS, MIDDLESBROUGH AND HALLAM:

As part of the consultation currently taking place across our three Dioceses, there is an opportunity for all clergy, religious and members of the lay faithful to contribute by completing an 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, please visit:

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

CATHOLIC CARE GARDEN PARTY: Join us on Sunday 19th July 12.30pm at Catholic Care Head Office for our summer fundraiser! Enjoy live music from Voices of Yorkshire, BBQ, games, raffles, cakes and more. Browse the clothes and book sale, try henna, relax with friends and family. Free entry. Proceeds support Catholic Care's work in the community.

Diocese of Leeds Music Vacancy: We wish to appoint a Choral Director to work in the Schools Singing Programme in Bradford. For more information, please visit dolmusic.uk/vacancies or contact recruitment@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk.

Closing Date: 1 June 2026, 5 pm.

Recruitment for a Chief Executive Officer: Blessed Chiara Badano Catholic Education Trust (BCBCET). The Diocese of Leeds invite applications for this position. Closing date: Monday 8th June. For an informal and confidential discussion, please contact Kieron Flood, education.admin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk. For further information, please see the poster at the back of Church.

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.



Pope Leo XIV's New AI Encyclical: *Magnifica Humanitas* – *Magnificent Humanity*

Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, addresses the moral, social, political and economic implications of artificial intelligence. He launched it in personal which is a unique step and one which speaks of the urgency of his concern. An Encyclical is the most authoritative document a Pope can issue, and it positions AI as one of the defining challenges of the modern era. His Venerable Predecessor and namesake, Pope Leo XIII on 15 May 1891 issued one of the most important encyclicals on social issues named *Rerum Novarum*. (Encyclicals usually take the name of the first few words of the document). It is the foundational document of **modern Catholic social teaching**, addressing the rights and duties of workers and employers during the upheavals of the Industrial Revolution. The encyclical responded to: Industrialisation, Exploitation of workers, Poverty in urban centres, The rise of socialism and unregulated capitalism. Leo XIII argued that both extremes — laissez-faire capitalism and state socialism — fail to respect human dignity, reducing people to mere tools and product. *Rerum Novarum* insists workers have the right to: **A just wage - Reasonable working hours - Safe working conditions - Rest - Form trade unions**. This was radical for 1891 and helped legitimise labour movements worldwide.

It strongly rejects socialism's call to abolish private property. Insisting that owning property is: A natural right - A safeguard for family stability - A just reward for labour. However, it also insists property owners have **moral obligations** to use wealth justly. It insists that the State must: Protect workers - Regulate industry when necessary - Support the poor and promote the common good, but it must **not** replace families, unions or private initiative.

In *Magnifica Humanitas* Pope Leo XIV warns that AI is rapidly becoming a force that could **deepen inequality, weaken democracy and shift power to a small group of tech companies and individuals** unless governments intervene. He stresses that AI is **not inherently evil, but it is never neutral** — it reflects the values of those who design and control it.

He calls for AI to be **"disarmed"**, meaning freed from logics of domination, competition and militarisation.

Across multiple sections, the encyclical urges: **Robust legal frameworks - Independent oversight - Slowing down AI development where necessary - Preventing lethal or irreversible decisions from being delegated to AI systems.**

He explicitly states it is **"not permissible"** to entrust life-and-death decisions to autonomous weapons.

Warnings About Concentrated Power: Pope Leo highlights that a handful of companies now control vast amounts of data and digital infrastructure. This concentration risks: Manipulating information - Influencing democratic processes - Steering economic systems - Excluding poorer communities from technological benefits. He argues this dynamic threatens **social justice, solidarity and human dignity**. The use of tech by Governments and Companies alike to **'control the narrative'** in opposition to the democratic expression of the people undermines the rights of individuals to free expression.

Pope Leo compares the AI boom to the Industrial Revolution, noting that both eras raise profound questions about: **The future of work - Workers' rights - Economic inequality - Human identity and agency**. He warns that AI could destroy meaningful work and create new forms of **"digital slavery"** if left unchecked. The encyclical is not anti-technology. Pope Leo emphasises that technology should be guided by **responsible, ethical use**, not abandoned. He stresses that slowing down AI development is not opposing progress but **protecting the human family**. Drawing on Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, the Pope urges humanity to resist the temptation to control everything and instead focus on small, steadfast acts that uphold human dignity. He frames the future as a choice between: Building a new **"Tower of Babel"** Or a world where technology and humanity coexist in harmony.

Pope Leo invited Anthropic co-founder Chris Olah to the launch event, (an unprecedented move) signalling a desire for dialogue with AI developers even as the Pope sharply criticises Big Tech's power.

In Summary *Magnifica Humanitas* is a sweeping, urgent call for: **Ethical AI development - Global regulation - Protection of workers and children - Limits on autonomous weapons - Democratic control over data and digital infrastructure - A human-centred technological future.** It positions AI as a moral crossroads for humanity — one that requires courage, restraint and collective responsibility.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for the Month of June:

For the values of sports: Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values of respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

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: