

# WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF ST JOSEPH, PONTEFRACT

Incorporating the Churches of St. Michael, Knottingley & St. Joseph, Tanshelf

Registered Charity No. 249404

## St Joseph's Presbytery

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### Parish Secretary:

Christine Harrison

### Website:

[www.parishofstjoseph.co.uk](http://www.parishofstjoseph.co.uk)

### Follow us on:

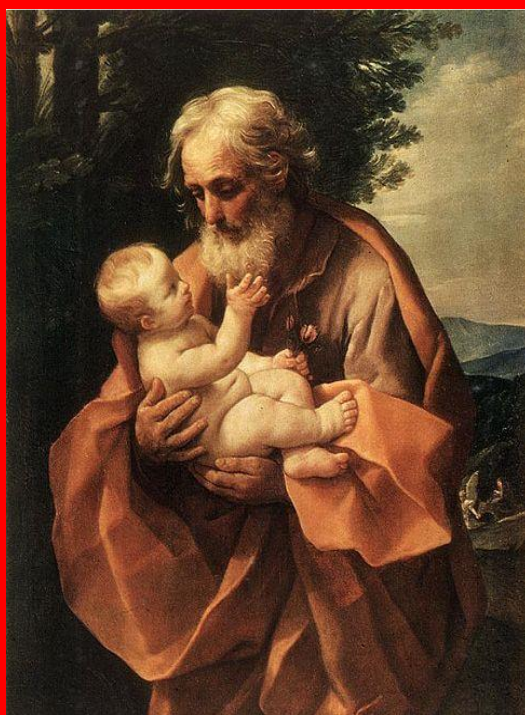
Facebook ([parishofstjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/parishofstjoseph)) and  
Twitter (@ParishofStJ)

### Bulletin Deadline:

Wednesday evening.

Parish Priest: Fr. Simon Lodge

Pastor Emeritus Fr. Bernard Funnell



## OUR SCHOOLS

St Joseph:

Headteacher: Michaela Tomlin

01977 701493

email: [admin@sjp.bkcat.co.uk](mailto:admin@sjp.bkcat.co.uk)

Holy Family & St Michael:

Headteacher: Claire Cade

01977 798303

email:

[admin@hfsm.bkcat.co.uk](mailto:admin@hfsm.bkcat.co.uk)

St Wilfrid's High School

Tel: 01977 691000

Headteacher: Helen Gilroy

Email:

[admin@st-wilfrids.bkcat.co.uk](mailto:admin@st-wilfrids.bkcat.co.uk)

### Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Julie Birch: 01977 277083 & Christine Harrison: 07739  
841124

### Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Readers

Tom Moran: 07973 285260, email -  
[tommoran333@btinternet.com](mailto:tommoran333@btinternet.com)

### Health & Safety Representatives

St Joseph's - James Jarman: 07970 333905  
St Michael's - Richard Spyrka

### Hall Hires

St Joseph's School Hall, Christine Wilson: 07810 105742  
St Michael's Church Hall, Paula Saul: 07305 318683 or  
Duncan Saul; 07827 357838

## SERVICES SCHEDULE

### Sunday Mass Times

St Michael's.....09:00

St Joseph's.....11:30 & 18:00

### Mass in Polish

St Joseph's: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month...16:15

### Syro Malabar Knanaya Mission Mass

St Michael's: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month...15:00

### Rosary:

St Joseph's .....after weekday Mass

St Michael's.....30 mins before weekday Mass

### Divine Mercy chaplet:

30 minutes before Friday Mass

### Confessions

Scheduled Confession

St. Michael's: Saturdays.....10:45 to 11:20

St Joseph's: Sundays.....10:45 to 11:15

Or by appointment

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

St Joseph's: Wednesdays .....10:00 to 10:50

St Michael's: Saturdays .....10:45 to 11:20

### Childrens' Liturgy Groups

St Joseph's.....Sundays at 11.30am Mass  
during school term time.

St Michael's.....Sundays at 9am Mass  
throughout the year.

# Palm Sunday & Holy Week – Year C

## This Week's Schedule & Mass Intentions

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	14/04	St Michael's	09:00	Gemma Coyle
		St Joseph's	11:30	Gordon Duker
		St Joseph's	16:15	Polish Mass
		St Joseph's	18:00	People of the Parish
Monday	15/04	St Joseph's	09:15	Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday	16/04	St Michael's	12:00	Mass of Anointing for the Sick & Housebound followed by Confessions
		St Joseph's	18:00	Reception of Maddy Baughan's body
Wednesday	17/04	The Cathedral	11:00	Chrism Mass
		St Joseph's	12:00	Requiem: Magdalen Baughan
		St Giles	19:00	Tenebrae
Maundy Thursday	18/04	St Michael's	18:15 to 18:45	Confessions
		St Michael's	19:00	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Followed by Watching until 22:00
Good Friday	19/04	Pontefract War Memorial	12:00	Ecumenical Walk of Witness.
		St Michael's	14:15 to 14:45	Confessions
		St Michael's	15:00	Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Death
		St Joseph's	19:00	Stations & Veneration of the Cross Followed by Confessions
Holy Saturday	20/04	St Joseph's	12:00	Swięconka – Polish blessing of Easter Food
		St Michael's	19:30	Solemn Vigil of Easter
Easter Sunday	21/04	St Michael's	09:00	People of the Parish
		St Joseph's	11:30	Priest's Intentions
		St Joseph's	13:00	Polish Mass
		St Michael's	15:00	Knanaya Mission Mass
No Evening Mass				

### LATELY DEAD

Please pray for Maddy Baughan whose Requiem takes place this week and for David Westwood who died recently. May they rest in peace and may all who mourn them be comforted.

### OUR LADY'S LAMP INTENTIONS

**Suspended this week as no candles will be alight on Thursday until the Easter Vigil.**

### CHURCH CLEANING:

**St Joseph's:**  
S Metcalfe, J Battersby  
**St Michael's:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each Month  
Help always welcome

### Last Week

Mass Count: **630**  
Envelopes **£761** Loose **£551**

### This Week's Draws

**St Michael's**  
Pool No.28 A Oldfield £20  
**St Joseph's**  
Pool No 44 P.O'Duffy £20

### MEETINGS

**SVP** – Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm  
in St Joseph's Parish Room  
**UCM** – Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April,  
7 pm in St Michael's Hall  
**CAFOD** – Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> April,  
7pm in St Joseph's Parish Room

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES** – A leaflet is available at the back of both churches today which details times of all the relevant services for this most important week in our year. Please take one home for yourself and maybe for someone who needs a 'prompt' in returning to the practice of their Faith.



**JEAN CHAMBERS FUNERAL** – Thank you to the very many people who have contributed thus far to help defray the expenses accrued for Jean's funeral which took place last Tuesday. You can put cash in an envelope and hand it to Father or write a cheque made payable to "St

Joseph, Pontefract". If you wish to make a bank transfer then please transfer to Sort Code 40 27 15, Account Number 71162519 and include the reference "JC Funeral". **There will be a retiring collection this weekend which will bring to a close our efforts to raise funds for the funeral.**

**EASTER EGG RAFFLE** – Eddie Ashton, of Ashton's Funeral Directors, has very kindly donated a beautifully crafted Betty's

Easter Egg to the parish with the suggestion that we raffle it. Proceeds from the raffle will go to off-set the expenses incurred by Jean's funeral. Tickets are on sale after Mass today and next weekend, priced only £1 per ticket. The raffle will be drawn at the end of the 11.30am Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday (28<sup>th</sup> April). Once again, we thank Eddie for his generous help in dealing with Jean's funeral.

**BAPTISMS AND CONVERTS** – Please keep the following people in your prayers as they prepare to receive the life changing sacramental graces of the Holy Season at the Easter Vigil: Andy and Julian who are to be baptised; Carol, Charlotte, Oliver and Susan who are to be received into full communion with the Church. (Since the beginning of the year, Fr Simon has already received Rob Harvey and Joanna Jackson into full communion with the Church.) We shall be baptising 3 children at the 11.30am Mass on Easter Sunday. Glory be to God who uses our community to draw people to His Sacred Heart. **NB: Attendance at the Easter Vigil fulfils the Sunday obligation. There will be no 6pm Mass on Easter Sunday.**

**EXPOSITION & CONFESSION** – The regular schedule will be suspended until Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May. However, you are very welcome to approach the priests if you wish your Confession to be heard

**MASS FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND** – The Lenten Mass for the sick will take place in **St Michael's on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon**. Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to canvas the people they visit to see if they are able to attend. There will be opportunity for Confessions after that Mass. In case you were wondering, there is no requirement for you to be either sick or housebound in order for you to attend!

**CHRISM MASS** – On Wednesday at 11am, the Bishop will bless the oils which we use in our sacramental life. These will come to the parish on Holy Thursday. You are welcome to attend this Mass in Leeds Cathedral.

**TENEBRAE** – This service of the 'extinguishing of the lights' sets the scene for the Sacred Triduum. The service will be led by the beautiful choir in St Giles' Church at 7pm on Wednesday. Amidst the chaos of our modern world it provides a powerful salutary reflection of human experience subject to the 'forces of this world' through scripture and chant.

**THE SACRED TRIDUUM** – These are the 3 days that are at the centre of our Faith: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday. Everything we believe in and hope for hinges on these 3 days and so you are encouraged MIGHTILY by your Parish Priest to attend as much of it as you can, if not all. Working patterns make this difficult for some people, but not all. This year, all the major services will take place in St Michael's church so that we can preserve some liturgical continuity. If you are unable to attend the Good Friday Passion at 3pm there will be opportunity to make your veneration of the Cross during the Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's on Friday at 7pm.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** – During this Mass we will have the Washing of the Feet as mandated by our Saviour. As in years gone by, we shall take some time to wash each others feet, so come prepared. No one is forced to do this, but neither are you allowed to sit and tut-tut as it takes place. If you're not going to take part, make sure you've brought your rosary beads so that you can pray for your parish. Idle hands...etc

**CONFESSIONS/EASTER DUTIES** – You are reminded that as a Catholic you are obliged to make your Confession at least once a year. Fr Simon will be hearing Confessions after all the Sunday Masses this weekend. In addition, Confessions will be heard at the following times during the week:

- After Mass on Tuesday (St M's)
- Before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday (St M's)
- Before the Passion on Good Friday (St M's)
- After Stations of the Cross on Good Friday (St J's)

After these slots, Confessions will only be heard over the next 2 weeks on request. (After all the opportunities offered during Lent and Holy Week, pick your moment to 'request' very carefully!!) The normal schedule will resume on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

Some examinations of conscience have been left at the back of church to remind us of a few home truths, all of which can be roundly dealt with in the "Tribunal of Mercy", otherwise known as the Confession Box !!

**ECUMENICAL WALK OF WITNESS** – This will take place in

Pontefract town centre at 12 noon on Good Friday. Please make every effort to attend this short, prayerful walk from the War Memorial to the Buttercross together with our fellow Christians in the town. Inch by inch our religion is being forced into the shadows; this is one way in which we can stand up and together for Our Blessed Lord and our Holy Faith.

**SWIECONKA** – Once again, we shall participate in this wonderful Polish tradition. You are invited to bring small representations of your Easter table which will be blessed by the priest. Recent years have been extremely well attended for this very short service of prayer and blessing. If you wish to learn more about how to decorate your basket and what to bring in it you can swat up by simply typing SWEICONKA into your search engine. The service will take place in St Joseph's at 12 noon on Holy Saturday.

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE:** The Lenten fast concludes with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday night, so you can do a spot of feasting that evening! True, Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence (compulsory for those in good health and between the ages of 14 and 59) but this is distinct from the Lenten fast. We are encouraged, but not mandated, to observe some kind of fast or penance on Holy Saturday as we prepare to renew our baptismal promises at the Easter Vigil or on Easter Sunday.

**READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS** - Schedules have been placed at the rear of each of our churches showing the times and locations of Services over the Easter period and indicating the requirements for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers on each occasion. It would be good to have the schedules completed today so that we can identify any outstanding requirements well in front of the start of Holy Week. Please add your name to the schedules, if possible and appropriate, at your earliest convenience.

**ALTAR SERVERS' REHEARSALS:** If you are planning on serving at any of the Triduum services, it is imperative that you attend the rehearsals for servers. They are as follows:

Holy Thursday: 6pm Good Friday: 2pm Holy Saturday: 6.30pm

All rehearsals will take place in St Michael's church.

**CAFOD** - Thanks to all who helped us raise £459 for Lent Fast Day and £165 Family Soup Day.

**LENTEN APPEAL: MARY'S MEALS** - Please return your white boxes at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. You can find out more about "Mary's Meals" at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/> After Easter, there will be further information available about on-going projects associated with Mary's Meals which you are able to support in very practical ways, over and above simple financial support. Watch this space!

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** – Envelopes for use from April are available for collection from the back of our churches. All remaining boxes will be at St Michael's for 9am Mass this Sunday and then at St Joseph's for 11:30am & 6pm Masses returning to St Michael's for the Holy Week and Easter Services. If you don't have a set of Envelopes and would like one, there are some boxes without names on available at the back of our churches. Please take a box, complete the form inside the box and return it to Fr Simon or Vince McGuire.

**EASTER COLLECTION** – Just a little reminder that your collection next weekend makes up a substantial part of your Pastor's salary. Note carefully, the growing hole in the sole of his shoe! Thank you .

### O BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mother of God and our most gentle Queen and Mother, look down in mercy upon England thy "Dowry" and upon us all who greatly hope and trust in thee.

By thee it was that Jesus our Saviour and our hope was given unto the world; and He has given thee to us that we might hope still more.

Plead for us thy children, whom though didst receive and accept at the foot of the cross, O sorrowful Mother

Intercede for our separated brethren, that with us in the one true fold they may be united to the chief Shepherd the Vicar of thy Son.

Pray for us all, dear Mother, that by faith fruitful in good works we may all deserve to see and praise God together with thee, in our heavenly home. Amen

Our Lady of Walsingham,  
**pray for us.**

## A Word From Your Pastor

Last Tuesday's Requiem for Jean Chambers has to rank as one of the high points in my life as a priest and specifically as your parish priest. It was a demonstration of everything that is good, honest, proper and honourable about our wonderful Catholic Faith. But more than that, it involved members of the wider community, and people who have no connection to our Faith or our parish have gone out of their way to make offers of help to us. This is not the sort of thing that makes headlines or is even of any remote interest to media channels of any description. Why? Quite simply, because it is Good News, Faith in action. It speaks of the Kingdom of God as a reality on earth here and now and not just pie-in-the-sky in heaven.

And that is what has made my heart swell with pride this week. What a thing it is to belong to such a community! Of course, this is not something that has just been knitted together over the last few years. Such goodness has very deep roots. We were made this way by the people who formed us and created an environment of Faith for us to grow into. The beautiful living tapestry of the Catholic Faith is stitched together over centuries by countless good deeds, many of them hidden and known only to God. Such actions, however great or small, build something beautiful for God which sometimes we can only see if we take time to step back and look. Lent is a time to take that long view and to build up resistance to the 'way of the world' through deeper prayer and disciplined fasting. In this way, we shunt the ways of the world to one side and create more space for the ways of the Kingdom.

That was obviously the case last Tuesday when I saw the men of the parish (including two of our young altar servers) bearing Jean's coffin to the altar steps at the start of her Requiem Mass. They carried her mortal remains through a large body of people most of whom never even met Jean (because they went to a different Mass or parish or, quite simply, aren't Catholic). It wasn't just the arms of a half dozen blokes that carried her to God, nor the voices raised in song that sang her on her way to heaven; nor the generosity of those who couldn't be present; she was also borne along on the years of faithful prayer that have formed our parish community and have created the multitude of saints who are waiting to welcome her into the halls of heaven. And it was also Jean's own fidelity to her Faith that bore her along.

And all this flows from the sacrifice of love shown by the Lord of Love on the Hill of Calvary. This week as we immerse ourselves in the familiar stories and (sort of) familiar rituals of Holy Week, let us remind ourselves that we are attending the services and making the observances in an attempt to catch some of that Divine Love as it pours down the centuries for the good of our own souls, yes; but also for the good of the many other souls that seem inconsequential or dispensable to the 'world' but which are very, very precious in the sight of God. What I witnessed on Tuesday was a community that was very aware of how precious we all are to God; and it was wonderful to behold. Thank you. **Fr Simon**

### Lenten Inspiration:

To be a conduit for the all-penetrating, all-conquering rays of Divine Love – this was God's original idea for all of us.

*Mary Roman. OCD*