

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.parihofstjoseph.co.uk

Follow us on:

Facebook (parihofstjoseph) and
Twitter (@ParihofStJ)

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

Holy Family & St Michael:

Headteacher: Claire Cade
01977 798303

email:

admin@hfsm.bkcat.co.uk

St Wilfrid's High School

Tel: 01977 691000

Headteacher: Helen Gilroy

Email:

admin@st-wilfrids.bkcat.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Julie Birch: 01977 277083 & Christine Harrison: 07739
841124

Health & Safety Representatives

St Joseph's - James Jarman: 07971 490273
St Michael's - Richard Szyrka

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Readers

Tom Moran: 07973 285260, email -
tommoran333@btinternet.com

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: 2nd Sunday of each month...16:15

Syro Malabar Knanaya Mission Mass

St Michael's: 2nd Sunday of each month...16:00

Rosary:

St Joseph'safter 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: Wednesdays10:00 to 10:50
St Michael's: Saturdays10:45 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.

Second Sunday of Advent, Year C

This Week's Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sunday	09/12	St Michael's St Joseph's St Joseph's	09:00 11:30 18:00	John Richards James & Annie McCormack John Thomas Caine
Monday	10/12	St Joseph's	09:15	Word & Communion
Tuesday	11/12	St Joseph's Crematorium St Joseph's St. Joseph's	09:15 11.40 16:00 19:00	November Dead List Funeral: Ted Sands Reception of Body of Doris Dunning into Church Advent Talk: Fr.Hilton
<i>St Damasus</i>				
Wednesday	12/12	St Joseph's	10.45	Requiem: Doris Dunning
<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>				
Thursday	13/12	St Joseph's	09:15	November Dead List
<i>St Lucy</i>				
Friday	14/12	St Joseph's	09:15	November Dead List
<i>St John of the Cross</i>				
Saturday	15/12	St Michael's	11:30	November Dead List
Sunday	16/12	St Michael's St Joseph's St. Joseph's	09:00 11:30 18:00	People of the Parish Thanksgiving & B.Day Anniv Emmanuel & Anthony Maggie Wigglesworth.
Third Sunday of Advent				

LATELY DEAD

Please pray for Doris Dunning and Ted Sands whose funerals take place in the coming week and for all who have died recently. May they rest in peace and may all who mourn them be comforted.

OUR LADY'S LAMP INTENTIONS

St Joseph's Lady's Lamp Intention for this coming week:

Harrison Family

St Michael's Lady's Lamp Intention for this coming week:-

Sick of the Parish

If you wish to have a lamp burning night and day for an in front of the statues of Our Lady in either of churches then please take an envelope from the back of church, write on your intention and hand it to the priest. Please provide a minimum donation of £5 per envelope.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Vigil Mass - St Michael's 5pm - live Crib at 4.45pm

Midnight Mass - St Joseph's - Carols at 11.30pm

Christmas Day Mass - St Joseph's 10am

Mass in Polish - St Joseph's 1pm

Last Week

Mass Count: **663**
Envelopes **£838** Loose **£520**

This Week's Draws

St Michael's
Pool No. 47 J.Keogh - £20

St Joseph's
Pool No.97 P.O' Duffy- £20

MEETINGS

SVP – Tuesday, 8th Jan, 7pm in St Joseph's Parish Room
UCM – Wednesday, 16th Jan, 9:30 in St Michael's Hall
CAFOD – Wednesday, 24th Jan in St Joseph's Parish Room

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL ADULT PRAYER GROUP
Held in the loft, every Wednesday at 8.30am.
ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL ADULT PRAYER GROUP
Held on Wednesday's at 8.30am.

CHURCH CLEANING:

St Joseph's:
M Gilbertson & B Smith

St Michael's:
Friday 14th December at
9:30am, everyone welcome

WORK AT OUR CHURCHES – This Monday, 10th December work starts to take up the carpet in the Sanctuary at St Michael's and replace it with a laminate type flooring. Check the Schedule above for Service times and location. To prepare for this work we will need volunteers to stay after 9am Mass **THIS SUNDAY**, 9th December to help to remove the Altar, statues, lectern etc. Further help will be needed to give everything a good clean down and return everything to the Sanctuary on Friday morning from 9.30am.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION – As we prepare for the great feast of Christmas we must be careful that the 'inside' is as well prepared as the 'outside' Heaven forbid that we should be accused of being "all fur coat and no you-know-whats"! To this end, Fr Simon will be available to hear your Confession immediately after all Sunday Masses as well as the usual schedule.

POLISH MASS – From January 2019, Fr Jan will come to St

Joseph's to celebrate Mass in Polish on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month.

ADVENT MASS FOR SICK AND HOUSEBOUND – NB CHANGE OF DATE The seasonal Mass will take place at noon in St Michael's church on Tuesday 18th December followed by a little pre-Christmas party in St Michael's hall. Eucharistic Ministers are asked to canvas the people they visit to see if they will be attending. The SVP are coordinating this event so if you'd like to volunteer your services/time, please speak to one of the members.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES – Please take a look at the lists posted at St Joseph's & St Michael's churches seeking Eucharistic Ministers and Readers for our Christmas Services. Please add your name as appropriate to enable us to have complete and seamless assistance for the Masses.

CASTLEFORD CHORAL SOCIETY – Once again, we are delighted

to be able to host this renowned group of singers/musicians for their annual Christmas programme. The concert will take place next Saturday, 15th December, in St Joseph's church at 14.30. Tickets are £8 and you are welcome to pay at the door. The proceeds will be split between the Society and this parish.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION – Young people who have handed in their petition forms and are asked to go to the sacristy after attending Sunday Mass each week to sign the register.

FIRST CONFESSION/HOLY COMMUNION – Parents wishing to enrol their child on the catechetical course are invited to take a form and schedule from Fr Simon after Mass. If your child made First Confession last year and they are hoping to make First Communion this (academic) year, parents must take a Safeguarding consent form as well as a schedule. The forms need to be returned AFTER Christmas. Copies of the schedule are attached and are available in English and Polish.

DIOCESAN YEARBOOK 2019 - Limited number of copies of the Diocesan Yearbook for 2019 are available for the price of £4 each. Please put your money in with the regular paper money.

CREEPING TO THE CRIB – a pre-Reformation custom in this country was 'Creeping to the Cross'. As Easter drew nearer, the Faithful would approach the Cross on their knees as an external sign of interior humility and gratitude before the image of salvation. The Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday is linked to this act. 'Creeping to the Crib' has been adapted along those lines. As we clean out our homes and our souls (in the Confessional) we are consciously preparing a place for the Son of God to dwell; we are actively welcoming Him into our lives. Alongside the 'shell' of the crib which has been erected this weekend in both of our churches you will find a bag of straw. Over the next few weeks, the children are going to 'furnish' Jesus' manger; they are going to prepare a place for Him in our churches as well as our hearts. Please feel free to call in to the church at any time and encourage them to place a *small* handful of straw into the crib. It will look sparse at first but bit by bit we will build up the Nativity scene together. As they/you put straw into the crib perhaps you could simply say "Come, Lord Jesus." Alternatively, you can offer any prayer you like.

CAN YOU HELP – Volunteers are needed to help with refreshments and the 100 Club following 11:30 Sunday Mass at St Joseph's. If you would like to help out, have a chat with Brenda & Alan any Sunday before the 23rd December and they will explain what is involved. Lists will be available at the back of St Joseph's for you to add your name so a rota can be created.

PRINCE OF WALES HOSPICE, LIGHT UP A LIFE – Join with the Hospice to remember someone you love this Christmas. Sunday 9th Dec, 3pm, St Luke's Church, Sharlston. Tuesday 11th Dec, 7pm, St Mary's Church, Badsworth. Wednesday, 12th Dec, 7pm, Holy Cross Church, Airedale. Thursday 13th Dec, 7pm, The Prince of Wales Hospice Garden.

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST – Thank you for your names and donations. The list is now closed and is on display in both churches. Please check it and notify us of any corrections that may be necessary. 70 Masses will be said throughout the coming year.

KNOTTINGLEY CHURCHES TOGETHER - will be singing Christmas Carols in Morrisons at Knottingley from 6.30pm on Wednesday 12th December. Why not come along and help to remind the frazzled shoppers what 'it's' all about!

ACHWORTH CHURCHES TOGETHER – Carols around the Christmas Tree will take place on Sunday 16th December from

3.30pm. Wrap up warm, as the singing will be mainly outside. Also, there'll be carol singing in the new Brackenhill estate on Thursday 13th from 6pm. Whatever the weather, there'll be singing!

LUNCH WITH THE MINI VINNIES – St Joseph's Mini Vinnies would like to invite 'senior' members of our parish community to join them for a hot meal for just £3 in the warmth of St Joseph's Hall on Wednesdays at 12 noon during school term time. If you would like to come, please let us know by the Monday of each week by calling 01977 701493 (School Office). On the day, please come to the School Reception.

A NEW GAS LINE - Is being planned between Ferrybridge and Gateforth and a consultation period/Information dissemination will take place by SSE at various locations. Plans and details of information locations are available on the notice board at the back of churches or at: www.sse.com/ferrybridged/ your comments are invited via email ferrybridged@sse.com or by post Ferrybridge D Consultation. C/O Ferrybridge Power Station. Stranglands lane. Knottingley. WF11 8SQ. Submissions must be made by 5:00pm Monday 17th December.

SNAITH METHODIST CHURCH – Invite you to celebrate Christmas on Thursday 13th December at 7:30pm with the Snaith and District Choral Society. Light Refreshments available, Donations Welcome.

CAFOD – Our Fairtrade stall took over £200 – A huge Thank You to everyone who helped us raise over £2,100 this year. Monies raised will go towards relieving suffering in many places worldwide.

TOMBOLA – Donations urgently required for St. Michael's tombola stall. Please leave items at back of church.

Spiritual Programme

ADVENT – Fr Josh Hilton will be coming to give a talk about Advent and the spirit of preparation for Christmas on Tuesday 11th December, 7pm in St Joseph's.

CATECHETICAL COURSES – In February and March, and then again May and June 2019, there will be a series of short courses on the following subjects: Catholic Social Teaching, Lay Chaplaincy in Schools, Liturgy, Catholic Schools and Religious Education, Family Life Ministry or Youth Ministry. For further details of any of these courses please contact Emma on 0113 261 8040 or evangelisation.admin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

PARISH PILGRIMAGES TO POLAND AND ITALY Next year we are running 2 pilgrimages. The first to Krakow, Poland, and the sites associated with St John Paul II commences on 13th May 2019. The second to Assisi and San Giovanni Rotondo and the sites associated with St Francis and St Padre Pio runs from 5th October. Further details, booking forms and costs are available from Mary McAteer, telephone:- 01977 218100

PRAYER TO MICHAEL, ARCHANGEL

Holy Michael, Archangel, defend us in the day of battle.

Be thou our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all wicked spirits, who roam through the world for the ruin of souls.

Amen

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

Since the Feast of Christ the King two weeks ago, we have been reflecting on what it is, what it means to enthrone Christ at the centre of our lives (and the consequences for us so-called Christians, and the society in which we live, if we don't do this). Today, as we move deeper into Advent we are presented with the figure of John the Baptist. During this last week, I came across a simple meditation on St John the Baptist on the internet which you may find useful as a reflection.

Jesus Himself stated that "among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11). What a compliment! What is it that made John so great? We can point to two things in particular. The first has to do with his calling and the second has to do with his virtue.

First of all, John was great because he was the transition from the Old Testament Prophets to the New Testament. He was the bridge that prepared for the new life to come. His unique mission makes him truly great. But John was great not only because of his unique calling, he was also great because of the virtue he had in his life. And it is this gift that is worth pondering for our own inspiration more than any other. The particular virtue that John had was that of humility. He saw himself as nothing other than a "voice of one crying out in the desert." And the Word he spoke/cried out was Jesus.

John acknowledged that he was not even worthy to stoop down and untie the sandal straps of Jesus (Mark 1:7). He was praised by many and followed by many and yet he continuously said of Jesus that "He must increase and I must decrease" (John 3:30). John was not in it for praise and honor; rather, his mission was to point everyone to the Savior of the world. He could have sought the honor and praise of many and he would have certainly received it. They may have even made him king. But John was more than willing to fulfill his mission and then submit himself to the cruel sword of his executioner. His humility was such that he was focused only on Jesus and desired only to point to Him.

Let us reflect, today, upon this humility in our own life. Do I tend to point to myself or to Christ? Do I seek the praise of others or do I humbly point all praise and glory to God? Humility is the path that St. John the Baptist took and it's the path we must strive for each and every day.

Taken from myCatholic.life

Fr. Simon

CHURCH SIGNS USA

"Whatever happens in Vegas...is forgiven here!" (*- location unknown*)