

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:

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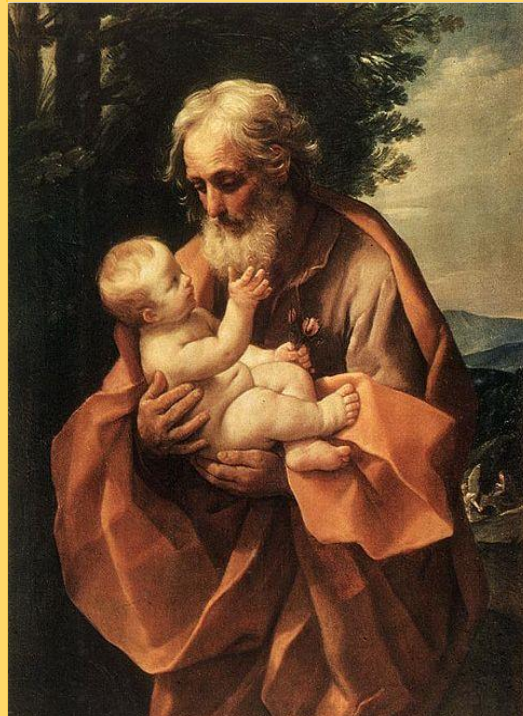
Follow us on:

Facebook (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

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

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Readers

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

Health & Safety Representatives

St Joseph's - James Jarman: 07971 490273
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: 2nd & 3rd Sunday of 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.

The Epiphany of the Lord, Year C

This Week's Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sunday	06/01	St Michael's St Joseph's St Joseph's	09:00 11:30 18:00	Colin Maiden November Dead List People of the Parish.
Monday	07/01	St Joseph's	09:15	Word & Communion <i>St Raymond of Penyafort</i>
Tuesday	08/01	NO MASS/SERVICE		
Wednesday	09/01	St Joseph's	11:00	Word & Communion
Thursday	10/01	St Joseph's	10.00	Colin Rowntree (<i>Both Schools in Attendance</i>) Crematorium 11:40 Funeral - Lucy Sands
Friday	11/01	St Joseph's	09:15	George Hawksworth
Saturday	12/01	St Michael's	11:30	Violet Parker <i>St Aelred of Rievaulx</i>
Sunday	13/01	St Michael's St Joseph's St Joseph's	09:00 11:30 18:00	Hilary Haddleton Aleykutty Joseph Maggie Wigglesworth.

The Baptism of the Lord

LATELY DEAD

Please pray Lucy Sands 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:

Sick of the Parish

**St Michael's Lady's Lamp Intention for this coming week:-
Sister Catherine, Mary B. & Maura**

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.

Last Week

Mass Count: **577**
Envelopes **£571** Loose **£469**

This Week's Draws

St Michael's
Pool No.47 S Keogh - £20
Pool No. 88 A Chandler £100
St Joseph's
Big Draw – **Numbers at back of Church**

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:
O'Malley Family

St Michael's:
First Monday of each month

Help always welcome

CREEPING TO THE CRIB – having spent Advent 'Creeping to the Crib', we now pick up another custom. Now the Crib has been blessed, you are welcome/encouraged to take home a couple of pieces of straw that can be stuck together to form a cross. We do this in much the same way as we take home palms on Palm Sunday. As with the palms, bring the straw back in the run-up to Lent and it will be burnt and made into the ashes for use on Ash Wednesday. Remember, because the Crib straw has been blessed it can't just be chucked in the bin!

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL PONTEFRAC - Parents whose children will be 5 years of age between September 1st 2019 and August 31st 2020 and wish their child to be considered for a place at St Joseph's school Pontefract, are asked to obtain an application form from the school office (entrance off Love Lane). The completed form and any relevant documents should be returned to school by 15th January 2019. Please note failure to provide any necessary additional documents (including baptismal certificates for Catholic applications) by the closing date will delay the correct categorisation of the application.

ST. JOSEPH'S NURSERY PONTEFRAC - Places are still available for the autumn term for any child who was 3 years old by 31st August 2018. Please call in or contact school (01977 701493) for more details. Applications, for an April start, are now also being

taken for children who will be aged three years by March 31st 2019. Parents are asked to obtain an application form from the school office (entrance off Love Lane). The completed form and any relevant documentation should be returned to school by 3.00pm Friday 18th January 2019. Please note failure to provide any necessary additional documents by the closing date will delay the correct categorisation of the application.

It should be noted that an offer of a place in the nursery does not guarantee a place in school, for which a separate application must be made.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ST ANNE'S CATHEDRAL TUESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2019 –The Confirmation liturgy will commence at 7pm on Tuesday 5th February. It will be the responsibility of individual families to make their way to the Cathedral of St Anne on Great George Street in Leeds. Please allow plenty of time to get there (during rush hour) and to park. You need to be seated in the Cathedral no later than 6.45pm.

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION – When candidates sign their name on the register this weekend, they will be given a small piece of card which should be filled out and handed back to Fr Simon at the Confirmation rehearsal (see item below). This should include the name of the Sponsor. This person **MUST** be a

practising Catholic over the age of 16. It cannot be parents. Also, if you haven't already, candidates need to choose a Confirmation name (which must be the name of a saint which they have researched – the Bishop has a habit of asking questions!!). This too goes on the card. These cards will be used during the ceremony in February.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OR YR7 AND ABOVE – Most of the children will be learning what they need to know as part of the Catholic school curriculum in Yr6. For those children not in either of our primary schools, or who have moved up to St Wilfrid's, there are 2 sessions **which you must attend**. They will be held in St Michael's hall on Saturday 12th and 19th January for 45 minutes commencing at 4pm.

CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL – Obviously, we are not able to rehearse in the Cathedral, so we will have a mini-rehearsal in St Joseph's church at 4pm on Saturday 2nd February in which Fr Simon will pretend to be a Bishop! At least one parent needs to attend this rehearsal so that Fr Simon can brief parents about arrangements for Tuesday 5th February in the Cathedral.

SVP - The SVP would like to thank everyone for the Christmas donations which came to a wonderful £764. The money will be used to support the work of the parish conference in the coming year.

FIRST CONFESSION/FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – The new sessions start at the end of this month. There will be a parents' meeting for both courses on Thursday 17th January at 7pm in St Joseph's church. Please bring along completed forms (for First Confession) and completed Safeguarding forms (for First Holy Communion).

ST MICHAEL'S POOL – If you would like to join the Pool Draw at St Michael's there are spare numbers available. This is an excellent way of supporting our parish so please consider taking on a number or treating yourself to an extra number. What about enrolling a member of your family, especially if they're unable to attend Mass due to infirmity etc. See Mary McAteer after Mass on Sunday.

SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS - Thank you to everyone who put their name forward to help with providing Refreshments at St Joseph's after Sunday morning Mass. A rota has been set up which is available at the back of church. We also thank Brenda and Alan for the many years they have provided this service and wish them a Happy Retirement.

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. Lunches start again on Wednesday, 9th January. 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.

Spiritual Programme

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 Rotundo 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

Dates for your calendar

HOLY DAYS AND FAST DAYS – Below are a table of notable dates for your diary. The dates marked in purple are obligatory days for fasting (in accordance with the usual norms) and the days marked in red are holy days of obligation which do not fall on a Sunday. Other dates are notable in that they pertain to our parish, devotions or the rest of the nation.

Day	Date	Feast
Wed'day	6 th March	Ash Wednesday
Tuesday	19 th March	Feast of St Joseph
Sunday	14 th April	Palm Sunday
Thursday	18 th April	Maundy Thursday
Friday	19 th April	Good Friday
Saturday	20 th April	Holy Saturday
Sunday	21 st April	Easter Sunday
Thursday	30 th May	The Ascension of the Lord
Sunday	9 th June	Pentecost
Sunday	23 rd June	The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ – Corpus Christi
Sunday	30 th June	Saints Peter & Paul
Thursday	15 th August	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday	1 st November	All Saints
Saturday	2 nd November	All Souls
Sunday	10 th November	Remembrance Sunday
Wed'day	25 th December	The Nativity of the Lord

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

This weekend we celebrate the arrival of the Wise Men to the Crib. I think Fr Bernard has a joke about this, but check that it's the one suitable for young ears before you ask him!! Anyway, they present their gifts as we know, but perhaps we could look at two of the many gifts that are presented in this scene for us, namely Mary and Joseph. I came across this lovely reflection from St Josemaria Escriva which I shall share with you concerning these two pivotal figures in our spiritual lives.

"Going into the house they saw the child with Mary, his Mother." Our Lady is always by her Son. The Magi are not received by a king on a high throne, but by a child in the arms of his Mother. Let us ask the Mother of God, who is our Mother (and we celebrated the Feast of her Motherhood on 1st January), to prepare for us the way that leads to the fullness of love. *Cor Mariae dulcissimum, iter para tutum*: "Most Sweet Heart of Mary, prepare a safe way!" Her sweet heart knows the surest path for finding Christ.

The three kings had their star. We have Mary, Star of the Sea, Star of the East. We say to her today: Holy Mary, Star of the Sea, Morning Star, help your children. Our zeal for souls must know no frontiers, for no one is excluded from Christ's love. The three kings were the first among the gentiles to be called. But once the redemption had been accomplished, "there is neither male nor female" — there is no discrimination of any type — "for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

We Christians cannot exclude anyone; we cannot segregate or classify souls. "Many will come from the East and West." All find a place in Christ's heart. His arms, as we admire him again in the manger, are those of a child; but they are the same arms that will be extended on the cross drawing all people to himself.

And a last thought for that just man, our father and protector St Joseph, who apparently has a very minor role in the Epiphany — as usual. I can imagine him recollected in prayer, lovingly protecting the Son of God made man who has been entrusted to his paternal care. With the marvelous refinement of one who does not live for himself, the holy patriarch spends himself in silent prayer and effective service.

We (are called to practice) a life of prayer and concern for apostolate. Who could be a better teacher for us than St Joseph? If you want my advice, which I have never tired of repeating these many years, *Ita ad Ioseph*: "Go to Joseph." He will show us definite ways, both human and divine, to approach Jesus. And soon you will dare, as he did, "to take up in his arms, kiss, clothe and look after" this child God who has been born unto us. As an homage of their veneration, the Magi offered gold, frankincense and myrrh to Jesus. Joseph gave his whole youthful and loving heart." **Fr. Simon**

BULLETIN BLOOPERS!

Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Fr Simon's sermons.