

# 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

Back Street  
Pontefract  
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### Parish Secretary:

Christine Harrison

### Website:

www.parishofstjoseph.co.uk

### 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](mailto: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: 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...16:00

### 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.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

### This Week's Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sunday	24/02	St Michael's St Joseph's St Joseph's	09:00 11:30 18:00	Margaret Purdy Ted Sands People of the Parish
Monday	25/02	St Joseph's	09:15	Word & Communion
Tuesday	26/02	St Michael's Crematorium	<b>09:15</b> 12:20	Marie Foy Funeral Maureen Brock
Wednesday	27/02	St Joseph's	11.00	Intentions of Canon Durcan
Thursday	28/02	<b>St Wilfrid's</b>	<b>08:15</b>	Kathleen Hughes
Friday	01/03	St Joseph's	09:15	Parents Intentions of Baby Evelyn Ann Dry.
<i>St David, Patron of Wales</i>				
Saturday	02/03	St Michael's	11:30	Jose P.Vincent
Sunday	03/03	St Michael's St Joseph's St Joseph's	09:00 11:30 18:00	Malcolm & Louise Veronica McVeigh Cornene Meiningen
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>				

### **LATELY DEAD**

Please pray for Maureen Brock, whose funeral takes place this week, Anne Ward and Mary Yates 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:**

**Terry Rayner**

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

**Westmoreland & Liddan Families**

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: **609**  
Envelopes **£656** Loose **£561**

### This Week's Draws

**St Michael's**  
Pool No? Ethan Hartnell - £20  
**St Joseph's**  
Pool No.105 Brenda Smith - £20

### MEETINGS

**UCM – Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> Feb, 9:30am in St Michael's Hall**

**SVP – tba**  
**CAFOD – tba**

### **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:**  
A Caine, A Burns, P O'Duffy

**St Michael's:**  
First Monday of each month

Help always welcome

**DIOCESAN RESPONSE TO THE REFUGEE CRISIS** – In October 2015 his Holiness Pope Francis, called on our generosity and solidarity to recognise and act upon our common humanity in response to the growing refugee crisis. An Appeal was held by way of a retiring collection to support the Diocesan response to the continuing refugee crisis and severe hardship being suffered by our brothers and sisters. Now, in 2019, 4 years on, we need to make a second appeal to support the ongoing work across the Diocese in supporting refugees and asylum seekers, perhaps the most vulnerable and marginalised living in our communities. The appeal will be made and there will be a **retiring collection after all Masses this Sunday**. This is the weekend that Bishop Marcus has identified as being best suited to make this appeal and we hope that you can give it your full support.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** – falls on 6<sup>th</sup> March this year (that's a week on Wednesday) and Masses are as follows:

**St Joseph's: 7.30am; St Michael's: 12 noon.**

In addition to the Masses, Fr Simon will make himself available for the simple administration of ashes outside St Joseph's school from 8.15am and outside Holy Family & St Michael school at home time. This is for families and individuals who are not able to get to Mass to receive their ashes that day. Ash Wednesday is not a Holyday of Obligation, but receiving the ashes is a

salutary way to enter into the spirit of the Lenten season.

**PALMS AND CRIB STRAW** – As we approach Ash Wednesday you are invited to bring in your Palms from last Palm Sunday and any bits of straw that you have taken from the Crib at Christmas. These will be burnt and will form the basis of your ashes as we begin the Lenten Season together. They can be left in the box at the back of our churches.

**BKCAT YOUTH CHOIR** - will be with us in St Joseph's church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March and will be leading the music for the First Sunday in Lent. If you haven't heard them sing, you're in for a treat!

**FIRST CONFESSION/FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** – The new sessions have started so please keep our young people in your prayers as they begin their formation for the sacraments. When Fr Simon is saying Mass, First Confession children will collect a prayer card from the sacristy after Mass and First Communion children will sign off on a register in the sacristy. Both groups of children will be brought out to the front of church at various points in the Mass so that we can all get a good look at them and know who we are praying for (and so that Fr Simon can make sure they've turned up!).

**CAFOD** – As part of Fairtrade Fortnight, CAFOD are hosting Fairtrade chocolate mornings after 9am Mass this Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup>

February at St. Michael's and after 11:30am Mass next Sunday, 3rd March at St. Joseph's. Come and try cakes and other goodies made with Fairtrade products. All donations will go to the Fairtrade Foundation, to aid their mission to ensure cocoa farmers in West Africa receive a living income. For more details about Fairtrade Fortnight see the links on our Parish Website, Facebook and Twitter.

**FAMILY FAST DAY** - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. 2019

**MILL HILL MISSIONARIES, NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH** –

This will take place 10-18 March at St Joseph's Maidenhead and Herbery House, Liverpool. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries (they're the ones who hand out the **RED BOXES** which many of you have in your homes) prepare for their Patronal Feast with a special Novena of Masses and prayers. This includes the intentions of all their supporters. There are some slips at the back of church for you to fill in and send to them if you wish to be included in their Novena.

**RED BOXES** - If you would like to take a Red Box home to collect money for the missions, please speak to Frances Chester at St Joseph's or Maxine Anderson at St Michael's.

If you already have a Red Box will you please bring it into church for emptying. After emptying, they are left at the back of church for you to collect.

In the last year we raised £1,789 from the Red Boxes. Thank You!

**READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** - Rotas (27/01/19-28/07/19) for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers have been posted at the back of each. If you have any difficulties in connection with them then please contact Tom Moran or David Hall. Please remember, if you are unable to fulfil our ministry, it is your responsibility to find someone who can stand in for you.

**HEALTH & SAFETY** – It should go without saying that we want everyone to be safe and well when they come to either of our churches or use either of our halls and so, in a very real sense H&S is the responsibility of us all. Everyone needs to keep an eye out which is why Father keeps asking you to put up your kneelers in church etc. It's also why, particularly at the 11.30am Mass, Father has asked a group of parishioners to help marshall the procession at Holy Communion. The aisles in St Joseph's are very narrow and can be problematic for people with mobility issues so please cooperate with the marshalls to ensure that the procession moves as smoothly as possible.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC** – Are you, or is someone you know, thinking about becoming a Catholic? Do you think you wouldn't be good enough, or able to make sense of the Church's teachings and laws? Well, take a look around Church (and especially at the priest up there at the altar) and you'll find a load of other people trying to become better Catholics, trying to make sense of the Church in the world. You are not alone. Why not give Fr Simon a call or send him an email with absolutely no commitment at this stage and have a talk with him. If you don't do something about that nagging thought in your head, you'll get no peace!

**WEEKLY DRAWS, ST MICHAEL'S POOL & ST JOSEPH'S 100 CLUB**

– If you would like to join the Pool Draw at St Michael's or the 100 Club at St Joseph's there are spare numbers available. Assignment of new numbers and payment is taken after each Mass on Sunday at St Michael's and St Joseph's.

**REPOSITORIES** – Please pay them a visit to our Repository Stalls at St Joseph's and St Michael's after Sunday morning Masses. There is a large variety of items for purchase including Holy Communion, Confirmation, Baptism and other religious gifts.

**ST MICHAEL'S TOMBOLA STALL** – Donations of Easter Eggs welcome for the Tombola Stall.

**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. 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.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE (FORMERLY WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER)** - in Ackworth on Friday 1st March at 7pm in the Methodist Church, Barnsley Road, Ackworth. All Welcome.

**FLAME** - is an inspiring and uplifting Catholic event for young people at Wembley Arena on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Passes for the event and return travel from Leeds or Wakefield cost just £42. Places are very limited, don't miss out! For further information, please email Ryan or Jessica at [youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk) See poster for more details.

**DAY OF REFLECTION** - Caring for the Earth - Our Common Home: The Justice & Peace Commission have organised a Day of Reflection on 30 March 2019. It will take place at SS John Fisher & Thomas More, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7PX. It will start with the usual community mass at 10:00 and finish around 4pm. A day of prayer, some discussion and time for personal reflection about our place in God's creation and our responsibilities towards looking after our common home. The day is free to attend but please email the Justice & Peace office to book a place: [jandp@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:jandp@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**RACE NIGHT** - Sat 13th April, 7:30pm. Little Sisters of the Poor, Mount St Joseph, Headingley, Leeds LS6 2DE. Telephone (0113) 2784101. See the poster for more details.

## 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](mailto:evangelisation.admin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**PARISH PILGRIMAGES TO POLAND AND ITALY** - This 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

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** - Will be on 5th – 11th July 2019 by air from L.B.A. For further details ring Joe Walsh Tours on 0161 820 8790. email [info@joewalshstours.co.uk](mailto:info@joewalshstours.co.uk). www.joewalshstours.co.uk. Any doctors, nurses and carers who are interested in being part of the amazing hospitality team on the Leeds Diocesan Pilgrimage 5th – 11th July are invited to an information evening which is taking place at Mount St Mary's School, LS9 8LA Tues 19th March, 7pm. Please do come along or tell someone about this event.

### 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

I may have told you this story; if I have, indulge me! Many moons ago, when I was a young, newly ordained and eager curate in St. Austin's, Wakefield, I had a run of dreadful days during one particular week: terribly sad funerals, endless sick calls during the night, children at risk in a violent family...you name it! At the end of the week, a parishioner had invited me round to her house and I went along looking forward to a civil couple of hours of tea, cake and chat. Little did I know that I was going into the Lion's den to be chewed up and spat out by her and her 'friends' who had taken exception to the previous Sunday's sermon. I leaked back to the presbytery, utterly trashed and wrung out.

Feeling as though I was suffocating under the weight of the horrors that had been flung at me during the week (some of it of my own making, most of it beyond my control) I sat on the back step of the house and put my head in my hands. The evening was especially beautiful, it being early spring. Despite being blessed with my lovely family and some great friends, this was one of those moments I suppose we all get when we just feel dreadfully alone. Not a few married people have described a similar feeling to me to all intents and purposes everything seems ok on the outside and someone looking in to your life may be tempted to say you were 'over-reacting', but you know that when that feeling strikes, there's little you can do about it. It feels like you've been abandoned by God. Fresh from making my promises of obedience and celibacy, and working like a pit-horse for the sake of Christ's kingdom, it seemed like I was being slapped in the face by the said Christ. "This must be the challenge of living a celibate life of obedience", I thought to myself. It had been spoken of often in seminary. Now it was no longer a taught concept; now it felt like a knife in the gut.

And then a bird on top of the garage started to sing as the dusk gathered. In the midst of the noise of the evening rush hour, children screaming, sirens blaring, that little bird's beautiful evening song pierced right through me and I sat and listened and listened and listened. Again, even as I type, I know there are no words to make you understand how it healed my soul and soothed my loneliness. God alone knows; and God -it was obvious- was *not* absent.

This week, after a very different set of trying circumstances, that bird was there again. This time, it was perched on the wooden cross that stands by the bridge into St Joseph's church. Another beautiful evening, marred by the noise of the working world and the turmoil of my mind; and another little bird teaching a stubborn, self-absorbed priest, that whilst the Cross may loom large at times in our lives and the cry of agony may ring loud in our ears, there is always the sweet song of salvation to be found amongst the cacophony of painful and difficult moments. As I listened, I realised that it is that unquenchable, persistent song which will lift our souls above and beyond, even if only for a moment, and thus make every moment not only bearable but also redemptive.

*Fr Simon*

### **BULLETIN BLOOPERS!**

Applications are now being accepted for 2 year-old nursery workers.