



# Welcome to St Joseph's Catholic Church Bilton, Harrogate



**St Joseph's Catholic Church**  
www.stjosephsharrogate.org.uk  
Diocese of Leeds Registered Charity No: 249404

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*“As stewards of God's creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family. When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling.” Pope Francis*

## SERVICES & MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 25th July 2021</b>	<b>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B</b>
	4.30pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve) Confessions
	5.30pm (Saturday) Vigil Mass (Special Intention [C])
	8.00am Mass (PARISH)
	11.00am Mass (Chris, Helen, Nick & Kate [Sp Int])
	<b>2.00pm - 4.00pm Church Open for Private Prayer</b>
<b>Tuesday 27th July</b>	<b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>
	7.00pm Mass (Dorothy McEvoy [A])
<b>Wednesday 28th July</b>	<b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>
	9.30am Mass (Eric Farr [A])
<b>Thursday 29th July</b>	<b>St Martha</b>
	9.30am Mass (Antonio Mese [RIP])
<b>Friday 30th July</b>	<b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>
	9.30am Mass (Eugene Thompson [A])
<b>Sunday 1st August 2021</b>	<b>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B</b>
	4.30pm - 5.00pm (Sat Eve) Confessions
	5.30pm (Saturday) Vigil Mass (Thanksgiving [C])
	8.00am Mass (PARISH)
	11.00am Mass (David Tracey [LD])
	<b>2.00pm - 4.00pm Church Open for Private Prayer</b>

### We Pray For...

The Lord knows what we need before we ask – so in confidence we turn to our loving Heavenly Father:

For all Christians — that we may be united in faith, hope and love (*pause*). *Lord, hear us...*

For those who are hungry or homeless — that we may learn to share the earth's resources (*pause*). *Lord, hear us...*

For grandparents and the elderly — that they may pass on the gift of faith to young people (*pause*). *Lord, hear us...*

For older people who feel lonely, isolated or afraid — that they may always know that God is close (*pause*). *Lord, hear us...*

For people sick at home or in hospital, especially those affected by COVID-19 — that all may find healing in body, mind and spirit (*pause*). *Lord, hear us...*

For young and old people – that they may work together for a better world (*pause*). *Lord, hear us...*

For the faithful departed, those whom we remember by name, and those who have no one to pray for them, may eternal peace may be theirs and may God comfort the grieving (*pause*). *Lord, hear us...*

You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires: hear the call of your people and be with us in our needs, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

 Please remember to turn-off mobile phones before Mass begins...Thank you!

### Mass Intentions Received Recently:

Thanksgiving (S); George Daly (RIP); Eugene Thompson (A); David Richter (A); Mone Family (Sp Int); David Tracey (LD).

### This Weekend: A World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly:

"I thank You, Lord, for the comfort of Your presence." These are the opening words of the prayer for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly that the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life released on Friday in a video format. Led by Pope Francis in Spanish, the video-prayer continues in French, English, Portuguese and Italian, recited by 21 grandparents and elderly men and women from around the globe, including 4 couples. Among them is also 101-year-old retired Canadian Bishop Laurent Noël op of Trois-Rivières, Québec.

#### Gratitude

Pope Francis starts the prayer in Spanish thanking the Lord for the comfort of His presence which provides hope and confidence even in moments of loneliness. The Pontiff, who is 84, recalls that the Lord has been his rock and fortress since his youthful days.

Then other languages follow in turns, expressing gratitude for the gift of the family and long life, for life's joys and difficulties and for helping in the realization of life's dreams and of those that are still to come.

The elderly thank God for the "time of renewed fruitfulness" to which they have been called. They ask Him to make them a channel of His peace, to teach them to embrace those who suffer more than them, to never stop dreaming and to narrate His wonders to the coming generations.

After urging the Lord's blessing on the Pope and the Church, that "the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth", the prayer invokes the Holy Spirit for the renewal of the world, so that the pandemic may end, the poor be consoled and wars may cease.

The prayer concludes evoking the theme of the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which is the assurance of Jesus: "I am with you always" (Mt. 28:30). The elderly ask the Lord to sustain them in their weakness and help them live every moment of life to the full until the end.

The Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life is charged with organizing the celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

In Rome, it will be celebrated with a Mass at 10am in St. Peter's Basilica. The Dicastery said some 2,000 people of the Rome Diocese and its associations that carry out pastoral activities in favour of the elderly are expected to attend. Most of them will include grandparents accompanied by their grandchildren. Among them will also be elderly people who, for the first time, will be able to leave the homes in which they have been isolated for over a year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

At the end of the Mass, the young people present will offer the grandparents and the elderly a flower with the Holy Father's message: "I am with you always".

The Dicastery has been receiving news of many community initiatives being organized in dioceses and parishes all over the world for the observance. It has invited everyone, especially young people, to visit their own grandparents and elderly who are lonely in their community.

The Holy Father has also granted the faithful the

possibility of obtaining a plenary indulgence on July 25 by devoting adequate time to actually or virtually visit elderly people in need or in difficulty (such as the sick, the abandoned, the disabled and other similar cases).

The Pope has also released a message to grandparents and the elderly, in which he emphasized that the vocation of the Third Age is to "guard the roots, transmit the faith to young people and take care of the little ones".

Announced by Pope Francis on January 31, the annual day will be celebrated each year on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by the Pope for this first edition this year is "I am with you always" (Mt 28:20).

#### Prayer:

I thank You, Lord,  
for the comfort of Your presence:  
even in times of loneliness,  
You are my hope and my confidence,  
You have been my rock and my fortress  
since my youth!  
I thank You for having given me a family  
and for having blessed me with a long life.  
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,  
for the dreams that have already come true in my life  
and for those that are still ahead of me.  
I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which  
You call me.  
Increase, O Lord, my faith,  
make me a channel of your peace,  
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,  
to never stop dreaming  
and to tell of your wonders to new generations.  
Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,  
that the light of the Gospel might reach  
the ends of the earth.  
Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,  
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,  
the poor consoled and wars ended.  
Sustain me in weakness  
and help me to live life to the full  
in each moment that You give me,  
in the certainty that you are with me every day,  
even until the end of the age.  
*Amen.*

#### Lifting of Covid Restrictions - What means for us at St Joseph's:

On Monday 12th July, the Prime Minister outlined his plans for the lifting of Covid Restrictions in England as from 19th July. Whilst we welcome further progress in the fight against Covid-19 and a return to near normal, we have been advised by both the Government and the Bishops of England and Wales to continue to proceed with caution.

Covid-19 infection rates continue to rise all over the country, and particularly so here in Harrogate, and so in the coming weeks we shall proceed as follows:

- The advance booking system for Mass has been suspended – please come to Mass without booking but check-in on arrival by either using the NHS Covid App and scan the QR code upon entry, or else one person from each family/group must leave their name and telephone number for

the Track and Trace system.

- A Steward will welcome you, and check your temperature as at present, and you should continue to use the hand sanitiser upon entering and again upon leaving the Church.
- Once in Church, the Bishops request that face coverings still be worn, both as a safety measure against the spread of the virus and as a consideration to others attending Mass; we could possibly see the return of some of our more vulnerable parishioners, as well as higher numbers attending.
- Once upstairs in Church please select a bench for you (or your group) to sit in – please remember to fill up from the end (and not the middle) of the bench, to allow for groups or individuals to fill up spaces as necessary. All benches will be re-opened.
- Congregational singing during the Mass can resume, and so will now be re-instated at the 11.00am Sunday Morning Mass. Hymnbooks can be used, and then 'quarantined' between uses.
- Livestreaming of Mass will continue as is at the present time, as the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will not be re-instated until Advent Sunday 2021.
- The present 'one-way' system in Church shall be maintained, and Stewards will guide people to move forward to receive Holy Communion (or a blessing). Holy Communion will still be administered under just one kind (the Host).
- We are encouraged by the Bishops to continue receiving Holy Communion onto the hand – but to receive the host on the tongue is permissible.
- Please observe the directions of Stewards at Holy Communion and also at the end of Mass, to ensure safer movement around our Church.

The Church will be sanitised after each use, as it is presently, by our team of Stewards and to whom I am immensely grateful for their dedication and help over this past year...without their generosity, I would not have been able to open the Church for anyone to attend these past 12 months – Thank you all! If you would like to become part of our Stewards' rota, please contact Elaine Flanagan or speak to any of the Stewards after Mass.

Please be aware that this is a dynamic assessment of the present situation, and may have to change again, in the future. Let us all work with and for each other in these coming weeks and months, and continue our prayers for all whose lives are being and have been affected by Covid-19.

*Fr Stephen Webb PP*

#### Parish Accounts and Financial Statement 2020/21:

Bishop Marcus has recently signed off the Diocesan Accounts and we can now report on St Joseph's Parish Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. As we all know it has been a difficult year with limits on those who can attend Mass and the resulting loss of Offertory income, fortunately many Parishioners have continued their support through bank payments, cheques and envelopes. Although we are reporting a deficit this year against last year's surplus, thanks to your generosity

the Parish has been able to meet in full all our responsibilities to support Fr Stephen's ministry in our local Catholic community and beyond as well as payments towards the cost of running the Diocese. In addition, much needed repairs and maintenance has been carried out on the Presbytery and live streaming installed in Church.

In summary our income and expenditure is as below:

	2021	2020
<b>Income</b>	£67,696	£93,966
Expenditure	£66,188	£76,529
Repayments to Diocese	£ 9,362	£12,046
<b>Total Payments</b>	<u>£75,550</u>	<u>£88,575</u>
<b><u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u></b>	<b><u>(£ 7,854)</u></b>	<b><u>£ 5391</u></b>

A sheet showing further details has been placed on the notice board in the Church entrance and copies are available for those who wish to study it more. A slide presentation explaining the accounts is being prepared and once it is available it will be downloadable from the Parish website. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please ask John Tweddle who will be do his best to answer them.

#### An Invitation to St Wilfrid's, Ripon:

This weekend marks a doubly 'Warm welcome back!' for parishioners at St Wilfrid's, Ripon as the Church is now opening again for Mass after being closed for several months of renovations and refurbishments. Since November 2020, whilst works continued, Canon Ian Smith had been celebrating Mass in the Parish bCentre. Now the work is complete enough to return the Blessed Sacrament to His place in the Tabernacle and return the Parish Centre to its many uses for the parish and wider communities alike.

For months, the church was scaffolded for the essential repairs. These were funded in part by the wonderful fundraising of parishioners over several years, and in part by significant six-figure grants from Historic England, given specifically for Grade II\* listed churches, which were applied for by the Diocese on behalf of the Parish to ensure that work could continue during the lockdowns.

Now the scaffolding is all gone and the church can safely and Covid-securely open. No booking is necessary, although contact details for Track and Trace purposes will be asked for, face-coverings encouraged (where possible) and sanitising will still take place before and after every Mass. This coming weekend's Masses in St Wilfrid's Church are at the same time as they have been at the Parish Centre:

**Saturday 24 July – Vigil at 5.30pm**  
**Sunday 25 July – 9.00am and 10.30am**

St Wilfrid's is one of England's finest Catholic parish churches. It was designed by the Yorkshire-born architect Joseph Hansom, a Catholic and some-time business partner of Edward Pugin whose father, Augustus Pugin, is regarded as the most significant figure in the 19th century Gothic Revival. Architects of the time collaborated with skilled craftsmen in stone carving, stained glass and encaustic floor tiles delineating areas of the church and uniting both practical and aesthetic considerations. – but to see the finished results in all their glory to God, then visit St Wilfrid's Church in Ripon for Mass anytime from this weekend!