



St Patrick's Catholic Church

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14th February 2021

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Mass Times

Sunday 14th 10.00am Richard Nation

Monday 15th Margaret Mee

Tuesday 16th 9.30am Tom Collins

ASH WEDNESDAY

Day of Fasting & Abstinence

Wednesday 17th 9.30am Donors Intention

Thursday 18th 9.30am Mary Badden

Friday 19th 1.00pm Requiem Mass
Josephine Moore

Saturday 20th 6.00pm Kitty Cardle

BOOKING A PLACE AT MASS

You can book a place at Mass for Sunday and Saturday Vigil Mass by phoning 0113 2482851.

COLLECTION Thank you all for your very generous support to our Parish of St Patricks. All your offerings and donations are very much appreciated during these difficult times.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Martha Coyne, James Carroll, Anthony Clark, Susanah Spencer, Donors Intention, Mary Walsh

SICK Can you please pray for Mary Jordan

DIED RECENTLY We pray for all who have died recently especially Canon Joseph Finan, Mary Walsh, Josie Moore

ANNIVERSARIES We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time especially Martha Coyne, James Carroll, Anthony Clark, Susanah Spencer, Donors Intention

LENT Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday. There will not be as many distractions this year because of lockdown. Let

us use this precious time to deepen our Spiritual lives by Listening in Prayer, Self-denial, Repentance and Almsgiving.

BAPTISMS

During this current lockdown, the request for a child's baptism will be deferred until the current restrictions have been lifted and a suitable future date can be arranged for the celebration. Thank you.

TEACHER ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, HALIFAX Full time, permanent, for further information, a copy of the full advert and job description or to arrange a visit please contact David Hymas, Chair of Governors, email: chair@st-marys-halifax.calderdale.sch.uk Closing date: 12.30, Wednesday 24th February. Interviews w/c 1st March.

GOD WITH US: EXPLORING THE OLD TESTAMENT TOGETHER An online Scripture course for Lent with Fr Tim Swinglehurst, Mondays 7- 8pm via Zoom. For more details and Zoom invitations, email gregory.stacey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Little Jenny was afraid of the dark so her Mum kept a night light burning in her room. One night the light burned out and left Jenny to face the darkness. The next morning at breakfast, Jenny told her Mum what happened. "It was scary at first, I almost called to you. But then I remembered what you told me, that I was a light myself."

We all have to face some darkness in our lives. It cannot be avoided. The first crucial step is to always remember that we are indeed light ourselves. Our faith reminds us that the darkest corners of our lives are never completely dark. There is always some glimmer of hope and some flicker of light. Today I thank God for that flicker of light and hope. It may not seem much but without it, we are indeed in darkness.

FAQ

Q1) Are our churches affected by the ‘lockdown’ introduced by the government in England from 5th January?

Churches are able to be open during the ‘lockdown’ for the communal celebration of Mass or private prayer. However, this will be dependent upon local circumstances and some churches may need to close for public worship if there are insufficient stewards available to provide the mitigating measures needed for the safe opening of the buildings and premises. Similarly, if for any reason an individual priest is unable to celebrate Mass due to the pandemic, then it may not be possible for a church in every parish to be open. At all times we should be diligent in the use of face-coverings, hand sanitisation and social distancing (face – hands – space); these remain the most effective ways to enable everyone to attend Mass safely. Strict social distancing must be maintained in our churches between members of different households¹ or support bubbles² at all times.

Q2) Can I still have my child baptised?

During this current ‘lockdown’, the request for a child’s baptism should be deferred until the current restrictions have been lifted and a suitable future date can be arranged for the celebration. An exception to this will be when the Sacrament of Baptism needs to be administered to a child (or adult) who is in danger of death.

Q3) Can I still get married in church?

Under the government’s current Covid-19 regulations, weddings can only take place in ‘exceptional circumstances’ and is restricted to a maximum of 6 people (excluding the priest or deacon celebrant). An exceptional circumstance is where “one of those getting married is seriously ill and not expected to recover or is to undergo debilitating treatment or life-changing surgery”.

1 A household is a person or a group of people who live together in the same accommodation.

2 A support bubble is an exclusive close support network between two households. It means you can have close

contact with that household as if they were members of your own. From 2nd December, you can form a support

bubble with another household, if at least one has:

- only one adult; (including a household where any children are under the age of 18)
- only one adult carer (i.e., living with any additional adult(s) in the household that have a disability and require continuous care)
- a child under 1 (regardless of how many other adults are in the household); or
- a child under 5 with a disability that requires continuous care (regardless of how many other adults are in the household)

Q4) Can funerals still take place in church?

Yes. However, under the government’s current Covid-19 regulations, the number of people able to attend a funeral Mass or funeral service is restricted to a maximum of 30 people (excluding the priest or deacon celebrant). The number of people able to attend the Vigil of Prayer and reception of the body into church associated with the funeral is

limited to the members of one household or support bubble.

Q5) Is the number of people able to attend Mass being restricted?

Under the government's current Covid-19 regulations, the maximum number of people who can go to a communal celebration of Mass is determined by its approved safe maximum capacity number; this is established by its size, seating arrangements and social distancing requirements. This means that our churches do not hold as many people during the restrictions of the pandemic as they would do otherwise. You should contact your local parish to find out what, if any, arrangements there are in place which might require you to 'register' your intention to attend a particular Mass or other liturgical service. This registration will only be required to ensure that the safe capacity of the church is not exceeded.

Q6) Do I need to wear a face-covering to go to church?

Yes. Under the government's current instructions, all those who are attending churches must wear a face-covering unless they are exempt from doing so as specified by the government. This is for the good of all who gather in the church for Mass as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from differing households who they do not normally meet. People attending a church should bring a face covering with them.