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Our Lady & St. Joseph, Aire Valley

St Monica's Presbytery, Bradford Old Road BD16 1SA

4th January 2026

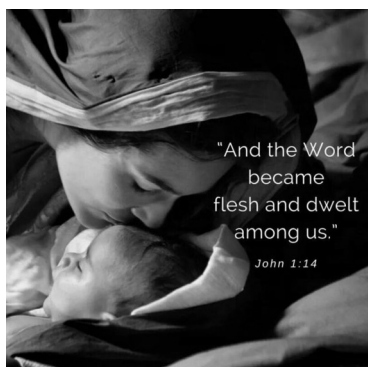
2nd Sunday after Christmas

Diocese of Leeds Charity Number 249404

*O Lord, may your words be on our lips, and in our hearts.
May they give us courage and hope – and draw us nearer to you.*

Mass Schedule for the week beginning Saturday 3rd January 2026

| | | | |
|--|--|------------|----------------------------|
| 2nd Sunday after Christmas Year A Saturday 3/Sunday 4 January | 4.15-4.45 pm Confessions 5 pm Mass | Bingley | Special Intention |
| | 9.15 am Mass | Cottingley | Parish |
| | 11.15 am Mass | Bingley | Addy and Clarkson Families |
| Monday 5 January | 10 am Mass | Cottingley | Rebecca Hughes |
| Tuesday 6 January The Epiphany of the Lord (Holyday of Obligation) | 10 am Mass | Bingley | Parish |
| | 7 pm Mass | Cottingley | Dead List |
| Wednesday 7 January | 10 am Mass | Cottingley | Danny Kay |
| Thursday 8 January | 6.20 – 6.40pm Confessions 7 pm Mass | Cottingley | Linda Bennett |
| Friday 9 January | 10 am Mass | Bingley | Terry and Cecilia Gibson |
| The Baptism of the Lord Year A Saturday 10/Sunday 11 January | 4.15-4.45 pm Confessions 5 pm Mass | Bingley | Halpin Family |
| | 9.15 am Mass | Cottingley | Frank Gough |
| | 11.15 am Mass | Bingley | Parish |



As we gather on this second Sunday after Christmas, the glow of the season still lingers. The tree is still be lit, the carols echo faintly in our hearts, and the story of Christ's birth remains fresh in our minds. Yet, beyond the celebration lies a deeper truth: Christmas is not just a day; it is a revelation that changes every day.

The year behind us may have held joys and sorrows, victories and valleys. But in the midst of it all, the Light has come—and that changes everything. Jesus entered a world of uncertainty and darkness, bringing hope that no shadow can overcome. His birth reminds us that God steps into our story, not from a distance, but in the flesh, to walk with us.

As we look toward a new year, let us carry this light forward. Where there is fear, let His presence bring peace. Where there is weariness, let His grace renew strength.

Where there is brokenness, let His love restore wholeness.

May the Lord bless you and keep you in His grace throughout this New Year.

May His light guide your steps, His peace fill your heart, and His love surround you always.

May you find strength in His promises, hope in His Word, and joy in His presence every day.

Wishing you a year of faith, favour, and abundant blessings.

Blessing of Homes: next Sunday 11 January is the feast of the baptism of Our Lord. On that Sunday I am asking each household to bring a small bottle of water to Mass where it will be blessed and then can be used to bless and protect your home and family when you return.



Parish Notices

The Holy Father's Intention for January: For Prayer With The Word Of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Ministers at Masses this weekend

Saturday 03/01 17:00 Eucharistic minister Mark Startin
Reader Patrick Abbott
Sunday 04/01 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Helena Harrington
Readers R Kevin King, P Elaine Schack
Sunday 04/01 11:15 Eucharistic minister Deirdre Naylor
Reader Viv Drake

Ministers at Masses next weekend

Saturday 10/01 17:00 Eucharistic minister Michael Rewilak
Reader Barbara Hladowski
Sunday 11/01 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Christine Kay
Readers R Ann Mc Kerchar, P Mark Brennan
Sunday 11/01 11:15 Eucharistic minister Peter Harrison
Reader Jeremy Charnock

Please remember in your prayers all who are sick and those who care for them, especially:

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Anita Austick | Liam Kay | John Moran |
| Angela Barnes | Jacob Kinsey | Margaret N |
| Marisa Bell | Ria Koetsier | David Ohr |
| Maria Binns | Melissa Le Coultre | Tony Shipman |
| Michael Bradley | Patricia Long | Steven Shaw |
| Ellerie Carroll | Richard Longden | Neil Smith |
| Sylvie Cantopher | Brian Marie | Jeff Trotter |
| Frieda Clapham | Andrew Markham | Mary Walker |
| Anna Danys | Christine Matthews | Sandra Walton |
| Barbara Furniss | Paul McMenamin | Lisa White |
| Paul Gallagher | Harry McKenna | Ann Wilkinson |
| Ian Harrison | Philomena McKenna | Madeleine Wilkins |
| Elizabeth Hartley | Joan Meggitt | |

Please contact Colin 01274 566332 with any changes to this list.

A coffee morning/social gathering will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the meeting room at Sacred Heart Church. Everyone is welcome. The next will be on 13th January from 10.00 to 11.30

Christmas Eve Singing Group. Well done and many thanks to the twenty six parishioners who volunteered to help lead the singing and play music at our Christmas Vigil Mass, some for the very first time. It was a lovely way to mark and celebrate the start of Christmas in our parish. Thank you for sharing your time and gift with us all. Early notice, for anyone interested; we will be organising our singing group again this coming Easter time!!

Please email **items for the parish bulletin** to me (Colin) at bulletin@ourladyandstjoseph.org.uk before Wednesday and I'll try to fit your item in.

Children's Liturgy We'll be taking a break during the Christmas holidays and there'll be no Children's Liturgy after Sunday 13th December. We look forward to seeing the children again on Sunday 11th January.

UCM Christmas Raffle 2025 winning tickets

1st prize Blue 46 C. Quirk
2nd prize Blue 75 T. Elsworth
3rd prize Yellow 25 B. Lumb

Thank you for all your support. £375.50 was raised for 'Candlelighters' - a charity which supports families of children with cancer.

The Parish Memorial Book (Book of Remembrance)

The book has these memories for this coming week:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3 Frank Cureton | 8 Rebecca Ruth Cantopher |
| 6 Frank & Mary Downes | 9 Maureen McHugh |
| 6 Glen McIntyre | 10 Daniel Rafferty |
| 6 Violet Clara Cantopher | 10 Klara Golab |
| 7 Annie Clough | 10 Michaela & Sam Butterfield |
| 7 Dorothy Margaret Finn | 10 William Finnigan |
| 7 Irene Thompson | 11 Eileen Broadfoot |
| 8 Margaret Matheson | |

To have your loved ones included in the Parish Memorial Book, please send their name and date of death to

bulletin@ourladyandstjoseph.org.uk

Dead List Masses: there are forty five Masses which will be said throughout the year. In a change to previous years the Dead List is displayed in each church and the actual lists are behind the display. Do take time to check the list and let me know if there are any mistakes. Thank you. Fr Pollard

CAFOD: This Christmas time we remember the people of Sri Lanka, who are suffering from the impact of Cyclone Ditwah, which has destroyed homes, villages and infrastructure. Sri Lankan people are calling for action on the crippling debt burden which is impeding their capacity to recover: "We are trapped by debt. We have to spend almost everything we earn to pay our debt". Please sign the worldwide petition for debt justice: <https://cafod.org.uk/campaign>

Please also remember the people of Sri Lanka, and others affected by the debt and climate crises in your prayers: *Heavenly Father, we pray for the people of Sri Lanka, and all directly affected by the debt and climate crises. We pray that polluting corporations and wealthy nations will listen to the call of suffering peoples and change their ways. Help us to hate evil and love goodness, so that we may disrupt the injustice of the world. May our actions let justice flow like a river so that God's Kingdom is built here on earth. Amen.*

Have you any Bradford Council issues?

If you live in Cottingley, Cullingworth, Harden or Wilsden I am here to help. Please visit my Councillor Surgery in Harden Memorial Hall on Saturday 17 January, from 10 - 11.00am OR email paul.sullivan@bradford.gov.uk
Regards, Paul Sullivan, Ward Councillor

St Joseph's Catholic primary school Parent and Friend Association has arranged **a fundraising evening for the school with Shama restaurant in Bingley.** On Monday 19th January, Shama will open at 7pm exclusively for friends and family of the school and parish, charging £20 per head for a set meal [Poppadoms and pickle tray to share, any starter, any main, any sundry but BYO alcohol], with £10 per meal purchased donated directly back to the PFA. There will be a "winter warmer" themed raffle on the evening, all donations of prizes for the raffle gratefully received by Monday 12th January. **Book your tickets at the school office**

There are a few copies of the **2026 Diocese of Leeds Directory** available at both churches. £5 each.

There are some **2026 Missio calendars** in the foyer of each church. Please feel free to take one. There are also some Missio magazines (with freepost envelope) which have information on how to donate.

Winter Shelter 2026: Thank you to Ruth Core who has agreed to co-ordinate this which will take place from Monday evening, 2nd to Monday morning, 9th February 2026. **Now we need volunteers!** Please call Ruth on 07737 179948 if you can help.