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sat nav: BD16 1TZ

## Our Lady & St. Joseph, Aire Valley

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

**1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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.*

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Saturday 31/Sunday 1 February	4.15-4.45 pm Confessions 5 pm Mass	Bingley	Maresa Bell
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Parish
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Maureen Thompson
Monday 2 February The Presentation of the Lord	10 am Mass	Cottingley	Danny Kay
Tuesday 3 February St Blaise, Bishop, Martyr	No Mass		
Wednesday 4 February	1.15 Requiem Harold Morrell	Bingley	
Thursday 5 February St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr	No Mass		
Friday 6 February St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	No Mass		
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Saturday 7/Sunday 8 February	4.15-4.45 pm Confessions 5 pm Mass	Bingley	Parish
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Richard Turasz
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Cedric Wilson



In today's Gospel, Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes—a vision of life that turns our usual ideas of success upside down. The world often celebrates strength, wealth, and self-reliance, yet Jesus proclaims blessing upon the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, and those who hunger for righteousness. St. Paul reminds us that God does not choose according to human standards. God works through humility, weakness, and trust so that all glory belongs to Him. The prophet Zephaniah echoes this hope, promising that God remains close to the lowly and the faithful.

These readings invite us to examine where we place our confidence. True happiness is not found in status or possessions, but in a heart open to God and to others. When we live with humility and compassion, we participate in the values of God's kingdom—both now and in eternity.

*May the Beatitudes inspire us this week to seek God first and to become a blessing in the lives of those around us.*

## Parish Notices

**Pilgrimage to Poland** St. Stephen's Parish is organising a pilgrimage to Krakow in Poland, 12th to 18th October 2026. The itinerary includes visits to Wadowice (John Paul II museum), Auschwitz, the Salt Mines, the Divine Mercy shrine, the Jasna Gora Monastery in Czestochowa with daily Mass and time to explore Krakow. Cost is £1979 + flights. For the full itinerary and booking form, please email [christopher.angel@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:christopher.angel@dioceseofleeds.org.uk).

**First Sacrament Part 2: Holy Communion** will be celebrated on Saturday 16 May in Cottingley at 11:00 am for those who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation last year. Children who are on the program should check in with me after Mass each Sunday.

**First Sacraments Part 1:** Classes in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held in Cottingley on Saturday 28 February and Saturday 7 and 21 March 10:30-12:00 and at least one parent should attend with their child. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at 5:00pm on Tuesday 24 March at 5:00pm in Cottingley.

### **The Pope Leo's Intention for February: For Children With Incurable Diseases**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

#### **Ministers at Masses this weekend**

Saturday 31/01 17:00 Eucharistic minister Mark Startin  
Reader Michael Rewilak  
Sunday 01/02 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Christine Acomb  
Readers R Anne Monaghan, P Kevin King  
Sunday 01/02 11:15 Eucharistic minister Peter Harrison  
Reader Irene Stanford-Wood

#### **Ministers at Masses next weekend**

Saturday 07/02 17:00 Eucharistic minister Michael Rewilak  
Reader Peter Taylor  
Sunday 08/02 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Sue Wilkinson  
Readers R Elaine Schack, P Ann McKerchar  
Sunday 08/02 11:15 Eucharistic minister Deirdre Naylor  
Reader Jeremy Charnock

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

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

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

**Sanctuary Candles** are lit each week in memory of your loved ones. Please keep the following in your prayers:  
Danny Kay Lynch & Hobbs Families

A coffee morning/social gathering is held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the meeting room at Sacred Heart Church. Everyone is welcome. The next will be on 10th February from 10.00 to 11.30.

#### **Children's Liturgy**

Please note there will be no session on Sunday 8th February due to the Winter Shelter. We will restart again after half-term on Sunday 22nd February. Don't forget there is a basket of children's books at the back of both Churches which are always available!

There will be a **retiring collection** at Masses on the weekend of 7/8 February for the Diocesan **Lourdes Fund**. This collection helps provide assistance for those going on pilgrimage, enabling care and support to those who need it: sick, disabled or infirm.

**Bradford Festival Choral Society is performing Haydn's 'The Creation'** at St George's Hall on Saturday 21st March at 7.30pm. It's an inspirational work celebrating God's creation of the world as told in Genesis. Featuring Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra. Join us for an exhilarating performance! Tickets Bradford Theatres 01274432000

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

**NEW MEN'S GROUP:** The Oratory of St Joseph, for young Catholic or other interested laymen aged between 21 & 35. Monthly meetings at Hinsley Hall LS6 2BX, for prayer, Benediction, talks, social time & free supper. Inaugural meeting Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, 6.30-8.30pm. Contact: [benjamin.hilton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:benjamin.hilton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

### **The Parish Memorial Book (Book of Remembrance)**

The book has these memories for this coming week:

1 Frank Halpin	4 Domenico Camuso
1 Martin Holroyd	4 Margaret Ann Carney
2 Clare Holroyd	6 Arthur (Danny) Kay
2 Liza Ahern	7 Andy Smith
3 Maureen Holmes	7 Michael Bottomley
4 Francis Batty	8 Francis Bergin

To have your loved ones included in the Parish Memorial Book, please send their name and date of death to [bulletin@ourladyandstjoseph.org.uk](mailto: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:** At Candlemas we celebrate Jesus' presentation in the Temple, and especially Simeon's recognition of Jesus as a 'light to lighten the Gentiles' (Luke 2.32). As we bless the candles, we remember that Jesus is the Light of the World. When we look at the world around us today, we see that there are many places in need of light. Loneliness, mental illness and poor social conditions cause many to live in darkness.

As baptised Christians we have a mission to bring God's love to others, to shine his light and keep hope alive. Some of us may have the gift of preaching, some the gift of being loving companions. Whatever our gift we all have a calling to proclaim 'The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand' by our words and our actions.

In Dilexi Te Pope Leo XIV reminds us: 'All the members of the people of God have a duty to make their voices heard albeit in different ways...Unjust structures need to be recognised and eradicated by the force of good, by changing mindsets.... Both Christian preaching and life, then, are meant to have an impact on society. We are seeking God's Kingdom.' (#97)

*God of light, Emmanuel, God with us, help us to listen to your voice calling us. May your Kingdom come here on earth as in Heaven. May we make our voices heard in ways that will impact our society and bring light to those in darkness. Amen.*

**PAX CHRISTI ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYERS:** For the second year running, Pax Christi Leeds is organising prayers of repentance on Ash Wednesday 18th February at 12.30 pm Dortmund Square, Leeds. We repent for all those involved in nuclear war preparations to repent and have a change of heart. We will also pray that all us speak out for peace.

**LEEDS CATHEDRAL GUIDED TOURS:** Free Guided Tours will take place on Saturday 14th February and Saturday 7th March, starting at 1.30pm. The tours last about 1 hour. Booking not required. On arrival, please gather by the Baptismal Font at the back of the Cathedral.

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

#### **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 Cullingworth Methodist church on Saturday 15 February 10 - 11.00am OR email [paul.sullivan@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:paul.sullivan@bradford.gov.uk) Paul Sullivan, Ward Councillor

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