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Our Lady & St. Joseph, Aire Valley

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

8th March 2026

3rd Sunday in Lent

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.

3 rd Sunday of Lent Year A Saturday 7/Sunday 8 March	4.15-4.45 pm Confessions 5 pm Mass	Bingley	Geoffrey Lister
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Don Devenish
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Parish
	4pm Stations of the Cross	Cottingley	
Monday 9 March	10 am Mass	Cottingley	Thompson and Greenham
Tuesday 10 March	9:30am-9:55am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10 am Mass	<u>CANCELLED DUE TO FUNERAL</u>	
Wednesday 11 March	10 am Mass	<u>CANCELLED DUE TO FUNERAL</u>	
Thursday 12 March	6.20 – 6.40pm Confessions 7 pm Mass	Cottingley	Dead List
Friday 13 March	10 am Mass	Bingley	Dead List
4 th Sunday of Lent Year A Saturday 14/Sunday 15 March	4.15-4.45 pm Confessions 4:15pm-4:50pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5 pm Mass	Bingley	Sandra and Robert Green
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Patsy Hanney
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Parish
	No Stations of the Cross		



Today we hear the encounter of Jesus with the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus approaches her with gentleness, seeing her life honestly yet lovingly. Jesus does not judge her. He invites her to honesty. He speaks to her with dignity. He sees her completely—and still loves her completely. He offers her *living water*—the deep renewal only God can give. The woman accepts and she who was once isolated, becomes the first evangeliser in the Gospel of John. She leaves her water jar behind—the symbol of her old burdens—and runs back to her village to tell others. This is the power of an encounter with Christ. When we are seen, we begin to see. When we are loved, we become capable of love. Like the woman, we each carry our own “water jars”:

burdens, fears, old habits, and hidden wounds. Jesus invites us during Lent to meet Him honestly and to let Him refresh what feels dry or weary in our hearts. To let him take away the things that burden us, the barriers we create to his love within us. Isn't It time? What will you do to respond to that invitation? *“Lord, give me this water—heal me, renew me, and lead me to new life.”*

Parish Notices

First Sacraments Part 1: The last preparation class will be held in Sacred Heart, Bingley, on Saturday 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. Children should check in with Fr. Polland after Mass.

Sacrament of Confirmation: will be conferred by the bishop on Tuesday 2 June at 7:00pm in Ss Mary and Monica Church, Cottingley. If you have a child currently in Year 6 who attends Mass regularly here and you wish them to be confirmed please see Fr. Polland for an application form. If your child has been baptised outside the parish you will need to return the form with a baptism certificate. Forms must be returned by end of 11:15 Mass on 15 March 2026.

First Sacraments Part 2: Those who received the sacrament of Reconciliation last year and are due to receive Holy Communion for the first time this year should give their names to Fr. Polland after Mass.

Ministers at Masses this weekend

Saturday 07/03 17:00 Eucharistic minister Michael Rewilak
Reader Natalie Baines, P Mark Startin
Sunday 08/03 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Danuta Petrie
Readers R Susan Holroyd, P Teresa Mills
Sunday 08/03 11:15 Eucharistic minister Jean Denman
Reader Irene Stanford-Wood, P Julie Martin

Ministers at Masses next weekend

Saturday 14/03 17:00 Eucharistic minister Mark Startin
Reader Michael Rewilak, P Natalie Baines
Sunday 15/03 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Teresa Mills
Readers R Anne Monaghan, P Kevin King
Sunday 15/03 11:15 Eucharistic minister Peter Harrison
Reader Irene Stanford-Wood, P Julia Radcliffe

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

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

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:
Geoff Lister, The McCausland Family, Mary Paice (A)

There will be a retiring collection on 14/15 March for Catholic Care. They offer services and support to families experiencing difficulties, including pregnant women, people experiencing mental health problems, people with learning difficulties and children in residential care.

The next Christian Aid Lent Lunch this year will be on March 13th at St Mary's & St Monica's, Cottingley. There will be a Bring & Buy at each Lunch.

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 01274 432000.

Want to join in March St Patrick's-time Celebrations with The Wild Geese? – see notice in the church porch.

If you gift aid AND use an **offertory envelope** the new envelopes which start on the first Sunday of the new tax year (12 April) will be available to collect each weekend starting 14/15 March. If you DO NOT gift aid but use envelopes there will be some un-numbered ones (without a name) which you are free to use. If you wish to start a new gift aid with envelopes and/or standing order there are forms held in the foyer of each church which may be returned to Father Nigel or the presbytery

Healing Service: with laying on of hands will be held on **Monday 23 March** in Cottingley at 7:00pm. Come and ask the Lord for healing and rest in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome.

Baptism Meeting: will be held on Tuesday 31 March in Cottingley at 7:00pm. If you attend Mass regularly here and wish to have your child baptised in the next quarter please give your details to Fr. Polland.

The Parish Memorial Book (Book of Remembrance)

The book has these memories for this coming week:

7 Catherine M. Enright	12 Patricia Ann Maguire
8 Dennis Whitaker	12 Rev. Fr. Angelo Phillips
9 Alfred G. Blackburn	13 Rev. Fr. John A Kelly
9 John Arnold	13 Mary May
10 Malcolm Turner	15 Grace Hitchens
10 Myra Helena Bristow	15 Harry Dearden
12 Geoffrey R. Lister	

To have your loved ones included in the Parish Memorial Book, please send their name and date of death to bulletin@ourladyandstjoseph.org.uk

The Pope Leo's Intention for March: For Disarmament And Peace

Let us pray that nations move to effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Join Bishop Marcus in Praying for Vocations:

Our Lady of Unfailing Help! Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send labourers into His harvest and that He will grant an abundance of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life within the Diocese of Leeds, and throughout the world. Amen.

CAFOD: The word 'Lent' comes from the Old English lencten, meaning 'Springtime'—the quiet season when light grows, the earth stirs, and hope begins to rise. We pray this Lent will be a true Springtime for your soul. In addition, you are warmly invited to enjoy the start of Spring in Bingley by joining the Big Lent Walk!! Sponsorship materials are available at: <https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/resources>. If you cannot take part, please consider supporting another walker, and keep in prayer all whom CAFOD serves, seeking justice for our world.

Loving God, sustain our hope, deepen our reflection, and make us agents of your healing. Amen.

Holy Week & Easter Services Singing Group Thank you to everyone who has offered to help lead the singing this Easter-time. Reminder that practices (ending at 11am) after the Cottingley Sunday 9.15 Masses start this Sunday 8th, followed by 22 and 29 March. If you haven't been in touch but wish to sing, please just come along. Contact paul.wildgeese@btinternet.com for further details. Thanks.

Would anyone who has not had their red mission box emptied recently please drop it off at Mass so that the contents can be counted. Many thanks to everyone for your continued support for the missions.

A coffee morning/social gathering is held on the 2nd Tuesday each month in Sacred Heart Church meeting room. Everyone welcome. The next is on 10th March 10am to 11.30.

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.