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Our Lady & St. Joseph, Aire Valley

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

29th March 2026

Palm Sunday

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.

Palm Sunday Year A Saturday 28/Sunday 29 March	4.15-4.40 pm Confessions 5 pm Mass	Bingley	Dead List
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Parish
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Mary Cassidy
	4pm Stations of the Cross	Cottingley	
Monday 30 March	10 am Mass	Cottingley	Dead List
Tuesday 31 March	9:30am-9:55am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10 am Mass	Cottingley	Kenny Polland
Wednesday 1 April	10 am Mass	Cottingley	Dead List
Thursday 2 April Holy Thursday	7 pm Mass Watching until 9 pm	Bingley	Dead List
Friday 3 April Good Friday	3 pm Passion and Veneration of the Cross	Cottingley	
	7 pm Stations of the Cross	Bingley	
Easter Sunday Year A Saturday 4/Sunday 5 April	8 pm Easter Vigil Mass	Cottingley	Dead List
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Deceased members of the Gough family
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Parish



Palm Sunday opens Holy Week with a striking contrast of joy and sorrow. We begin with the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem—crowds waving palms, shouting “Hosanna!” and welcoming Him as King. Yet we know that this same journey will lead Him toward suffering, betrayal, and the cross.

In Matthew’s account, Jesus enters the city not on a warhorse but on a humble donkey, revealing a kingship rooted not in power or domination but in gentleness and self-giving

love. As we listen to the Passion narrative, the mood shifts. The same voices that praised Him fall silent or turn to rejection. Palm Sunday reminds us how quickly enthusiasm can fade when discipleship becomes costly. Still, Jesus remains faithful to His mission, embracing the cross for our salvation.

This day challenges us to hold both Hosanna and Crucify Him in our hearts—to recognise our own inconsistencies, yet also the steadfast mercy of Christ.

As we enter Holy Week we are invited to slow down and walk closely with Jesus through His final days—days marked by love, sacrifice, and hope. As we remember His journey to the cross, we’re reminded that true love is shown not just in words, but in the willingness to give of ourselves for others. The cross stands as a symbol of both suffering and victory: suffering, because it reveals the weight of human brokenness; victory, because Christ transforms that suffering into new life.

Parish Notices

First Sacraments Part 2: check in with Fr. Polland after Mass.

Baptism Meeting: for those who have applied will be held on Tuesday 31 March in the Presbytery at Cottingley at 7:00pm. Please do not come with children.

Sacrament of Confirmation: those enrolled should check in with Fr. Polland after Mass each week. Classes will be held on Saturday mornings 10:30-12 on the 25th April, 9th May and 16th May at the church hall in Cottingley.

Ministers at Masses this weekend

Saturday 28/03 17:00 Eucharistic minister Mark Startin
 Readers Anne McArthur, P Michael Rewilak
 Sunday 29/03 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Christine Acomb
 Readers R Susan Holroyd, P Ann McKerchar
 Sunday 29/03 11:15 Eucharistic minister Jean Denman
 Readers Oma Nwokeji, P Jeremy Charnock

Ministers at Masses next weekend

Saturday 04/04 17:00 Eucharistic minister Michael Rewilak
 Readers Mark Startin, P Anne McArthur
 Sunday 05/04 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Teresa Mills
 Readers R Susan Holroyd, P Kevin King
 Sunday 05/04 11:15 Eucharistic minister Peter Harrison
 Readers Julia Radcliffe, P Oma Nwokeji

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

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

Please contact Colin [01274 566332](tel:01274566332) 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:

Sheila Wiggins & Bernadette Mary	Eddie Thorning
Johnson	Eric Tarren
Intentions of the Markham Family	Leo O'Brien

There will be an ecumenical **Palm Sunday Walk of Witness** on Sunday 29 March starting at 2 pm from Bingley 5-Rise Shopping Centre. Please join us as we walk through the town giving out Palm Crosses on our way to All Saints Church.

The final Christian Aid Lent Lunch this year will be on 3rd April at All Saints Parish Church, at 12 noon. There will be a Bring & Buy at each Lunch. Entry charge is £5.

The parish Lenten Lunch raised £262.10p for Christian Aid. Thank you to all who supported this event.

Retiring Collections; On 3 April for Holy Places (Good Friday). On 5 April the traditional Easter Offering. And lastly, on 12 April for the Priests' Training Fund.

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

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.

The Parish Memorial Book (Book of Remembrance)

The book has these memories for this coming week:

	March	2	John Jackson Jr
28	Mary Cassidy	3	Joanne Dewsberry
29	Carol Nevison	3	Leonard Hitchen
29	Monica Reed	4	Eva Novak
	April	5	Ted Sheehan
1	Terry Monaghan	5	Thomas Finnigan

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 April: For Priests In Crisis

Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

CAFOD: There were probably two processions into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. While Jesus entered through one gate, Pilate likely entered through another, displaying Roman military power with soldiers and horses—a warning that, while the Jewish people celebrated their liberation from slavery in Egypt, they should not seek liberation from Roman control.

In contrast, Jesus, a carpenter's son, rode a borrowed donkey, fulfilling Zechariah's vision of a peaceful king who would banish war and proclaim peace to nations. On his way to the cross, Jesus revealed the true power of humility and love. As we journey with Jesus in his final days, we are called to live lives that bring healing and reconciliation to our world.

Humble Saviour, walk with us this Holy Week, and grant us courage to walk with you. Amen.

Consultation on the future of the Dioceses of Leeds & Middlesbrough:

As part of the consultation currently taking place across our two Dioceses, there is an opportunity for all clergy, religious and members of the lay faithful to contribute by completing an online questionnaire, either individually or as a parish group. Prayerful reflection should be given to the questions so that the Holy Spirit may guide this process of discernment. Prayer resources and a presentation are available on the diocesan website to support this process. Responses should be submitted no later than Friday, 22nd May 2026. For more information and to complete the questionnaire, please visit: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/leeds-middlesbrough-consultation-2026/>

Holy Week & Easter Services Singing Group Thank you to everyone who has offered to help lead the singing this Easter-time. Reminder that practice (ending at 11am) after the Cottingley Sunday 9.15 Mass on Sunday 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.

Many thanks to all parishioners who donated items for raffle and tombola prizes and to all those who supported the Coffee Morning on 7th March. We raised over £370 in a couple of hours. A VERY SPECIAL THANKS to all our wonderful bakers who raised over £170 on cakes and biscuits alone.