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Our Lady & St. Joseph, Aire Valley

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

5th April 2026

Easter 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.*

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
Monday 6 April Easter Monday	10 am Mass	Cottingley	Leo O'Brien
Tuesday 7 April Easter Tuesday	10 am Mass	Cottingley	Dead List
Wednesday 8 April Easter Wednesday	10 am Mass	Cottingley	Sandra Walton
Thursday 9 April Easter Thursday	6:20-6:40pm Confessions 7 pm Mass	Cottingley	Dead List
Friday 10 April Easter Friday	10 am Mass	Bingley	Dead List
2nd Sunday of Easter Year A Saturday 11/Sunday 12 April	4.15-4.40 pm Confessions 5 pm Vigil Mass	Bingley	Essie Sheehan
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Sally Slaven
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Parish



Easter begins not with trumpets, but with a quiet miracle in the dim light of early morning. The Gospels tell us that *before dawn*, while the world was still heavy with sorrow, a group of women made their way to the tomb carrying spices of grief and love. They expected death. Instead, they met new life. In that moment, everything changed—yet quietly, almost gently—like light rising over the horizon.

Easter reminds us that God often works this way: in the dark, while we think nothing is happening; through the unexpected, where fear is transformed into hope; in our ordinary steps of faith, like simply showing up at a tomb out of love.

The empty tomb doesn't deny the reality of suffering or loss. Jesus truly died. The world truly can be hard. But Easter proclaims that suffering does not get the final word. Love does. Life does. God does.

Resurrection is not just an event—it is a promise: that despair can give way to joy, that what feels finished may not be the end, that God can make a way where there is none. And Easter calls each of us to our own resurrection living: to choose hope when cynicism feels easier, to practice forgiveness where hurt has lingered, to carry light into places still shadowed by fear, to believe that renewal is possible—even for us.

Like the first disciples, we may not fully understand resurrection the moment we see it. But Easter invites us to step toward hope anyway, trusting that God is already ahead of us, calling our names, preparing new beginnings. Today and always, may we stand with Mary in the garden, with Peter at the tomb, with the disciples on the road—and let the risen Christ surprise us again. Easter is God's declaration that love is stronger than death, and that the dawn always comes.



Parish Notices

First Sacraments Parts 1 and 2: check in with Fr. Polland after Mass.

Sacrament of Confirmation: should check in with Fr. Polland after Mass each week. Classes will be held on Saturday mornings 10:30-12 on the 24th April, 9th May and 16th May at the church hall in Cottingley.

Ministers at Masses this 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

Ministers at Masses next weekend

Saturday 11/04 17:00 Eucharistic minister Mark Startin
Readers Peter Taylor, P Michael Rewilak

Sunday 12/04 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Christine Kay
Readers R Anne Monaghan, P John McElroy

Sunday 12/04 11:15 Eucharistic minister Deirdre Naylor
Readers Julie Martin, P Julia Radcliffe

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 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:

Eileen Link & Martin Link	Eric Tarren
Intentions of the Markham Family	Leo O'Brien
	Ian Naylor

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

Retiring Collections; On 5 April the traditional Easter Offering. And on 12 April for the Priests' Training Fund.

Children's Liturgy: There'll be no liturgy over the Easter holidays. We'll meet again on Sunday 26th April.

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:

4 Eva Novak	8 Kevin Devanny
5 Ted Sheehan	9 Mona Birch
5 Thomas Finnigan	9 Philip Wholley
6 Clarice Longbottom	10 Essie Sheehan
6 Jack Shaw	11 Lucy Semenjuk
6 Leo O'Brien	12 Dr Ian Naylor
7 William Kay	12 Mary Thorp
8 Christopher Rodney Bean	

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. 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.