

Web site: ourladyandstjoseph.org.uk

Telephone: 01274 567639

email: office.ourladyandstjoseph@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. N. Polland

Safeguarding: psr.plynych@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Sat Nav: BD16 1TZ

Our Lady & St. Joseph, Aire Valley

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

3rd May 2026

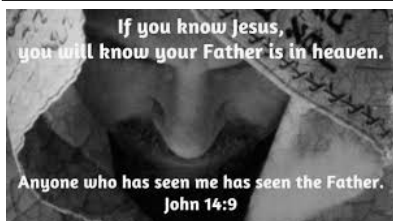
5th Sunday of Easter

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.

5th Sunday of Easter Year A Saturday 2/Sunday 3 May	4.15-4.40 pm Confessions 5 pm Vigil Mass	Bingley	Theresa Norcross
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Parish
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Maureen And Frank Thompson
Monday 4 May The English Martyrs	10am Mass	Cottingley	Thanksgiving S.G.
Tuesday 5 May	10am Mass	Cottingley	Mary Thorp
Wednesday 6 May	10am Mass	Cottingley	Ken Furness
Thursday 7 May St John of Beverley, Bishop	No Mass		
Friday 8 May	10am Mass	Bingley	Dead List
6th Sunday of Easter Year A Saturday 9/Sunday 10 May	4.15-4.40 pm Confessions 5 pm Vigil Mass	Bingley	Terry Hall
	9.15 am Mass	Cottingley	Mary Mc Bride
	11.15 am Mass	Bingley	Parish



Today's Gospel opens with words we all need to hear: "Do not let your hearts be troubled." Jesus speaks them at a moment of fear and uncertainty. His disciples sense that change is coming, but they do not understand it. In many ways, their experience mirrors our own. We live with questions, anxieties, and an uncertain future, both personally and as a Church.

Jesus does not remove the uncertainty. Instead, he invites trust. "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

Notice that Jesus does not say he will *show* us the way, or *explain* the truth. He says *he is* the way. Christian faith is not about having all the answers. It is about a relationship – walking closely with Christ and trusting him step by step.

When Philip asks, "Show us the Father," he speaks for all of us. We want clarity, proof, reassurance. Jesus responds gently: "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father." If we want to know what God is like, we look at Jesus – his compassion, his mercy, his self-giving love. God is revealed not in power or distance, but in closeness and care. The other readings show us what this looks like in practice. In the Acts of the Apostles, the early Church faces tension and disagreement. Yet instead of division, they respond with service and shared responsibility. The result is growth. And in the letter of Peter, we are reminded that we are "living stones", called to be built together. Faith is never just private; Easter creates a community, where each person matters.

Finally, Jesus makes us a remarkable promise: "Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do." The risen Christ continues his work through us. Through simple acts of kindness, faithful service, and love lived each day, we make God visible in the world. So this Easter season, let us hear again Christ's reassurance: Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust the way he leads you. And be living stones, building his Church through love.

Your vote, your faith: The Church reminds us that we have moral obligation to take part in public life, including voting. As Catholics, we are called to vote with a well-formed conscience, guided by prayer, Scripture, and Church teaching, rather than by party loyalty or personal interest. While no political option is ever perfect, our choices should seek the common good, uphold human dignity, and protect life, especially the most vulnerable. The Church does not tell people how to vote or endorse candidates. Instead, she forms consciences so that each person may make responsible decisions before God. May we pray for wisdom, integrity, and charity as we exercise our vote this Thursday.

Parish Notices

First Sacraments Parts 1 and 2:

Please 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 9th May at the church hall in Cottingley.

Ministers at Masses this weekend

Saturday 02/05 17:00 Eucharistic minister Michael Rewilak
Readers Natalie Baines, P Mark Startin

Sunday 03/05 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Anne Copley
Readers R Mark Brennan, P Susan Holroyd

Sunday 03/05 11:15 Eucharistic minister Deirdre Naylor
Readers Julie Martin, P Irene Stanford-Wood

Ministers at Masses next weekend

Saturday 09/05 17:00 Eucharistic minister Mark Startin
Readers Peter Taylor, P Natalie Baines

Sunday 10/05 09:15 Eucharistic minister H Christine Acomb
Readers R Kevin King, P Teresa Mills

Sunday 10/05 11:15 Eucharistic minister Jean Denman
Readers Oma Nwokeji, P Julie Martin

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:

Joe & Kathleen McCausland Glenn McIntyre
Zaniewski Family Norman & Mary Harker

The **SVP's Summer Social Event** at 2pm on 13 May at SS Mary & Monica's is a Sing a long of popular songs with members of the All Together Now choir. Tea/Coffee and sweet treats, scones and cakes will be served in the interval provided by the UCM. All parishioners are welcome. For catering purposes please book your place by phoning Anne on 01274 551091.

Retiring Collections: Catholic Communications

On the weekend of 16/17 May. The Second Vatican Council decree on the media has this to say on the reason for setting aside a special day for Catholic Communications, "To strengthen more effectively the various forms of the Church's apostolate, let a day be allotted every year by bishops in all dioceses of the world on which the faithful will be apprised of their duties in this matter. They will be asked to join in prayer for this cause and to make an offering. The funds raised are to be devoted to the support and development of (social communications) organisations and initiatives set up by the Church for the needs of the Catholic Church in general." (Inter Mirifica 18)

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:

2 Kathleen McCausland	7 Dermot Rowe
2 Chris Mullen	7 Gerald Francis Clark
2 Colin Wilson	8 David Eric Yates
2 Elizabeth Crowther	8 James Desilva
4 Giuseppina Hrabar	8 Mary Sunter
5 Jean Vanier	9 George Henry Hill
6 Eric McManus	10 Una McHenry
6 Patrick Ahern	10 Walter (Ginger) Biggins

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

Pope Leo's Intention May: That Everyone Might Have Food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

Consultation on the future of the Dioceses of Leeds, Middlesbrough and Hallam:

As part of the consultation currently taking place across our three 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/>

CAFOD: Stand with Sudan. Give monthly.

On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help: "So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger, and disease. That is why today, I'm asking you to consider setting up a regular gift to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support. Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbours, a way of saying: we will not abandon you, we will stand with you until peace is restored." Donate at cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan



Celebration of Married Life: There will be a special Celebration Mass for Married Life at Leeds Cathedral on Saturday 16th May, 12 noon for couples and their families celebrating 25th (Silver), 40th (Ruby), 50th (Golden), 60th (Diamond) and 70th (Platinum) wedding anniversaries this year. There will be an opportunity for couples to renew their marriage vows. If you would like to take part in this celebration, please complete the application form, available at the back of church (return details on form).

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 12th May from 10.00 to 11.30.

ADVANCE NOTICE: Bradford's choir 'Chordiality' is performing a summertime concert at St Mary and St Monica's at 3pm on Sunday 5th July, with 'refreshments' to follow. Tickets, £10, will be available for purchase nearer the time. Proceeds to be used in support of the S.V.P.'s work in our Parish.'