

Welcome to the parish of The Holy Spirit, Our Lady & St Paul of the Cross

serving the communities of Holy Spirit, Heckmondwike and Our Lady & St Paul, Cleckheaton

Pastor: Fr Simon Lodge

The Presbytery, 57, Dewsbury Road, Cleckheaton, BD19 5BT Tel: 01274 872984
office.holyspiritstpaul@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Parish Contacts

Parish Secretary: Sam Jarman

Office.holyspiritstpaul@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Tel: 01274 872984

Office hours: Thurs 2:30pm- 5pm

Friday: 9am-4pm

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Eve

Church Hall Bookings

SP: Janice Minich

Janice.minich@btinternet.com

Tel: 07724 157161



Websites

Holyspiritheckmondwike.co.uk
stpaulscleckheaton.wordpress.com

School Contacts

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs C Bass

Email:

office@holyspiritprimary.co.uk

Tel: 01924 400820

St John Fisher Catholic Academy

Headteacher: Mr K Mackey

Email:

reception@stjohnfisher.org.uk

Tel: 01924 527000

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION: See Weekly Schedule

TIMES OF CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 11:00-11:45 (SP) 3:45-4:15pm (HS) 5:45-6:15pm (SP) and upon (mutually convenient) request

DEVOTIONS: May. October. Lent (See Schedule)

PARISH GROUPS

Sewing Bees

Meets Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of month in St Paul's Hall

10 am-11:50 am (may vary due to Mass times)

Soup Lunch

Meets Monthly -3rd Wednesday.

Following 12 noon Mass

Tickets Available at Masses the weekend before

PARISH HEALTH & SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

Holy Spirit: Chris Burrows 07833 917587

St Paul's: Roman Kacprzak rzkap@icloud.com

Safeguarding

Parish Representative: Patricia McLean – 07842 911069

Diocesan Co-ordinator: 07515 598523

If you have any concerns about safeguarding or you are worried about an individual, please feel free to contact our safeguarding representative. If the individual is in immediate and real danger, please call the Police

This Week's Mass Schedule

Saturday	09/12	Holy Spirit	4:30 pm	November Dead List
		St Paul's	6:30 pm	People of The Parish
Second Sunday of Advent	10/12	Holy Spirit	9:30 am	Stephen Heptinstall
		St Paul's	11:30 am	Jack & Kitty Caine
Monday <i>St Damasus</i>	11/12	No Mass Today		
Tuesday <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	12/12	Holy Spirit	11am	Exposition & Benediction
			12 noon	Stephen Heptinstall (LD)
Wednesday <i>St Lucy</i>	13/12	St Paul's	12 noon	Brian Homan
Thursday <i>St John of The Cross</i>	14/12	Holy Spirit	9:30 am	Sr Veronica Igwe (LD)
Friday	15/12	St Paul's	9:30 am	November Dead List
Saturday	16/12	St Paul's	11 am	Exposition & Benediction
		St Paul's	12 noon	Brian Holdsworth
		Holy Spirit	4:30 pm	People of The Parish
		St Paul's	6:30 pm	Daisy Ann Morton (LD)
Third Sunday Of Advent- Gaudete	17/12	Holy Spirit	9:30 am	Nellie Dipper (LD)
		St Paul's	11:30 am	Mary Kennedy (LD)

LATELY DEAD: Please pray David Hodgson and Toni Daniels and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED:

OUR LADY'S LAMP

You can sponsor a lamp that will burn night and day before Our Lady's altar for a week. Available in both of our churches. Please use the envelopes provided at the back of church, minimum donation of £5 per lamp. Please stipulate where you would like the lamp to burn. The lamps will burn on a first come, first served basis and cannot be booked (as you do for a Mass).

HS: INNOCENT PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

SP: INNOCENT PEOPLE OF GAZA

CLUB

SP: Subs are being collected over the next three weeks so no draw until after Christmas

HS: 15 Jane Toulson

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Holy Spirit

Mass Count: 142

Envelopes: £176.00 **Loose:** £153.75

Standing orders October
£1744.00

Our Lady & St Paul's

Mass Count: 125

Envelopes: £128.85 **Loose:** £128.68

Standing orders October
£1976.50

PARISH NOTICES

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT: Tuesday December 12 at Holy Spirit church Heckmondwike 6pm. A wonderful showcase of vocal prowess for your auditory delight, to get us all in the festive spirit; followed by seasonal refreshments -everyone welcome.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY – the new edition has arrived and is available at £5 per copy. Looking for a stocking filler? Look no further!

SOUP LUNCH: This coming Wednesday (13th) after Mass in St Paul's Hall. Tickets are available after all Masses this weekend (£3).

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE: As we prepare to make our Confession before Christmas, it is helpful to use an examination of conscience. There are plenty available on the internet. There is a simple one available at the back of church for you to take away and ponder on.

ADULT FORMATION: Did you miss out on your First Communion or Confirmation? Do you know someone who did and who has expressed an interest in 'doing something about it'? You're never too old, so if you're interested in completing your initiation into the sacramental life of the Church, or you know someone who is, please speak with Fr Simon.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: We shall have a retiring collection this weekend to help off-set the Christmas flowers and decorations in both of our churches.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS flier detailing times of Masses, services and Confessions over the next few weeks is available to take away this weekend. Please take some to pop through the letterboxes of family and neighbours who might just be waiting for your invitation to 'come home for Christmas (and for good!)'.

CONFESSIONS: Fr Simon will be available to hear confessions after every Sunday Mass. You're going to fettle your house for the big feast so fettle your soul too!!

HOLY SPIRIT CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Thank you to all who came to our Christmas Fayre, we raised a fantastic £1822. The winning raffle tickets numbers- 280, 204, 209, 1185. A huge thank you to all our helpers behind the scenes and on the day.

PARISH FUNDRAISING: at the back of both church there is a large bottle for people to put in loose change and foreign coins. (Thank you to Fr Simon for emptying the original contents of the bottles!!) The contents will be shared annually between SVP, MISSIO (red boxes) and church maintenance.

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY'S SIXTH FORM: presents live crib, on Wednesday 13th December 11am at Longcauseway church, Dewsbury.

HOLY SPIRIT COFFEE MORNINGS: if you would like to help on a Sunday after Mass, please contact June Harris 07842 534122

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS CRAFTS: Saturday 16th December 2:30-4:30pm in St Pauls Church Hall. A Christmas crafts session aimed at children. This is a parent lead session where you can make crowns, reindeer food, decorate biscuits and make tree decorations, plus other surprises too £10 per child. Please contact Sam on 07533166998 to book a place.

AN ADVENT VADE MECUM: is available, price £1 at the back of church

ST PAUL'S 100 CLUB: subs are now being collected over the next three weeks, please ensure you have paid for your number during this time for the upcoming draws. You've got to be in it to win it!

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Today we meet the scary character of John the Baptist, just the sort of person you'd cross the road to avoid, especially if you happened to be a Pharisee! John's tough and direct message of preparation is one of faithful humility; it is a prophetic and uncompromising call for repentance and forgiveness. He reminds us that we are not readying ourselves to change the world alone; rather we are preparing to witness, and cooperate with, the grace and love of Jesus that alone can transform our world. Any change we want to effect begins with us.

But if we rely only on ourselves, each day is encumbered with myriad "winding roads" and "rough ways": a teacher struggles with managing an unruly class with diverse needs; a parent faces redundancy; a spouse is worried about the health of The Loved One. As much as we try to tackle these obstacles individually, it is imperative that we have the wisdom to recognize our own limited humanity. The job is impossible, and we are inadequate. The season of Advent is driven by this essential truth of our humanity: we are deeply, indeed completely, dependent on God and the sooner we recognize this the easier life and its trials become. We need God's grace, His help.

The beauty of Christian discipleship, and of Advent, lies not only in Jesus' saving grace, but also in Jesus' invitation. We are not passive spectators of Christ's mighty works. Jesus wants us co-piloting the craft with Him. This season we do not only witness the salvation of God, but Jesus calls us to join in his mission. Our call is not, by ourselves, to straighten the winding roads nor make smooth the rough ways of our broken world or to solve our own personal crisis or even to bear the burden of our personal struggles alone. That job is for a love and a manner of 'being' much deeper than our hearts can comprehend. In Advent, rather, we prepare to *join* in the work of Christ with zeal and compassion, to witness and share the vibrant kinship and radical hospitality of Jesus. Indeed, what could be a more profound preparation this Advent than opening ourselves more willingly to participate in the saving mission of Jesus for our own good and the good of all the world? It's not an easy thing to begin to do because it involves a change and there a precious few of us who are good at grasping that nettle. I find that as I slog my way through mid-life 'change' becomes harder. I also recognize that it is becoming more necessary.

If there are struggles that you are having to shoulder, have you brought them to prayer? Have you offered them during Mass? Have you been to Confession to receive more grace to help you? Have you asked me or another parishioner to pray *with* you, not just *for* you? What have you to lose? Nowt, that's what!

Last Laugh: Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read. *Groucho Marx*