

THE PARISHES OF ST AUSTIN & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, WAKEFIELD AND ST IGNATIUS, OSSETT



St Austin's, Wentworth Terrace, WF1 3QN
English Martyrs, Dewsbury Road, WF2 9DD
St Ignatius, Storrs Hill Rd, WF5 0DQ



Parish Priest: Fr Sean Crawley.
Assistant Priests: Fr Noble Joseph CST and Fr Philip Thornley

Parish Administrator – Marc Auty

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office.staustin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

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St Austin's School

Back Duke of York Street,

Wakefield WF1 3PF

Headteacher: Mr John Molyneux

Tel: 01924 339435

Email: jmolyneux@sa.bkcat.uk

English Martyrs' School

Dewsbury Road, Wakefield. WF2 9DD

Exec Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Spencer

Exec Head of School: Mrs Bridget Kerrigan

Tel: 01924 299244

Email: office@ems.bkcat.uk

St Ignatius' School

Storrs Hill Rd, Wakefield, WF5 0DQ

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Cooke

Tel: 01924 271625

Email: hcooke@stig.bkcat.uk

Mass Programme for the week 7 – 14 December 2025

DAY	FEAST	MASS	LOCATION	INTENTION
Saturday 6 December		9:30am 5:30pm 6:15pm	St Austin St Ignatius St Austin	Reparation to Immaculate Heart Priest's Intention Lee Jennings RIP
Sunday 7 December	Second Sunday of Advent	8:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:00am 5:00pm 6:00pm	St Austin English Martyrs St Ignatius St Austin St Austin St Austin	Pam Batty – Sick Pro Populo November Dead List Priest's Intention Vespers & Benediction Ellen Brummitt – Anniversary
Monday 8 December	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9:30am	St Austin	Caroline Dalziel – Anniversary
Tuesday 9 December		10:00am 11:30am 6:30pm	St Ignatius English Martyrs St Austin	November Dead List Eucharistic Service Ruben Jr. Pagdanganan & Family
Wednesday 10 December	Our Lady of Loreto	9:30am 10:30am	St Austin English Martyrs	John Francis RIP Bernard & Anne Martin – Intentions
Thursday 11 December		12 noon	St Austin	Mary Dunford – Birthday Anniversary
Friday 12 December	Our Lady of Guadalupe	10:30am 12 noon	St Ignatius St Austin	Thomas Keane - Anniversary Margaret & John North – Bday Anniversaries
Saturday 13 December	St Lucy	9:30am 5:30pm 6:15pm	St Austin St Ignatius St Austin	November Dead List Julia Renshaw – Anniversary Kenneth Button – Anniversary
Sunday 14 December	Gaudete Sunday	8:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:00am 5:00pm 6:00pm	St Austin English Martyrs St Ignatius St Austin St Austin St Austin	Pro Populo Fr Jude Mukoro – Ordination Anniversary John Barraclough Hubert Barber – 20 th Anniversary Vespers & Benediction Priest's Intention

Prayer 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.

REGULAR DEVOTIONS

Confessions	St Austin's St Ignatius English Martyrs	Saturday 10:00am to 11:00am & 5:15pm to 5:45pm Saturday 4:30pm to 5:30pm Before Sunday morning Mass.
Exposition	All churches English Martyrs	30 minutes before weekday Mass Thursday 7:30pm
Novena	St Austin's	Monday 7pm on 8 th & 22 nd December.
Rosary	English Martyrs St Austin's	Sunday 9am Friday 12:30pm
First Saturday Devotions	St Austin's	First Saturday of the month following morning Mass.

PARISH GROUPS AND CONFRATERNITIES (meet weekly unless stated otherwise)

DAY	GROUP	CHURCH CENTRE	TIME	CONTACT
Monday	Union of Catholic Mothers	St Ignatius	7:30pm	Christine Woodhouse
Monday (fortnightly)	Society of St Vincent de Paul	St Ignatius	6:00pm	John Sheerin
Monday (fortnightly)	Natter Matters	English Martyrs	6:30pm	Mary Matthews
Wednesday	Keep fit	St Austin	2:00pm	Debbie
Wednesday	Prayer & Praise	English Martyrs	6:30pm	Mary Matthews
Thursday	Parents & toddlers	St Austin	9:30am	Michelle Watson
Thursday	Parents & toddlers	St Ignatius	10:00am	Francesca Holmes
Thursday	Thursday club	St Austin	12:30pm	Josephine Dargan
Thursday	Singing for pleasure	St Austin	1:30pm	Eileen Worton

PARISH NOTICES

Christmas Mass Times: To enable Parishioners to plan ahead, vigil Masses will be at St Austin's at 5pm and at St Ignatius at 5:30pm, both preceded by carols. There will then be Mass at St Austin's at 11pm, again preceded by carols from 10:15pm. On Christmas Day, Holy Mass will be celebrated at English Martyrs at 9:30am, St Ignatius at 10am and St Austin's at 10:30am.

English Martyrs school host their Parish Christmas party on Wednesday 10th December starting at 2pm in the school. All Parishioners are invited for an afternoon of festive cheer.

Hospital Visits: It is important to let one of the Priests (or Marc in the office) know if a relative is admitted to hospital and would like a visit or to receive Holy Communion

Visit of the Lord Lieutenant: We look forward to welcoming Mr Ed Anderson, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire at the 11am Mass on Sunday 14 December at St Austin's.

Congratulations to Sandra Killeen who wins £500 for the December draw of the St Ignatius 100 Club with No61. There are plenty of numbers still available for 2026, see the note later in the bulletin for details of how to join the draws for both Parishes.

Volunteers are needed to prepare St Austin's for Christmas. There will be a session on Saturday 20th December 2025 from 10am to noon to give the church a thorough clean. The second session for a final spruce up will take place on Christmas Eve at 10am. Please come along to either session to help, even if you only have an hour to spare. Many hands make light work! It is so important that God's House is shown at its best for this great feast of the Church.

Loffhouse 2000 Brass Band are hosting a Christmas concert in St Austin's Theatre on Saturday 20th December starting at 7:30pm following evening Mass. This promises to be a fabulous evening in aid of Yorkshire Ambulance Service. Tickets available on the door.

Carol Service: The children from the Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust (BKCAT) Youth choir will join forces with the choirs of both St Austin's and St Ignatius' for a traditional service of readings and carols on Wednesday 17th December at St Austin's church starting at 7pm, followed by festive refreshments. All are invited.

Priestly Vocations: Time for prayers, questions, input from a priest and social time. There are two groups meeting simultaneously; under 18s and over 18s. Fridays 6.30pm-8.15pm: 19th December at Leeds University Chaplaincy, St Margaret's Avenue. Under 18 participants must complete and return a permission form prior to attending. For permission forms and to notify of attendance (all participants) please contact Vocations Promoter, Fr Simon Lodge at vocations@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

St Ignatius Christmas Raffle: Tickets are still available with the draw to take place after Mass on Sunday 14th December in the Parish Centre. Donations of prizes will be much appreciated, please contact either Colin Hirst or Eileen Lewis.

Nativity: The children from Years 1 & 2 at St Ignatius Primary invite all Parishioners to join them for the traditional Nativity play in the school on Friday 12th December, starting at 2:15pm.

Carol Concert: The children for KeyStage 2 at St Ignatius Primary school invite all Parishioners to join them for a concert to be held in the school hall at 3pm on Wednesday 10th December.

Christmas Cards: We have run out at the St Austin's Piety Shop and we cannot guarantee any more stock in sufficient time for Christmas. Please support both English Martyrs and St Ignatius for your Christmas card needs where there is still stock available.

Thank you to all who attended the Christmas Fair at St Ignatius last weekend. The event raised just under £900 for Parish funds which is a wonderful achievement. Thanks especially to all who worked so hard to make the event a success.

St Austin's Players are staging Cinderella, a pantomime on 22nd, 23rd and 24th January 2026. Evening performances at 7.30pm with a matinee on 24th at 2.15pm. Tickets can be ordered online by visiting <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/staustinsplayers>, ringing Joanna on 07740679963, or completing a flyer available at all churches. A **special guest appearance** by our Parish Priest Fr Sean means you won't want to miss it. Great family entertainment.

2026 Diocesan Directories have arrived and will be available to purchase at all churches next weekend. Priced again at £5 per copy.

St Ignatius Mini Vinnies would like to warmly invite all parishioners to a Christmas Lunch and Entertainment at St Ignatius School Hall on Tuesday, 17th December at 1:30pm, served by the Mini Vinnies. The cost is £5 per person, payable by card on the day (please note that cash cannot be accepted). As we need to confirm numbers with the kitchen, please inform Amanda Ross via the School Office on 01924 271625 **by Monday, 8th December if you would like to attend**. When calling, kindly leave your name. Last year's event was a lovely afternoon, and we hope to welcome many parishioners again this year for another joyful celebration.

Places available: St. Austin's Catholic Primary School has spaces available in both Foundation Stage (Reception Class) and Year 2 right now, with no waiting list. If you know of anyone looking for a loving, faith-filled, high-quality Catholic education for their child(ren) to attend please spread the word to family, friends and neighbours. Visits and informal discussions with the Headteacher, Mr John Molyneux, can be arranged on 01924 339435.

100/200 Club: There is always time to join! For **St Austin's and English Martyrs 200 Club**, forms are available at the back of both churches and can be left at St Austin's Presbytery, along with payments (either cash or cheques) in an envelope marked "200 Club". Payments can also be made online by bank transfer direct to the 200 Club account. More details from Sharon on sekatema@outlook.com.

For the **St Ignatius 100 Club**, please contact Lynn Williams for more details, either at Mass or on ryecroft@house@gmail.com

Catholic Truth Society: The CTS stand at St Austin's has been updated with new publications for the season of Advent. Please take time to look through the new material. All booklets are individually priced and money should be placed either in the wall safe at the bottom of the stairs or payment made by card through the DONA machine.

SOLD OUT. The Jubilate Singers concert to be held in St Ignatius school hall now has a lengthy waiting list for tickets. Please remember this is a ticket only event due to space restrictions but it is fabulous to report such a healthy level of support for this event. If anyone has bought a ticket but can now not attend, could they please let Rob know so that the ticket can be resold.

St Thomas a Becket Catholic High School are delighted to announce they have been graded 1 (Outstanding) by the Catholic Schools Inspectorate following their recent inspection. This is a phenomenal result and testament to the hard work and dedication of the staff, leaders and chaplaincy team. The Inspectors praised the Catholic life of the students and the ethos of the school and all staff and more especially pupils should be rightly proud. Parents from our wonderful 3 primary schools can rest assured that the superb Catholic education they receive is continued as their children move to senior school. The report can be accessed at <https://www.st-thomasabecket.bkcat.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/S48-November-2025-FINAL-Report.pdf>

Union of Catholic Mothers at St Ignatius are collecting Christmas Gifts again for St George's Crypt in Leeds, specifically for families in need and the homeless. Please do NOT wrap any items. Items to be collected by 10am Mass on Sunday 14th December 2025. Please help if you can (contact Christine Woodhouse 01924 260598).

Bulletins: Items for the Bulletin can be emailed to office.staustin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or office.stignatius@dioceseofleeds.org.uk before lunch time on a Thursday. Thank you.

Offerings & Donations: We recognise the financial challenges that everyone faces but our Parishes rely on your continued support and generosity to keep us thriving and indeed growing. In addition to the Sunday Mass offertory collections, Parishioners can also donate direct to the Parish by bank transfer using:

St Austin & The English Martyrs Sort Code 40-27-15 account number 51018566 account name Diocese of Leeds St Austins Wakefield.

St Ignatius Sort Code 40-27-15 account number 31018116 account name Diocese of Leeds St Ignatius Ossett

As a reference, please use "Offering" or "Restoration".

Where possible we also encourage Parishioners to use envelopes or standing orders to help us maximise offerings as we can, in many cases, claim Gift Aid tax relief at no additional expense to the donor. For information about **Gift Aid** please contact Niall O'Donnell at St Austin's or Michael Gara at St Ignatius for assistance. Alternatively, please email Marc our Parish Administrator for guidance.

In addition, there is a DONA machine at St Austin's to enable Parishioners to donate by card in this cashless society. At St Ignatius there is a QR code on the wall next to the Piety Shop which will allow direct card donations.

Collections this week:

	Gift Aid Envelopes	Loose	Standing Orders	Total
St Austin & The English Martyrs	£446.00	£1123.34	£1165.80	£2735.14
St Ignatius	£161.95	£300.05	£333.85	£795.85

Thank you for your continued generosity

There will be a second collection next week for Christmas Flowers

Please remember the sick of our Parishes in your prayers, along with the recently deceased, especially Monica Hurn.

Please ensure mobile phones are switched off and, as far as possible, observe a period of silence in church. This is a precious time for people to pray and prepare spiritually for Holy Mass.

PARISH CENTRE BOOKINGS

St Austin & The English Martyrs – contact Marc on office.staustin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or 07714 944587 or

Paul Blackburn on paulblackburn@talktalk.net or 07963 740556

St Ignatius – contact Janet Shaw on twins4483@sky.com or 07596 359449

SAFEGUARDING

The Diocese of Leeds is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. We affirm the One Church approach to safeguarding children, young people and adults, through the promotion of a sustained and sustainable culture of constant vigilance. More information at <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/safeguarding/>
Our Parish Safeguarding representatives are:

St Austin & The English Martyrs - Mrs Barbara Johnson, email psr.bjohnson@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

St Austin & The English Martyrs - Mrs Eileen Worton, email psr.eworton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

St Ignatius - Mr Rob Barraclough, email psr.rbarrac@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Second Sunday of Advent (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 30: 19, 30

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart

Collect

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 72(71):1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17. Rcf. 7

[R] In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement. **[R]**

In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth. **[R]**

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy. **[R]**

For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, 'Peace upon you.'
For the sake of the house of the Lord, our God,
I will seek good things for you. **[R]**

Second reading

Romans 15:4-9

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name. The Word of The Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight." Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Bar 5: 5; 4: 36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.