

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
office.stignatius@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

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 28 December 2025 to 4 January 2026

DAY	FEAST	MASS	LOCATION	INTENTION
Saturday 27 December		9:30am 5:30pm 6:15pm	St Austin St Ignatius St Austin	Priest's Intention Barnes Family & Friends Paul Booth RIP
Sunday 28 December	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	8:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Austin English Martyrs St Ignatius St Austin St Austin	Charles Hepworth RIP Pro Populo Priest's Intention Eileen Morton RIP Priest's Intention
Monday 29 December	St Thomas a Becket	11:00am	St Austin	Margaret & Barry Long – Wedding Anniv.
Tuesday 30 December		10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm	St Ignatius English Martyrs Chantry Chapel	November Dead List Fr Noble Joseph – Ordination Anniversary Richard, Duke of York RIP
Wednesday 31 December		9:30am 10:30am	St Austin English Martyrs	David Ellis RIP November Dead List
Thursday 1 January	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God	12 noon 12 noon	St Austin St Ignatius	Colin Croxall – Birthday Anniversary November Dead List
Friday 2 January	St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen	10:30am 12 noon	St Ignatius St Austin	November Dead List Maude Oxberry – Anniversary
Saturday 3 January		9:30am 5:30pm 6:15pm	St Austin St Ignatius St Austin	Reparation to Immaculate Heart of Mary Kathleen & Dennis Byram Priest's Intention
Sunday 4 January	2 nd Sunday after the Nativity	8:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Austin English Martyrs St Ignatius St Austin St Austin	Maggie & Bernard McDonagh & Family Priest's Intention Pro Populo Angelina, Dante & Apolinario Rosalejos RIP Priest's Intention

Please note various changes to Mass times this week, all shown in bold above.

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 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

Thank you: Fr Sean, Fr Noble and Fr Philip thank all Parishioners for your generous Christmas offerings and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Christmas break: The Thursday club, Singing for Pleasure and the Toddler Group all at St Austin's will be meeting again week commencing 5th January 2026. In addition the Prayer & Praise Group at English Martyrs will also be restarting week commencing 5th January 2026.

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

Piety Shops/Repositories are available at all churches, with the addition of a religious library at English Martyrs. There is a huge range of religious gifts, cards, candles and much more. Please take the time to stop after Mass and take a look at what is available.

First Holy Communion: If your child is Year 4 or above, is part of St Austin's & The English Martyrs Parish, and has already completed their First Confession then please get in touch with Beccy BEFORE Thursday 8th January, on 07958 147423 or by email on Catechist.staustin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Preparation for Confirmation at St Ignatius: Children in St Ignatius Parish and school in Yr 6 and above who have already made their First Confession and First Holy Communion, are invited to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation. The first session will be on Sunday 11th January. Information and enrolment forms are available from any of the Priests after Mass.

Richard, Duke of York: A traditional Latin Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the mediaeval Chapel of St Mary the Virgin (Chantry Chapel) on Tuesday December 30th for the repose of the soul of both Richard and his son Edmund, Earl of Rutland who both died during the Battle of Wakefield on this day in 1460. It is particularly apt as the 14th Century chapel was built specifically for Priests to say Mass for the souls of the dead, to reduce their time in Purgatory. All are welcome to Holy Mass.

St Gerard Majella: To mark 300yrs since his birth in 1726, the relics of St Gerard Majella will be venerated in St Austin's Church on Wednesday 28th January. Gerard Majella is today venerated as the patron saint of mothers, expectant mothers, children (particularly unborn children), good confessions, and the falsely accused. The finer details are still being planned but there will be the opportunity for private prayer, Holy Mass and individual and family blessings with the relics. Please save the date and further announcements will be made.

Prayer for Vocations: At the request of Bishop Marcus, this will be said aloud at all Masses through to Pentecost. There are cards available at all churches with the prayer on one side and an image of Our Lady of Unfailing Help on the other.

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.

Yorkshire Saints: Continuing the series of heritage evenings, there will be a presentation on Saints with Yorkshire connections in the St Austin's Parish Centre on Thursday 15th January, starting at 7pm. This promises to be a very interesting evening and all are welcome.

Bishop Marcus: Following the retirement of Bishop Terence Drainey in the Diocese of Middlesbrough, His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed Bishop Marcus Stock as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Middlesbrough, whilst retaining his current office as Bishop of Leeds.

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@outlook.com

Archbishop of Westminster: His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed the Right Reverend Richard Moth as Archbishop of Westminster. Archbishop-elect Moth will become the 12th Archbishop of Westminster, succeeding Cardinal Vincent Nichols, who has served in the role since 2009. Cardinal Nichols will now become Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Westminster until Archbishop-elect Moth is Installed at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday, 14 February 2026.

Parish Websites: These are now being reviewed in draft mode before being launched as soon as possible.

Epiphany: Tuesday 6th January is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of The Lord and is of course a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated as follows: Vigil at St Ignatius on Monday 5th January at 7pm; and on the feast day itself, English Martyrs at 9:30am; St Ignatius' at 10:30 and St Austin's at 12 noon and 7pm (solemn).

Lourdes Nurses Volunteer Appeal: Are you a qualified nurse? Would you like to join the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes (3-9 July 2026)? Please contact: lourdes.enquiries@dioceseofleeds.org.uk for further information. We desperately need registered nurses to join the team to enable our assisted pilgrims to travel to Lourdes. This is a wonderful experience, and many nurses return year after year. Please consider joining our friendly, happy team of volunteers and enjoy a truly blessed week with our assisted pilgrims.

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

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	£457.00	£809.09	£1156.57	£2422.66
St Ignatius	£199.26	£335.96	£333.85	£869.07

Thank you for your continued generosity

Please remember the sick of our Parishes in your prayers, along with the recently deceased, especially Liam Gallivan, Bernadette Gallivan and Brenda Hardaker.

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.rbarraclough@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Lk 2: 16

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Collect

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First Reading

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

A reading from the Book of Sirach

The Lord honoured the father above the children, and he confirmed the judgement of the mother over her sons. Whoever honours his father atones for sins, and whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure. Whoever honours his father will be gladdened by his own children, and when he prays he will be heard. Whoever glorifies his father will have long life, and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother. O son, help your father in his old age and do not grieve him as long as he lives; even if he is lacking in understanding, show indulgence; in all your strength do not despise him. For kindness to a father will not be forgotten, and against your sins it will be credited to you.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R1a

[R] Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper. **[R]**

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive
around your table. **[R]**

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the husband who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your life! **[R]**

Second reading

Colossians 3:12-21

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Brothers and sisters; Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your

hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

The Word of The Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Col3:15,16

Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Out of Egypt I called my son.' But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.' And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation, humbly asking that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Bar 3: 38

Our God has appeared on the earth and lived among us.

Prayer after Communion

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever. Through Christ our Lord.

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.