

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 15 – 22 March 2026

DAY	FEAST	MASS	LOCATION	INTENTION
Saturday 14 March		5:30pm 6:15pm	St Ignatius St Austin	November Dead List Georgina Thompson RIP
Sunday 15 March	Laetare Sunday	8:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Austin English Martyrs St Ignatius St Austin St Austin	Pro Populo Priest's Intention November Dead List Vechukarottu Chacko Joseph – RIP Francis Irem-Olo & Sandra Enemu
Monday 16 March	Blessed John Anne, Martyr	9:30am	St Austin	Geevarghese Philipose RIP
Tuesday 17 March	St Patrick	10:00am 10:30am 11:30am 6:30pm	St Ignatius English Martyrs English Martyrs St Austin	November Dead List Funeral Service – Brian Stephens RIP Paul Simmonite RIP David Jones - Anniversary
Wednesday 18 March		7:30am 10:30am	St Austin English Martyrs	John Lawrence, Amelia D'Cruz, Family & Friends RIP Cath Brown RIP
Thursday 19 March		12 noon	St Austin	Peter Cairns RIP
Friday 20 March	St Joseph	10:30am 12 noon 12:30pm 7:00pm	St Ignatius St Austin English Martyrs St Austin	November Dead List Neil Wilkinson – 1 st Anniversary Funeral Service – Catherine Brown RIP Stations of the Cross & Benediction
Saturday 21 March		9:30am 5:30pm 6:15pm	St Austin St Ignatius St Austin	Kevin Osborne – 5 th Anniversary Pro Populo Malcolm Waring – Anniversary
Sunday 22 March	5 th Sunday of Lent	8:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:00am 6:00pm	St Austin English Martyrs St Ignatius St Austin St Austin	Priest's Intention Priest's Intention Marjorie & James O'Neill Angelina Rosalejos RIP Francis Irem-Oko & Sandra Enemu

Please note changes to Mass schedule shown in bold above.

Advance notice for Paschal Triduum: Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Thursday 2nd April at 7pm at both St Austin's & St Ignatius. Celebration of the Passion of the Lord on Friday 3rd April at 3pm at both St Austin's & St Ignatius. The Easter Vigil will be celebrated on Saturday 4th April at 8pm at St Austin's only. There will be the usual Masses at all churches on Easter Sunday.

REGULAR DEVOTIONS

Confessions	St Austin 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	Monday 7pm on 2 nd , 16 th & 30 th March.
Rosary	English Martyrs St Austin's	Sunday 9am Friday 12:30pm
First Saturday Devotions	St Austin	First Saturday of the month following morning Mass.
Stations of the Cross throughout Lent	English Martyrs St Ignatius St Austin	Tuesday 10:45am Friday 9:45am Friday 7pm followed by solemn Benediction

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	Thursday club	St Austin	12:30pm	Josephine Dargan
Thursday	Singing for pleasure	St Austin	1:30pm	Eileen Worton

PARISH NOTICES

Lenten Day of Recollection: Wednesday 25th March at St Austin's Church. Refreshments from 10:30, beginning at 11am. The day will include talks, Mass, exposition, rosary and benediction. The day will end around 2:30pm. Lunch will be provided, please advise any dietary requirements to the office in advance. Donations to the cover the cost of lunch will be gratefully received.

First Confession at St Ignatius: Information is available for parents of children in Yr3 (or above) about first confession from any of the Priests. The preparation will begin very shortly, information will also be given out in school. Please note that any child wishing to make their First Holy Communion this Summer MUST have already made their first confession.

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

Balcony/Organ Loft: With immediate effect, the organ loft at St Austin's is now closed to everyone except Ministers of Music – organists, choir and musicians. There have been several health & safety incidents in recent weeks which has led to this closure. Would all Parishioners, especially families please come forward into the main body of the church. There is always room, especially closer to the front. The organ loft may be opened on days when we expect the church to be especially busy such as Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Christmas Mass in the Night etc, but this will then have a steward present. A prominent sign is displayed on the door and Ministers of Music must remember to keep the door closed behind them. This is primarily a safety issue so please do not ignore the notice on the door.

Accident Reporting: We have been reminded by the Diocese that all accidents, however minor should be recorded in an accident book; and any that require a visit to hospital must be reported to the Diocese. Accident books are held by Marc in the Parish office for all 3 churches and all Parish centres. Please ensure that all incidents are notified using the office email addresses on the front of the bulletin.

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. **Easter cards** are now available. Please take the time to stop after Mass and take a look at what is available. New stock has just been delivered for **ALL** churches so now is especially a good time to browse.

Veiling statues at St Ignatius: This will take place after Mass on Friday 20th March. Please stay after Mass or come along if you can help. Many hands make light work.

Church cleaning for Easter: Any additional help to prepare St Austin's for Easter would be gratefully received. The "big clean" will be on Saturday 28th March at 10am, aiming to be finished for 12 noon. There will be a final spruce up on Saturday 4th April also at 10am.

City of Sanctuary: Inderjit Bhogal - Founder of the City of Sanctuary will be giving a talk *Upholding Sanctuary - Challenging Hostility with Hospitality* at the Quaker Meeting House, Thornhill St, Wakefield WF1 1NQ on Wednesday March 18th at 7,30 - 9.00pm. All are welcome.

Red Mission Box: Could Pauline Goddard please contact Marc in the Parish office.

Former Presbyteries: The Parish has now agreed to the proposal from the Diocese and Catholic Care which will involve English Martyrs and St Ignatius presbyteries being used as small residential homes for two or three young children. Planning permission is expected to be granted and work will commence at some point in the near future.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: The 2026 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place Friday 3rd to Thursday 9th July 2026. It is hoped that there will be two flights from Leeds. The booking process is now open. Bookings can be made online on <https://www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-leeds/> or by phone direct with Tangney (01732 886666). Details are available with leaflets at the back of each church, especially including details for pilgrims requiring assistance.

Union of Catholic Mothers at St Ignatius will be collecting Easter Eggs for St Georges Crypt for needy families on the 22nd of March, please put eggs in the box at the back of church.

CAFOD Lenten Appeal: Thanks to everyone for your incredible generosity and support over Fast Day weekend which will enable CAFOD to help provide practical help to our global family, wherever the need is greatest. Together we are making a difference.

Lourdes Fundraising: The students from St Thomas a Becket Catholic High School thank everyone at St Ignatius for their support last weekend. There is a luxury hamper awaiting the lucky holder of the winning ticket, do you have the yellow ticket No – 162? Please contact Marc in the Parish office asap to claim your prize. If this is not claimed this week then the draw will be made again so please don't throw your tickets away just yet. The students raised over £400 for the Lourdes trip which is amazing. This means almost £1500 from both Parishes! Prizes at St Austin's and English Martyrs have been claimed so congratulations to the lucky winners.

Concert: We are delighted to welcome the Castleford Male Voice Choir to St Austin's Theatre, with special guests the Yorkshire Imperial Band for an evening of foot tapping tunes from the choir and brass band. This promises to be a wonderful occasion and tickets for Parishioners are offered at a discounted rate of £10 (instead of £12). Please contact Marc in the Parish office to get tickets at the reduced rate. The concert is on Saturday 21st March starting at 7:30pm.

Men's Group: The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday March 18th 7.45 for 8.00pm in the English Martyrs Parish Hall. All welcome.

Eucemical Services for Holy Week: There will be Stations of the Cross at English Martyrs Church on Monday 30th March, a Taize service at St George's Lupset on Tuesday 31st March and a reflective service at West Wakefield Methodist Church on Horbury Rd on Wednesday 1st April. All services start at 7pm and will be followed by refreshments.

WallFest 26: There will be a range of activities taking place during May 2026 to celebrate 200 years since the completion of Charles Waterton's wall around his estate in Walton. This includes a display and talk on the "Catholic Life of Charles Waterton" in St. Austin's parish centre on Thursday 21st May from 6:30pm. For further details see www.friendsofwatertonwall.com or pick up a leaflet from the narthex at St. Austin's church.

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 sekatemala@outlook.com.

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

Parish Finance: Following the appeal last weekend, now is the time to give further consideration to the amount given in the weekly offering. The costs of running and maintaining our churches constantly increases and we ask that everyone considers whether they could increase their offertory donation, whether by standing order, weekly envelopes, loose change or electronically via the machine or QR code. UK taxpayers can of course increase their giving by signing up for gift aid, at no additional cost to the donor.

Offertory Envelopes are still available from St Austin's and English Martyrs; and will be available this weekend from St Ignatius. If anyone would like to join the scheme, please contact Niall O'Donnell (niallodonn@aol.com) at St Austin's and Michael Gara (07710 025955) at St Ignatius.

Catholic Truth Society: The displays at all churches have been updated with new publications to assist prayer through the Lenten season. Please do take some time to browse what is available. All publications are individually priced. Money should be placed in the wall safe at the foot of the stairs to the balcony.

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

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.

Advance Notice: The Funeral Mass for **Mary Angela Sellers** will be held at St Ignatius on Tuesday 24th March at 12:30pm.

Offerings & Donations: 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	£572.00	£787.90	£1029.65	£2389.55
St Ignatius	£230.45	£343.90	£333.85	£908.20

2nd collection this week for Catholic Care

Thank you for your continued generosity

Please remember the sick of our Parishes in your prayers, along with the recently deceased, especially Mary Angela Sellers.

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

Laetare Sunday (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Collect

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

A reading from the First Book of Samuel

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.

The Word of The Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23(22):1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6. R1

[R] The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me; he revives my soul. **[R]**

He guides me along the right path, for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. **[R]**

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **[R]**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending. **[R]**

Second reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is

exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

The Word of The Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

John 8:12

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Gospel

John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

A longer version of the Gospel may be read.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. 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.