

A.M.D.G.

***PRAY FOR UKRAINE & THE HOLY LAND***

**THE PARISH OF ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS**

**Parish Priest:** Very Rev Canon Keiron Walker  
St Walburga's Presbytery – Kirkgate – SHIPLEY BD18 3LU

**Telephone:** 01274 583708

**SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A**



**Psalm Response:** *In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.* - **Gospel**

**Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.* - **Readings:** Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72(71), Romans 15:4-9 - **Gospel:** Matthew 3:1-12

[9:15 Mass: Communion Hymn 2: Prepare the way of the Lord (x2) and all people will see the salvation of our God.]

**Readers:** *St Walburga's Vigil:* J. Morris, J. Jackson - 9:15: N. Jamili, S. Edwards

<p><b><u>Lately Dead:</u></b> Patrick Hird, Peter Duff, Ethna Symth, Barbara Watmough – <b><u>Anniversaries:</u></b> Margaret Farrell (8<sup>th</sup> Dec.)</p>
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**Advent Candlelit Service:** *Sunday December 7th at 3.30p.m.* at St. Walburga's Church. Come and treat yourself to some reflective, peaceful prayer time at this busy time of year.

**Divine Mercy Parish Pilgrimage 2026: In the Footsteps of Our Northern Saints:** *May 5th to May 8th.* Cost £480. We will visit Stanbrook, Ampleforth, Byland, Whitby & Rievaulx Abbeys. We will stay at Wyedale Hall near Scarborough. If you are interested, please contact Joanna 07968024919. **Only a few places left!**

**Apostolate:** Divine Mercy Advent Reflection on *Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2025, 1-4:30pm* at St Walburga's Church. The reflection will include Holy Rosary, Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass with Adoration and Benediction, and Veneration of the Image of Divine Mercy. All welcome.

**Choir Practice:** There will be a Choir practice after the 9:15 Mass on *Sunday December 14th.* New members welcome!

*Keep praying for Ukraine, the Holy land, and the populations of all war-torn countries.*

<b>Collections</b> <b>30 November Offertory</b>	<b>St Walburga's</b> £444.02	<b>St Aidan's</b> £ 226.10
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**Vera Clark RIP:** As the family of Vera do not live locally, there are 2 Sympathy Cards (1 each for her daughter and son) at the back of BOTH Churches, if you would like to sign them. These will then be posted to Caroline and Robert, before Caroline and family return to Australia.

**Last call for the Parish trip to the Panto!** Our annual trip to the Panto will be to see Keighley Musical Theatre Company's *Robin Hood* on *Sunday 25th January 2026 at 2.15*. It is always a really fun afternoon watching a traditional family pantomime (*and much better value than at larger theatres!*). If you would like to join us, tickets are £14 adults and £12 concessions and children (*and children get a free ice cream at the interval!!*) Please ring Kath on 01274594539 or 07969417146 to book. **Last date for bookings is 10th December**

**First Aider required for the 5.45pm Mass on Saturdays:** If you are a regular attender at this mass and would like to help, please contact Barbara on [51barpolo@gmail.com](mailto:51barpolo@gmail.com). You may already have a qualification or be prepared to undertake training - either way we need you. Thank you.

**Knights of St Columba Inter-Parish Quiz** - The latest round of this enjoyable and challenging Quiz saw **St Walburga's' parish** carry off the magnificent trophy, holding off St Francis' and then Immaculate Conception by a short nose. Congratulations too to the other teams who kept them under pressure throughout. A much deserved 'Well done!' to the winners and to all concerned. 10 teams were represented. The next round is being arranged for 'a Monday' in late March, early April 2026.

**Bradford Metropolitan Foodbank:** Thanks to everyone who made a contribution to our collection this week - once again your generosity is amazing and the people at the Foodbank are always truly grateful! The Bradford Metropolitan Foodbank is a small organisation and run by volunteers so is well worth supporting, not to be confused with the Bradford North Foodbank, (which has collection points in some supermarkets), and has paid positions and is part of the larger Trussell group who can also access funding - all your donations and money for the Bradford Metropolitan Foodbank go directly to the people who need support. We were also able to donate almost £150 to the foodbank this month which is the proceeds of the Sunday morning tea and coffee social at St Walburga's. Many thanks to all concerned!

**Advent Day of Reconciliation:** *Tuesday 16th December, 7am – 7pm*. Leeds Cathedral. There will be priests available to hear confessions, and Exposition all day.

**Christmas Mass times** - *Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December* - Christmas Eve *5:00pm* Children's Mass at St Walburga's - *00:00 Midnight Mass* at St Walburga's - *Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December:* 9:15am: Christmas Mass at St Walburga's – 11:00am: Christmas Mass at St. Aidan's

**Carol Service at The Briery:** followed by mulled wine and mince pies - *Wednesday 17th December 7.30pm* at The Briery, Ilkley. All are welcome to attend this free event, but please book your place so we bake enough mince pies! 01943 607287 or [admin@briery.org.uk](mailto:admin@briery.org.uk)

**Franciscan Friars of the Renewal - Discipleship Days:** Please join the Franciscan Friars (CFR's) at St Patrick's Mission Church, Bradford. The theme is "*Called to Holiness: The Second Vatican Council after 60 Years*" *January 10* - Rosary, Holy Mass, reflection on Second Vatican Council documents, Confessions, Eucharistic adoration. Lunch provided.

**Catholic Care - Two Christmas Lunch Parties:** St John the Evangelist, Bradford *Tuesday 16th December, 12:30pm* & St Winefride's Church Hall, Bradford on *Wednesday 17th December, 1pm*. 3-course lunch and live music from the Toe Tappers. Tickets £6. Contact Jean (07960 983384), Michelle (07739 975000), or Moira (07952 258572).

**Chordiality Christmas Concerts:** Get into the special Christmas mood, listen to a wide variety of Carols and Readings and let Christmas begin. Festive Refreshments are included at both Concerts. *Sunday, 14 December, 3pm*, SS Peter & Paul Church Yeadon LS19 7HW. Free entry, donations for Mary's Meals. No tickets required but be there early to avoid disappointment. *Sunday, 21 December, 3pm*, First Martyrs' Church, Heights Lane, BD9 6HZ Ticket ONLY - £10 U12s FREE Church Doors will be locked at 3pm. Realistically, tickets need to be booked by Friday, 12 December, to avoid disappointment. Text Jo Kennedy asap for tickets: 07837 656 831.

**Leeds Cathedral Guided Tours Autumn Programme:** Free Guided Tour on *Saturday 13th December, at 1.30pm*. No booking is required. Please gather by the Baptismal Font at the back of the Cathedral.

**Neurodiversity And Our Catholic Faith research** by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and Birmingham Newman University. Adult neurodivergent Catholic or a Caregiver of a neurodivergent Catholic, we want to hear from you to help us become more inclusive and responsive to your needs. Surveys [here](#)

**Catholic Care Christmas Appeal 2025:** Catholic Care support 700+ families with special Christmas Eve Boxes filled with items to bring joy and togetherness. We're kindly asking for donations of chocolates or sweets to include in the boxes, or a cash donation to help us purchase items. To donate or learn more, please call 0113 388 5400. Thank you for helping us make Christmas brighter for those who need it most.

**Refreshments after 9:15 Mass at St Walburga's & after 11:00 Mass at St Aidan's:** *every Sunday in the parish room and hall. Please come along for a drink, biscuits (sometimes cake!!) and a chat. Everyone welcome.*

Online Donations: <https://donate.mydona.com/st-teresa-benedicta-shIPLEY>

Catherine Levavasseur: [office.stteresabenedicta@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:office.stteresabenedicta@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

Website: <http://www.stteresabenedicta.org/>

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Maintenance Co-ordinator: Chris Jones - [chrisjones163@sky.com](mailto:chrisjones163@sky.com)

Parish Safeguarding: Clare Hickey - [psr.chickey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:psr.chickey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

Headteacher of St Walburga's School (01274 531102): Mrs E. Fearnley

Headteacher of St Anthony's School (01274 592738): Mr A. Wilkinson

School Newsletters: [SBSJ](#) - [St Walburga's School](#) - [St Anthony's School](#)

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<b><u>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December</u></b> <b><u>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT- YEAR A</u></b>	5:45pm Vigil – St. Walburga's 9:15am – St Walburga's 11:00am – St Aidan's	Dick & Eve Meredith (A.) Rosey and John William Jordan People of the Parish
<u>Monday 8<sup>th</sup></u> <b><u>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</u></b>	<b>N.B. 10:00am</b> – St Walburga's 12:00pm - St Walburga's	Requiem for Peter Duff Kathleen Gill And Mary Kennedy Senior
<u>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup></u> <i>St Juan Diego Cuahtlatoatzin</i>	10:00am - St. Walburga's 12:00pm - St Aidan's	Ethna Symth (L.D.) <i>Service of the Word with Holy Communion</i>
<u>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup></u> <i>Our Lady of Loreto,</i>	10:00am - St Walburga's	Francesco Annechini
<u>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup></u> <i>St Damasus I, Pope</i>	9:00am - St Walburga's	Robert & Anna Ciastko
<u>Friday 12<sup>th</sup></u> <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	10:00am - St Walburga's 12:00pm – St Aidan's	Atack & Allison Families <i>Service of the Word with Holy Communion</i>
<u>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup></u> St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	10:00am - St Walburga's 5:45pm Vigil – St. Walburga's	Eileen & Denis Gilhooley People of the Parish
<b><u>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December</u></b> <b><u>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT- YEAR A</u></b>	9:15am – St Walburga's 11:00am – St Aidan's	Carole Robinson Maureen & Jim Vosper