

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, PUDSEY

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The Diocese of Leeds is a Registered Charity No 249404

29TH JUNE 2025: SOLEMNITY OF SS PETER & PAUL (YEAR C)

MASSES THIS WEEK:

Saturday 28th June (Ss Peter & Paul - Vigil)

Sunday 29th June (Ss Peter & Paul)

Tuesday 1st July (Feria) Wednesday 2nd July (Feria)

Thursday 3rd July (St Thomas, Apostle)

Friday 4th July (Feria)

Saturday 5th July (14th Sunday of O.T. – Vigil)

Sunday 6th July (14th Sunday of Ordinary Time)

6.30pm (Intention: The People of the Parish)

9.30am (Intention: Victims of the Air India tragedy)

11.00am (Intention: Edmund Broderick – B)

7.00pm (Intention: Anna Bukowinska – LD)

9.30am (Intention: Patrick & Kathleen O'Malley)

9.30am (Intention: November Dead List)

9.30am (Intention: November Dead List)

6.30pm (Intention: November Dead List)

9.30am (Intention: The People of the Parish)

11.00am (Intention: Martin Finlay - LD)

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 6.00pm-6.20pm; Tuesday 6.30pm-6.50pm.

REST IN PEACE: Please pray for the family and the repose of the soul of **Mrs Josephine Cudmore**, whose Requiem Mass will be at St Joseph's on Wednesday 16th July at 11.00am.

ONLINE SCRIPTURE GROUP: meets on Tuesday evenings. For info: pudseystjoseph@gmail.com

OFFERTORY RECEIVED LAST SUNDAY: Loose plate: £304.39; envelopes: £354.00; bank transfers: £298.50; Total: £956.89. Sincere thanks for your generosity! Ukraine appeal: £25.00. You can continue to give to CAFOD's humanitarian aid for Ukraine by putting your offering in an envelope marked 'Ukraine'. The collection for Peter's Pence (for the Pope's personal charitable intentions) will be taken after the Masses next weekend (apologies – it should have been this weekend).

LOURDES: St Mary's Menston Lourdes Group 2025 would like to say thank you to the parishioners of St Joseph's for making then so welcome and for their generosity. The cake sale on Sunday 8 June raised £220.65. Your petitions will be taken out to Lourdes, and you will be in the prayers of the group throughout their pilgrimage.

<u>PARISH CHANGES</u>: From the end of August Fr Peter will also be the Parish Priest of the parish of St William of York in Morley (the church is dedicated to St Francis), and he will reside in Morley and the presbytery here in Pudsey will be rented out (probably from October/November). This inevitably means that Mass times in both parishes will need to change. So, an initial proposal is for Saturday Vigil Masses at 5.00pm in Morley and 6.30pm in Pudsey and Sunday Masses at 9.30am in Pudsey and 11.00am in Morley (or perhaps the other way round?). Both Fr Peter and Fr Craig (at Morley) ask for responses to any proposal. Please do let Fr Peter know your thoughts and suggestions. With thanks for your consideration also for these difficult decisions.

APF RED MISSION BOXES: can now be emptied. Please leave your box in the sacristy (not the church porch please). They will be emptied and returned to you for the following weekend. Thanks to Pat Lucas for her work.

BAMBISANANI: Mr Farmer from our school will be selling handmade goods from South Africa after the Masses other the coming weeks. All proceeds are sent to help run a day care centre for orphans providing vital equipment. Thank you for your support so far - we have sent £1400, which makes a world of difference to the children who have so little. In the past our fund-raising has helped to fund a new water supply at Thembinfundo. Just a year ago, the people there had no fresh water, and now their lives have been transformed thanks to Bambisanani. For more info: www.bambisananipartnership.org

BISHOP MARCUS' MESSAGE TO THE FAITHFUL OF THE DIOCESE REGARDING THE RECENT PASSAGE THROUGH PARLIAMENT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ came that we might have life and have it abundantly (Jn 10:10). Within just a few days of each other, possibly the most morally bleak in our nation's recent history, the House of Commons passed legislation that we might have death: the possibility of death to an unborn child right up to the moment of its birth and the possibility of clinically assisted death to someone at the most vulnerable point of their lives, both without any criminal sanction.

Behind late term abortions lies a brutal reality which, if the public of our nation were to see and understand in all its graphic detail, would be repulsed at the thought of it. The awful truth is that many do not want to know about that reality, and it is a horror which much of the mainstream media seems reluctant to unmask. The care of pregnant women who are vulnerable is of course our moral duty, but this does not oblige the removal of legal protections and the loss of human rights to the unborn child.

The argument for compassionate treatment of those who are close to death and suffering unbearable pain is undoubtedly something few would contest. But the outcome of such an argument should be the provision of public resources which are poured into a country-wide system of palliative medical care and nursing, not the reallocation of funds from our National Health Service to finance a national service to assist suicide.

Although our many personal approaches and appeals made direct to Members of Parliament have planted some seeds to change and soften hearts, as is evidenced by the smaller majority which passed the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill at its third reading, it is hard to understand why the protests of so many professional associations failed to persuade that majority about the inadequate protections in the legislation.

Neither the amendment to the Crime and Policing Bill decriminalising abortion up to birth, or the proposal to legislate for state funded assisted dying, were featured in the government's manifesto; nor were they preceded by the public consultation which should accompany such momentous changes to our national legislation. Both pieces of legislation, if enacted by parliament, will only foster a growing 'culture of death'.

However, love is stronger than death. We are people of hope and our duty to defend and promote life does not end with the changing of laws.

The much-admired founder of the hospice movement, Dame Cicely Saunders, said "Suffering is only intolerable when nobody cares." This moment is a call for us to redouble our loving care for all contemplating difficult and painful choices affecting the beginning or end of this earthly life. We can do this both as individuals and as a community, by continued peaceful and persuasive campaigning, by supporting those striving to develop the highest quality of palliative medicine – and especially by prayer, compassionate counsel and accompaniment of those in distress, so that all people may recognise in themselves and others a unique soul loved by God.

My heartfelt thanks go to all across our diocese who have written to their Members of Parliament and sought their support in opposing these legislative changes. We must remember that this legislative process is not yet completed. It is important therefore that we continue our efforts to contest these changes as they proceed through the House of Lords.

May our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who came that we might have life, give light and hope to our world, and strengthen our resolve to proclaim with courage and conviction His Gospel of love and life to all around us.

+ Marcus, Bishop of Leeds 23rd June 2025

Charities which support vulnerable pregnant women include the Gianna Project run by Catholic Care in the Diocese of Leeds: https://catholic-care.org.uk/services/community/gianna-baby-bank/ and LIFE https://lifecharity.org.uk and for the terminally ill St Gemma's Hospice https://www.st-gemma.co.uk Bishop Marcus has produced a summary of the voting records in Parliament of the MPs in our diocese on these two crucial bills last week, which you can see on: www.stjosephpudsey.org.uk/pastoral-letter/

MARY'S MEALS FOREIGN/OBSOLETE COIN COLLECTION:

Mary's Meals is a national charity which feeds children a daily meal at school in some of the world's poorest countries, currently serving 2.4 million young people each school day across the globe. And every penny counts — it costs just £19.15 to feed a child with a daily meal for a whole school year! That works out at just 10p per serving. Over all the weekends in July we will be collecting any foreign or obsolete UK coins that you may have at home here at St Joseph's to support Mary's Meals. There will be a large wooden box for you to bring any coins in the church porch. For more info: https://www.marysmeals.org/