



# SAINT JOSEPH WITH SAINTS AIDAN & OSWALD

## BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Baptism is the gateway to all the Sacraments...

St. John Paul II was asked in an interview what was the most significant day of his life. JPII had travelled to more countries than any other pontiff, met dignitaries and royalty, any yet his answer was “it was the day I was baptised... because that is when the Divine Life began in me.” Pope Francis encouraged to know our own baptismal date and celebrate it, because ‘it is when the divine life began in us’. It is the greatest of gifts, for “what Jesus is by nature, we become through adoption” in baptism.

## NEW YEAR HOUSE BLESSING

For those who would like to have their house blessed at the beginning of this New Year, please use the signup sheet found in the narthex of each church.

## KNOWING AND EXPLORING FAITH

The followers of Jesus spent three years hearing his teachings, seeing miracles, and witnessing the greatest expression of his love for humanity when he gave his life of Calvary. The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a Journey in Faith for those wishing to become Catholics, and is open for all who wish to understand and deepen their own faith. By learning more about the Holy Bible, the life of Jesus and his followers, the Mass, the Sacraments, the Church, and what it means to be a Disciple of Christ, we can understand just how important our Christian life is in the World today. The meetings are friendly, informative, and interesting.

THE RCIA MEET EACH WEDNESDAY, 7-8PM, AT ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE. TEA AND BISCUITS.



Date	Time, Church	Liturgy	Other
Monday 12th January St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot	8.30am, SSAO 9am, SSAO 10am, SJ	Adoration & Rosary Eucharistic Service Mass	10am-12noon, SSAO: Welcome Centre
Tuesday 13th January St Hilary, Bishop, Doctor	8.30am, SSAO 9am, SSAO 10am, SJ	Adoration & Rosary Eucharist Service Mass	10am-12noon, SSAO: Welcome Centre  7-9pm, SSAO: AA
Wednesday 14th January	8.30am, SSAO 9am, SSAO 10am, SJ	Adoration & Rosary Eucharistic Service Mass	8.30-11am, SSAO: Diddy disciples  7-8pm, SJ: RCIA: for those who wish to explore the Catholic Faith
Thursday 15th January	8.30am, SSAO 9am, SSAO 10am, SJ	Adoration & Rosary Mass Mass	9.30, SSAO: Knit & Natter  7-9pm, SSAO: AA
Friday 16th January	9am, SSAO, 9.30am, SSAO 10am, SJ	Adoration & Rosary Mass Mass	
Saturday 17th January St Antony, Abbot	10am SJ 10.30 SJ 4.45-5.20pm, SSAO 5.30pm, SSAO	Mass Confession Confession (Vigil) Mass	
Sunday 18th January 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30am, SSAO 11am, SJ	Mass Mass	Baptism: Harper Louise Carter  7-9pm, SSAO: AA

## PASTORAL CARE



ANNE MARIE

## DIVINE WORSHIP



PETER

## BUILDINGS



LEONARD

### SOCIAL OUTREACH

My name is Anne-Marie, and my role on the parish council is Social outreach.

It is with great pride we can look back over the last 12 months to see what we have achieved as a community demonstrating faith and love within our Parishes.

We have shown commitment to meeting the needs of people needing help/support through our various active groups.

The Welcome Centre, SVP, Coffee mornings, Diddy Disciples group, Bereavement group, the AA, Knit&Natter, Whist Drive group, Christmas tree gifting, and Social events. The groups help to demonstrate our generosity and compassion in serving others.

2026 year presents the opportunity to grow these groups and begin new creative initiative.

### DIVINE WORSHIP

My name is Peter, and my role on the parish council is Divine Worship.

Together we have celebrated days of recollection, joint altar server training and events, class Masses, and Syro-Malabar community activities were introduced. Mass attendance has increased and devotions have grown:

- Lectio Divina course in June/July
- New Rosary Group at St. Joseph's.
- Daily/ weekly Adoration
- Marian procession in October
- International Mass in November
- Taize Service in March/ November
- Quarantore 19-22nd November
- Bereavement group formed.
- Blessing of graves
- All Souls memorial Mass

This year we hope to grow together in love of God and one another, as we move towards the amalgamation.

### BUILDINGS

My name is Leonard, and my role on the parish council is Buildings & Property.

The building committee was inaugurated in April 2025. We have visited both churches to assess the present state of the buildings and we are actively pursuing the diocese for a full condition survey on each of the buildings and surrounding area's, as this will help us prioritise the work that needs to be carried out. We are in the process of upgrading the fire alarms and emergency lighting in both churches and the parish centre. We look to welcome help, whether manual or professional, from parishioners. Please contact Father.

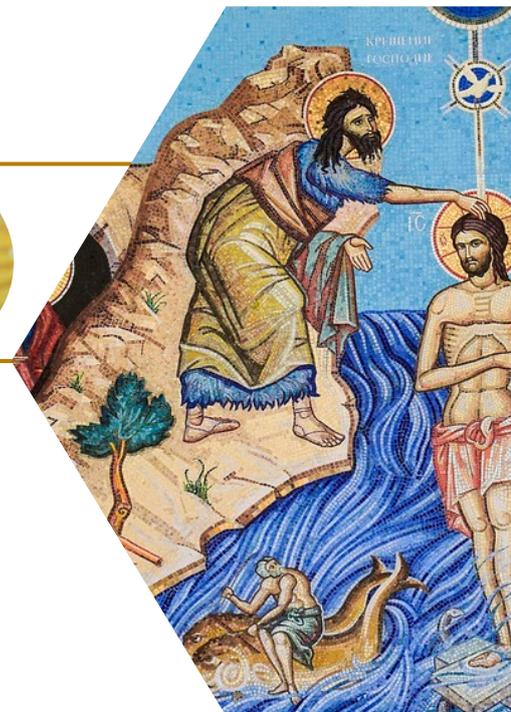
### Bishop John Arnold about Parish Councils

*This will help priests and people to share the running of each parish and will encourage true collaboration.*

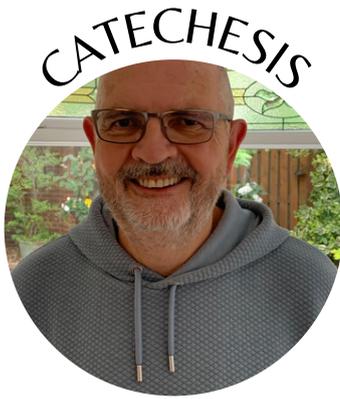


### The Parish Council is ....

*... a planning body with short and long term goals to foster and enhance the quality of parish community life in the light of the Gospel message. A Parish Pastoral Council, united with the parish priest, provides an effective way for the people of God to hear God's word spoken through fellow Christians.*



# SAINTS AIDAN AND OSWALD: PARISH COUNCIL



ANDREW

## CATECHESIS

My name is Andrew, and my role on the parish council is Catechesis.

In 2025 Catechesis in the parishes has consolidated and grown with meetings and teachings for Baptism, Children's Liturgy, Sacramental Programme, Bible study, RCIA and the weekly teaching in the homilies at Mass.

The strengthening of our faith through continued catechesis is building a foundation of faith from which we can go and evangelise (Proclaim the Good News) in our local communities in 2026!

Evangelisation - sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ - is for all of us, Catechesis helps us to have the tools to do the job.



TOM

## SOCIAL & EVENTS

My name is Tom, and my role on the Parish Council is Social & Events.

I run the Parish Centre, and help Father, alongside the Social Committee, to organise events.

Last year as a parish we enjoyed a three-day North-East pilgrimage to Holy Island and a week in Medjugorje, both uplifting experiences. Our first event, an evening with Dolly Parton, was a huge success. With a pilgrimage ahead following 'in the footsteps of St Paul', some day pilgrimages in the works and a social event calendar planned for this year we have an exciting year ahead where our parish will grow from strength to strength.

Making the effort to encounter each other and grow together, helps to build community and fend off loneliness.



CHRIS

## FINANCE

My name is Chris, and my role on the parish council is Finance.

A lot of gratitude is due to all the parishioners for their continuing support of the Mission-Life of the parishes through their generous donations.

During 2025 parishioners at both St Joseph's and SAAO have been encouraged to consider making their donations 'cashless', whether by Standing Order, Dona machine or QR codes. Hopefully in 2026 these alternative ways of giving will be used even more. Both Parishes are also moving to a more open dialogue about Parish finances - where the money comes from and how it is spent.



ALICIA

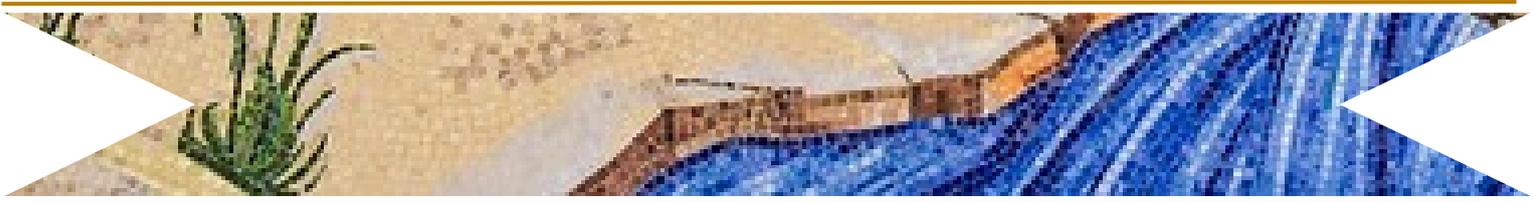
## SAFEGUARDING

My name is Alicia, and my role on the Parish Council is Safeguarding.

This past year has been incredible! We've welcomed over 120 amazing volunteers, strengthened safeguarding through training and Diocese partnerships, and delivered events with excellence.

Looking ahead, I am excited to deepen parish relationships, support the amalgamation journey, and grow confidence in safeguarding—building on a fantastic foundation for an even brighter future!

The Parish safeguarding representatives are available if you have a concerns or need to make a disclosure. Ultimately we are here to help create a culture of care and responsibility so that everyone is respected and feels safe.



## CHURCHES TOGETHER

St. Joseph's Parish will host Churches Together in Crompton & Shaw 'Week of Christian Unity'. Please save the dates:

Sun. 18<sup>th</sup>: Service, 6pm, SJ

Soup Lunches, 12noon

Monday 19th St Saviours CofE.

Tuesday 20th Salvation Army.

Wednesday 21st St Joseph's RC

Thursday 22nd Holy Trinity CofE.

Friday 23rd United Reform Church.



## PEACE SUNDAY: 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

Bishop John Arnold, President of Pax Christi England and Wales, writes "We are in a world torn by violence and war; a time of uncertainty; a time when strong leadership can help disperse doubt and show us a positive way forward in [...] hope... This is a challenging but exciting goal"

Our prayers for peace, and works of justice do make a difference.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

We welcome the children and their families who have joined the Sacramental Programme for SSAO.

St. Charles Lwanga is the patron saint of African Catholic Youth Action, converts, and torture

victims. We celebrate his feast on June 3. He was martyred in Uganda.



YOUTH CORNER

## PILGRIMAGE

For those attending the Parish Pilgrimage 'In The Footsteps Of Saint Paul' this April, we will meet on THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 7PM, ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE to discuss the itinerary.

## CHRISTMAS TREES

Thanks to Hedley Jackson Funeral Directors for providing the Christmas trees for the parishes.

Their kindness is greatly appreciated

*This day was made by the Lord. let us rejoice and be glad*

Psalm 118:24

## Whist Drive

St. Aidan's and Oswald's Community Room  
Vaughan Street  
Royton  
OL2 5DL



Whist is a 4 player game, where there are two fixed partners. Your partner sits facing you and the game is played clockwise

**BEGINNERS WELCOME**

3rd Monday  
Every Month  
1pm-3pm

Lifts available to and from the venue if required.

If interested please ring: 07479 961885

Next meet: Monday 19 Jan at 1 till 3

## DONATIONS VIA QR

St Joseph

Ss Aidan & Oswald



## ST JOSEPH'S RC PRI SCH.

Happy New Year! It has been lovely to hear children sharing their excited tales from the Christmas break. Our acts of worship this week have focused on new starts, thinking about resolutions and promises for the year ahead, and reflecting on how Jesus' baptism by his cousin John marked the beginning of his public ministry. We were delighted to welcome Ms Begum to our Nursery class while Ms Moore begins her maternity leave, and we congratulate her on the birth of her baby son just before Christmas. We also celebrated the Epiphany with Father Gavin, with the children singing beautifully.

## SS AIDAN & OSWALD SCH

The children returned to school refreshed and ready to learn after the Christmas break. We began the term by celebrating a beautiful Mass to mark the Feast of the Epiphany, giving thanks for the joy of the Christmas season and reflecting on the visit of the Magi. Throughout the week, the children have learned about the meaning of the Epiphany and how the Magi followed the light of the star to find Jesus. On Friday, the children in Year 3 also celebrated a lovely class Mass, which was very prayerful.

## ST CARLO ACUTIS

Relics of St. Carlo Acutis will be visiting the Diocese this month. I invite all Altar Servers to join me on pilgrimage to visit the relics.

WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

(Evening; more details to follow - email Fr. Gavin to book your place).



Anniversary: Anne-Louise Cummings, Father Joseph Howe, lately dead: John Goggins, Patricia Byrne, Michelle Diskin, Jeff Wright, Brian Jones, Jamie O'Regan, Priscilla Lundy, Josephine and John Hall

'When Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming to rest on him.' (Matthew 3:13-17)

Parish Priest: Fr. Gavin Landers | T: 0161 624 1322 | E landersgavin@gmail.com

A: Ss. Aidan & Oswald Presbytery, Vaughan Streer, Royton, OL2 5DL

Priest in residence (retired): Fr. John Scanlan | A: St. Joseph's Presbytery, Oldham Road, Shaw, OL2 8SZ

Facebook: Saint Joseph's RC Parish, Shaw | Ss. Aidan and Oswald R.C. Parish, Royton

If the SVP can be of any support to you, please contact: SJ: 07850 696676 Chris or SSAO: 0 7528 790623 Mike