



Our Lady's Catholic Parish, Acomb, York

Worship & Sacraments

Mass dates / intentions and other Services this week

Month dedicated to Our Lady

Sunday 10 th	9.30am 5.00pm	Mass: Helen & Tadeusz Jagus, RIP Mass: People of the Parish
Monday 11 th		No Mass
Tuesday 12 th		No Mass
Wednesday 13 th	9.30am	Mass: Mary & Arthur Marklew and Joan Shipman, RIP
Thursday 14 th <i>Ascension Thursday</i>	11.00am 1.45pm	Mass: Peter Smythe, RIP Mass at OLQM School
Friday 15 th	12.00noon	Mass: Joseph McMullen, RIP
Saturday 16 th		No Mass
Sunday 17 th <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.30am 5.00pm	Mass: Chrissie Longwith, RIP People of the Parish

Live-streamed at www.facebook.com/ourladysacomb/live

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.15 - 4.45pm Sunday (or any time by appointment)

Mass intentions: *Breffni McCormack, RIP; Doctor Katie Wallace, RIP Anniversary.*

Contacts

Our Lady's Parish House & Office Cornlands Road, Acomb, York, YO24 3DX

Rev. Tony Lester	<i>Parish Priest</i>	01904 791242	ourladysacomb@rcdmidd.org.uk
Rev. Peter Warren	<i>Parish Deacon</i>	07341 841006	peterwarren@rcdmidd.org.uk
Dr. Johan Bergström-Allen	<i>Parish Lay Pastoral Minister</i>	07782 782692	acombpastoral@rcdmidd.org.uk
Mrs. Sue Parkes	<i>Parish Administrative Assistant</i>	01904 791242	acombadmin@rcdmidd.org.uk
Kerry Gascoigne	<i>Parish Safeguarding Rep.</i>		psrouladyandstjoseph@rcdmidd.org.uk
	<i>Parish Pastoral Council Chair</i>		chair@ourladysyork.org.uk

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs RC Primary School & Nursery

For admissions/enquiries please contact the School Office 01904 806093

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Adams

enquiries@olqm.npcat.org.uk

All Saints RC Secondary School & Sixth Form

For admissions/enquiries please contact the Lower School 01904 647877

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Keelan-Beardsley

isenquiries@allsaintsyork.npcat.org.uk



www.ourladysyork.org.uk



www.facebook.com/ourladysacomb



www.youtube.com/ourladysacombbyork



www.flickr.com/photos/ourladysacomb



Parish WhatsApp group: to join please message Johan 07782 782692



Registered Charity 233748

SUNDAY *Plus*

6th Sunday of Easter **Divine Office Week II** Year A

Wanted and loved



I didn't yearn for a career, or maids and a fur coat, or a trip to Europe. All in the world I wanted was a happy, normal little family. Perhaps, if God could arrange it, Carl and I could have a boy first, and after that, a little girl. God didn't arrange it. In fact, as a doctor regretfully informed us, Carl and I couldn't have any children of our own...

Every time I walked down the street and saw a fulfilled mother strutting along the sidewalk behind a baby buggy, I was possessed with violent jealousy, envy and acute self-pity.

Carl, who was a patient man, finally had enough.

"For heaven's sake stop mooning, or you'll have us both neurotic," he said. "If having a baby is that important, why don't we adopt one?"

The more I mulled the idea over, the better I liked it. Wasn't motherhood

compounded more of love than biology?...

The social worker droned on, going down the two pages of the questionnaire we had filled in. God bless her, she shut her portfolio, smiled like an angel, and said, "I have a baby for you."

Just like that. "I have a baby for you..."

Carl said, "Well, Helen, have you everything you need to make you happy, now?"

"Almost," I said.

"What else?"

"A little girl," I said... "He ought to have a little sister..."

The greatest joy of my whole life has been as the mother of my twelve adopted children.

Helen Dass, *The Family Nobody Wanted*

Lord, help me to keep on going even when I am exhausted. Give me the energy I need to see me through the day. Help me to love you with every fibre of my being.  Amen.

Stay with me

"Out of all eternity, I chose you, I need you. I need your hands to continue to bless, I need your body to continue to suffer, I need your heart to continue to love, I need you to continue to save, Stay with me."

Here I am, Lord.
Here is my body.
Here is my heart.
Here is my soul.
Grant that I may be big enough to reach the world,
Strong enough to carry it,
Pure enough to embrace it without wanting to keep it.
Grant that I may be a meeting place, but a temporary one.
A road that does not end in itself, because everything to be gathered there, everything human, leads towards you.

Michel Quoist, *Prayers of Life*

Let us live our faith... in search of hope; but seeking to be ourselves the witness that offers hope to the world.

Pope Leo XIV

Feast of the week Thursday 14 May

The Ascension

Dear brothers and sisters, the Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence but tells us that he is alive in our midst in a new way. He is no longer in a specific place in the world as he was before the Ascension. He is now in the lordship of God, present in every space and time, close to each one of us. In our life we are never alone: we have this Advocate who awaits us, who defends us. We are never alone: the crucified and risen Lord guides us. We have with us a multitude of brothers and sisters who, in silence and concealment, in their family life and at work, in their problems and hardships, in their joys and hopes, live faith daily and together with us bring the world the lordship of God's love. In the risen Jesus Christ, ascended into heaven, our own Advocate who pleads for us.

Pope Francis

READINGS

Today:
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
1 Peter 3:16-18
John 14:15-21

Monday:
Acts 16:11-15
John 16:26 - 16:4

Tuesday:
Acts 16:22-34
John 16:5-11

Wednesday:
Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1
John 16:12-15

Thursday:
Acts 1:1-11
Ephesians 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20

Friday:
Acts 18:1-8
John 16:16-20

Saturday:
Acts 16:9-18
John 16:20-23

Next Sunday:
Acts 1:12-14
1 Peter 4:13-18
John 17:1-11

NEWS THIS WEEK

CATHEDRAL RUBY JUBILEE May 2026 marks the 40th anniversary of our Cathedral – the mother church of our diocese. There are a number of events planned to mark the occasion. Please see details on the poster in the porch.

MISSION APPEAL 2026 The Missionaries of Africa (formerly the White Fathers) will be making the appeal in all the parishes of the Diocese this year. Our turn comes on Sunday 17th May when Fr. Anthony Dampson SMA will make the appeal. At Our Lady's we also remember Fr. John Morrissey who belonged to this missionary congregation. The retiring collection next week will be to support the ministry of the Missionaries of Africa.

UPDATE Following a hospital appointment with X-rays during the week Fr. Tony has been signed off work for a further 6 weeks. This means that he will not be travelling to Lourdes at this point.

RETIRING COLLECTION Thank you for your generous response to the extraordinary collection to support the 2026 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. £678.00 was raised and this has already been transferred to the Diocesan Lourdes Account.

The retiring collection this week, 10th May, is for the Catholic Communications Service.

DIocese of MIDDLESBROUGH LGBT+ SERVICE Monthly Mass next Sunday, 10th May, at 3.00pm in the Chapel of the Bar Convent followed by refreshments in the Atrium. Doors open at 2.30pm. All welcome. If you arrive late and the door is closed please ring the bell.

THE ANNUAL ANTHONY STOREY MEMORIAL LECTURE 2026 will be on 13th May, on Zoom, at 7.00pm. The speaker is Sir John Battle, former MP and Chair of Justice & Peace, Diocese of Leeds, on the topic: "Hope in Turbulent Times". Details from Barbara Hungin, Chair of Justice & Peace, Diocese of Middlesbrough at bhungin@yahoo.co.uk See the poster in the porch.

ASCENSION THURSDAY is on 14th May. There will be Mass and at 11.00am in Our Lady's Church and at 1.45pm in OLQM School. **(Please note the change of time for Mass in the School)**

FORTHCOMING FUNERAL The funeral service for Breffni McCormack, RIP will take place at St. John the Baptist Church, Kirk Hammerton at 12.00noon on Tuesday 12th May. The 9.30am Parish Sunday Mass on 24th May will be offered for Breffni.

FROM OLQM SCHOOL TESCO BLUE TOKENS The application by Our Lady Queen of Martyrs PTA for the Tesco Blue Token scheme has been selected to be in stores from the end of April to end of July, which is great! The amount of money the school will get will depend on where we are placed (depending on counters collected) of the three projects being voted for at the same time. If you are shopping in your local Tesco in the next few weeks please use your blue tokens to vote for the school!

THE CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS AGENCY is conducting a safeguarding inspection within our Diocese and would like to hear from as many people as possible. The link to the form is available at: [Public call for information - Diocese of Middlesbrough – Fill out form](#) and this is available until 15th May 2026.

REGULAR ITEMS

IN YOUR PRAYERS please remember those members of our parish community who are sick, and those who care for them. We also remember in prayer those who have died, those who grieve, and those whose anniversaries occur.

YORK HOSPITAL. If you or a loved-one is going into hospital and would like a visit, the Sacrament of the Sick, or Holy Communion, please do let Fr. Tony know in advance, or contact Sue Ellis the acting Catholic Lay Chaplain either on her mobile 07748 108253 or via the Chaplains' Office 01904 725579. (Under GDPR we can no longer routinely access details of Catholic patients). In case of urgency, and if you cannot contact Fr. Tony, please ask the nursing staff or switchboard to page the on-call Catholic chaplain; a Catholic priest is on-call 24/7 (for urgent/emergency visits, not general pastoral visits).

CHILDREN'S LITURGY. Children are welcome to take part in an age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word each Sunday during the 9.30am Mass. For Safeguarding purposes, **children must be accompanied by a parent, carer, or appropriate adult**, and the use of mobile phones is not allowed.

RECURRING ADDITIONAL MASSES

- Italian: normally first Saturday of the month at 6pm in the Father Kelly Room
- Peacock Manor Nursing Home, Whixley: normally second Saturday of the month at 6pm
- **Diocesan LGBT+ Ministry**: second Sunday of the month at 3pm in The Bar Convent Chapel
- **Polish**: first and third Sundays of the month at 3.15pm in Our Lady's Church
- Mass with Sacrament of the Sick: first Friday of the month at 12 noon in the Father Kelly Room

REGULAR GROUPS

- **Monday Mindfulness** each Monday at 7pm in the Father Kelly Room
- **Life Ascending** on second Tuesday of the month in the Father Kelly Room [currently not meeting]
- **Our Lady's Brownies** each Wednesday 6 - 7.30pm in the Parish Hall
- **Liturgical Music Planning Group** meets monthly – contact the parish administrator for details.

VOLUNTEERING IN OUR PARISH. There are many ways to be involved: altar servers; readers; eucharistic ministers; music ministry, organists, and music planning group; live-streaming team; Sunday morning coffee; church cleaners; church flowers; catechists for children/adults; gardening group. Please contact the parish administrator if you are interested and she can put you in touch with the relevant person.

FAMILIES IN NEED. Our parish collects food (within sell-by-date please) and other household items for families in need that is distributed by Our Lady Queen of Martyrs School. Donations can be: left in the baskets in church; in the porch of the parish house; or delivered directly to the school when open.

Finance stewardship

Last week's collections

Parish Plate	£405.55	Card reader/QR	£158.00
Second collection	£455.00	Card reader/QR	£228.00
<i>Lourdes Pilgrimage</i>			
Roof (gutters & solar)	£2000.00	Card reader/QR	£65.00

Scan QR code
to donate online



Thanks to those who contribute via the plate, card reader, standing order, and in any other way. White Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of church. You may donate electronically at <https://donate.myдона.com/our-ladys-church-acomb> Parish costs are a shared responsibility; your ongoing generosity is appreciated.