

Monthly Parish Newsletter

Our Lady & St Chad

Kirkbymoorside, and

St Mary's Helmsley

August 2026



Mass times: all welcome

Sundays 9.00am | St Mary's,

Helmsley

Sundays 10.30am | Our Lady and St
Chad, Kirkbymoorside

Wednesdays 12.00 noon | Our Lady
and St Chad, Kirkbymoorside

Fridays 12.00 noon | St Mary's,
Helmsley

Sundays (Year A) & Feast Days:

Sun 2	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 3	Saint Oswald, King and Martyr
Thu 6	The Transfiguration of the Lord, Feast
Fri 7	Saints Sixtus II, Pope, and his Companions, Martyrs or Blessed Nicholas Postgate
Sat 8	Saint Dominic, Priest
Sun 9	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 10	Saint Laurence, Deacon, Martyr Feast
Tue 11	Saint Clare, Virgin
Fri 14	Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest, Martyr
Sun 16	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity
Wed 19	Saint John Eudes, Priest
Thu 20	Saint Bernard, Abbot, Doctor
Fri 21	Saint Pius X, Pope
Sat 22	Our Lady, Mother and Queen
Sun 23	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 24	Saint Bartholomew, Apostle Feast
Tue 25	Saint Louis or Saint Joseph of Calasanze, Priest
Wed 26	Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God (Dominic Barberi), Priest
Thu 27	Saint Monica
Fri 28	Saint Augustine, Bishop, Doctor
Sat 29	The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist
Sun 30	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 31	Saint Aidan, Bishop and Missionary, and the saints of Lindisfarne

Thought for the month: On Friday 24th July, there was an optional memoria for St Sharbel Makhluf, a 19th century Lebanese Maronite monk and hermit whom I would not have noted had he not been drawn to my attention as a saint of interest, by Lucy W as she just happened to glance at the Ordo in the sacristy at St Mary's. That evening at supper I heard the Abbot talking about St Sharbel and the strange and miraculous events surrounding his burial and events thereafter. Moreover, during his visit to the Lebanon, Pope Leo XIV spoke of the need to entrust to St Sharbel prayers for peace in the world, especially in Lebanon, and St John Paul II had already pointed to the saint as helping us appreciate both diversity and unity in the traditions of east and west. So, what were these remarkable and miraculous events? The 'Oxford Dictionary of Saints' is the most succinct, describing his hermit life as austere, fasting all year with no wine or meat, sleeping on a mattress of leaves with a block of wood for a pillow. Some months after his death and burial in 1898, (age 70) a well verified phenomena occurred: "...the body was fresh and incorrupt and was placed in a new coffin where a reddish perspiration (sometimes called blood or oil) flowed from him." (Other sources speak of a mysterious glow around the coffin). This continued to be observed in 1927 and 1950 after which many miracles occurred for those who invoked his name or were in contact with the 'blood', all of which (the dictionary emphasises) are verifiable. Three examples of the miracles accredited to him were a religious Sister who after a night of prayer and invocation to the saint, was cured of an incurable intestinal cancer; a man blind in one eye for years was healed after a dream in which St Sharbel appeared to him, and a woman with advanced throat cancer was healed after visiting his tomb. To conclude: part of the prayer beseeches the Lord to "grant us the grace of loving and serving you by following his example. Almighty God, who has manifested the power of St Sharbel's intercession through his countless miracles and favours, grant us ..." and then one makes intercession followed by the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be. St Sharbel Makhluf, pray for us.

With prayers, Fr Raphael

More information can be found on our website www.stchadkms.co.uk

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Events and Information:

Weekday mass: weekday mass is Wednesdays 12.00 noon at Our Lady and St Chad, Kirkbymoorside and Fridays 12.00 noon at St Mary's, Helmsley. Everyone is very welcome, especially visitors. **Mass online** is: [Bishops' Conference Daily Online Mass Directory](#) → or [Ampleforth Abbey Liturgy YouTube](#) →

Saturday Meditation at 10.30 in St Chads House, Kirkbymoorside is suspended during August and restarts on Saturday 5th Sept. We listen to a talk for 10 minutes or so, followed by silent meditation for 20 minutes, following the World Community for Christian Meditation approach. Everyone is welcome.

Foodbank: Ryedale Community Food bank - please look out for the Foodbank collection bins when you shop at local supermarkets or leave donations in the church porch; both at St Chad's and St Mary's. You can find a list of the most needed and preferred items in the porch. For information: there is a Foodbank distribution centre in Kirkbymoorside, in the Methodist Church, open every Thurs from 9.30 to 11.30am.

Ryedale Catholic Parishes: on Thursday 2nd July, parishioners and priests from Malton, Pickering, Kirkbymoorside, Helmsley and Ampleforth met together to consider how we can pray and work together better. There is a lot going on across the different parishes; watch this space for updates. Our first decisions were: to link up the communications between the parishes better (a shared comms group), and to meet again for prayer and further socialising – date to be confirmed soon.

St Chads book club will be meeting on 11th August when we will discuss "The Island of Missing Trees" by Elif Shafak. There is no book club in September.

Community Lunch begins again in September, every Tuesday in the Methodist Hall, Kirkbymoorside. If you feel you could help, perhaps just once a month - contact Julie Watson for details. Thank you.

Date for your diary: our annual 'get together' across both parishes is proposed for **Sunday 4th October** - after Sunday mass at St Chads. Please put this date in your diary; we would be delighted to see you there – there will be tea, cake and opportunity to get together.

New rota: At St Mary's, there is a **new rota** for reading, flowers, cleaning and welcoming.

For parish emergencies please phone 07944255541 or email raphael@ampleforthabbey.co.uk

If anyone would like the newsletter by email, please request via stchadsppc@gmail.com or ask Fliss. There is also a large print version of the newsletter available if needed - please ask.

Offertory Cash Collections:

June collection – apologies, this will be reported after the holidays.

Newsletter Items for September: Please send or give any items for the next Newsletter by **Friday 28th August** – to the St Chad's "Newsletter" box (back of church), Julie (St Chads), Fliss (St Marys), or send to stchadsppc@gmail.com

More information can be found on our website www.stchadkms.co.uk