

The Catholic Parish of St Mary, Leek
This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216
Compton, LEEK, Staffordshire, ST13 5NH
Tel 01538 382385 Email stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk Facebook @stmaryleek

**“Our vision is to be a Catholic Parish living Christ’s command,
‘Love one another as I have loved you’”**

Saturday 11 March
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
Exodus 17:3-7; Ps 94; Romans5:1-2,5-8; John 4:5-42
6pm Michael Carmody RIP

Sunday 12 March
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Janusz Szura (Spec Int)
11.30 am Sacrament of Baptism
4pm Stations of the Cross and Benediction

Monday 13 March
Public liturgy and live-stream

Lent Feria
2 Kings 5:1-15; Ps 41-42; Luke 4:24-30
9.40am Rosary 10am Paddy Moffitt RIP

Tuesday 14 March
Public liturgy and live stream

Lent Feria
Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Ps 24; Matthew 18:21-35
9.40am Rosary 10am For You, the people of the Parish

Wednesday 15 March
Public liturgy

Lent Feria
Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147; Matthew 5:17-19
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Thursday 16 March
Public liturgy and live-stream

Lent Feria
Jeremiah 7:23-28; Ps 94; Luke 11:14-23
9.40am Rosary 10am Mollie Fox RIP

Friday 17 March
Public liturgy

Feast of St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland
Jeremiah 1:4-9; Ps 116; Luke 10:1-12, 17-20
9.40am Rosary 10am Patricia Reilly RIP .
3pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 18 March
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ps 22; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-14
6pm PJ Lennon RIP

Sunday 19 March
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Mary Houston RIP
4pm Stations of the Cross and Benediction

Parish Priest
Parish Administrator
St Mary’s Catholic Academy
Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle
Safeguarding Rep
Archdiocese of Birmingham
NSPCC
Gift Aid Co-ordinator
Hospital Chaplaincy
Macclesfield District Hospital

Fr Martin Pratt	tel 01538 382385 stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
Mrs Alice Murray	
Mrs G Turner	tel 01538 493888
Mrs R Waugh	tel 01538 493777
Appointment pending	
	tel 0121 230 6240
	tel 0808 800 500
Mrs M Lawton	ga.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
University Hospital North Midlands	tel 01782 676400 ext 76400
	tel 01625 663386

Pope’s prayer intention for March Let us pray for those who have suffered because of the wrongs done to them from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Please pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life Can you set aside one day each month to pray for Vocations? If so, could you sign the list at the back of church, please.

Please pray for the sick: Jenny Kirkham, Moyra Chadwick, Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, Norman Syddall, Andrew Clifford, Janusz Szura.

Due to data protection legislation, in order for a name to be printed in this newsletter, the consent of the person who is unwell needs to be given.

Praying for the Faithful Departed Please pray for the repose of the souls of Judith Broun. Judith’s Funeral Mass will take place on Thursday 23 March at 10.30am.

Anniversaries: Dennis Joyce, Annie Moss, Martin Reilly, Mary Lewis, George Albert Hill, Stefan Kowalczyk, Vera Mary Piggott, Sidney Francis Hurst, Sister Anne Antonia Mckee I.B.V.M, Elsie Nash, Alice Coyle Cooper, Jane Munday, Evelyn Carding, Joan Doreen Shufflebotham, John Goodfellow, Martin James Moran, Elsie Moran, Marie Theresa Balay, John Brindley, Audrey Oulsnam, Sister Scholastica Davies I.B.V.M, Margaret Ann Ryan I.B.V.M, Sister Veronica Bill, Frederick Vincent Wood, Halina Turek, Jane Manuel, George Cockburn, Margaret Berrisford, Antonia Davies, Kathleen Proctor.

Dear friends, **Holy Moments** How are your Holy Moments? Keep looking for the opportunities to open yourself to God and collaborate with him in Holy Moments at home, at the shops, on the way to work, here in church. No Holy Moment is insignificant. Each Holy Moment is making the world a better place.

St Mary's Parish SVP In recent weeks, the SVP has arranged for the delivery of 24 meals to sick, elderly and isolated parishioners at their homes. The SVP Group recently received a lovely message of thanks from a family it is supporting, "Thank you for all the help you give us ... it goes a long way to alleviating our daily concerns." The Parish SVP is doing a great job! Let's continue to support them with both our prayers and donations. Their next meeting will be Thursday after Mass.

Parish Safeguarding Over the next few weeks, I shall be undertaking Safeguarding training which is compulsory for all members of the clergy in the Archdiocese of Birmingham. The courses which will be conducted online are: Safeguarding Adults; Child Protection; Child Exploitation; Mental Capacity.

Getting ready for Holy Week The Season of Lent is geared to renewing the God given dignity which we received from Him at our Baptism and helping us to prepare to celebrate Holy Week and Christ's actions which gave us salvation including our Baptismal dignity. This year will be first year since 2019 when we can celebrate Holy Week as fully as we can. I would like to invite as many as possible to be involved in the celebrations in church. I want this Holy Week to be a community celebration with as many people as possible being involved. Here's how:

Saturday 1 – Sunday 2 April Palm Sunday at the beginning of Holy Week celebrates Christ's entrance into the Holy City of Jerusalem. Weather permitting, before both Masses we shall gather in the Avenue to recall Christ's arrival at Jerusalem. Mass on this Sunday is also marked by the proclamation of the Passion from Matthew's Gospel. At both Masses, I would like to invite ...

- 2 additional readers to proclaim the Passion.

Thursday 6 April Holy Thursday 6pm Mass of the Lord's Supper re-remembers the Last Supper, the Washing of the Feet, the establishment of the Eucharist (Mass and the Blessed Sacrament) and the Priesthood. At the end of Mass, there is a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of repose with watching into the night, recalling Christ's prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. I would like to invite ...

- A reader for the First Reading, Responsorial Psalm & Second Reading
- 12 people to have feet washed during Mass
- A Eucharistic Minister
- Can you pray in church after Mass?

Friday 7 April Good Friday 3pm Celebration of the Passion. This solemn liturgy is characterised by three actions: the proclamation of the Passion from John's Gospel; the Veneration of the Cross; and, Holy Communion. I would like to invite....

- A reader for the First Reading, Responsorial Psalm & Second Reading
- 2 additional readers to proclaim the Passion
- 4 people to assist with the Veneration of the Cross
- 2 candle bearers
- 2 people to prepare the altar cloths
- A Eucharistic Minister

Saturday 8 April Holy Saturday 7pm Easter Vigil This is known as the "Mother of all Vigils" because of its importance as the most importance act of worship in the Church's liturgical books. There are four parts: the Service of Light, we gather outside the church at the New Fire to bless and light the Paschal Candle and process into the church with lighted candles; the Liturgy of the Word which includes three Old Testament readings, an Epistle and a Gospel reading; next, the Renewal of Baptismal Promises – this is the moment our Lenten programme is aiming at – and the blessing of Holy Water; finally, the liturgy of the Eucharist. I would like to invite...

- Preparing, lighting and extinguishing the New Fire
- 2 people to assist with lighting candles at the New Fire and for the Renewal of Baptismal Promises
- 4 readers to proclaim the Bible Readings
- 2 people to unveil the statues during the singing of the Gloria
- A Eucharistic Minister

My thanks to those who have signed up. If you can help with any of these, please do sign the list in the sacristy.

Christian Funerals There is a large number of adverts on TV and radio at present for hassle free Funerals; from all the adverts, this is a big business! For Catholics, a Funeral is an act of worship which has been given its Order from the Church. We are all familiar with seeing on TV and in films the use of secular music and non biblical readings. In a Christian Funeral, its not possible to include these aspects. For Catholics it is important that we have a Funeral in church. This may be either a Funeral Mass or a Funeral Liturgy. These may be preceded by a Vigil and Reception of the Body on the evening before the Funeral takes place. Following the Funeral in church either a burial or a cremation takes place; it is the view of the Catholic Church that ashes of one who is cremated are either to be buried or placed in a specially prepared location for the purpose. I have made available some fliers with the title, Instructions for my Funeral Mass. This helpful flier makes it easy for you to make arrangements for your Funeral; it is helpful for those people whose families and relatives have not been to church for a while. This flier is also helpful for those parishioners with relatives in care homes or receiving care at home. You could make two copies of the document: one for your personal papers and the other for your Parish Priest.

Parish Finance Committee Next Friday, 17 March, we shall have our Parish Finance Committee. The role of the Finance Committee is to support and help the Parish Priest in the administration of the parish. The Committee cannot assume control or act independently of the Parish Priest. The members must also be fully aware of the confidentiality required by them. The committee has no executive powers and all correspondence with the Diocese should be through the Parish Priest. The Committee should consist of all active parish clergy together with at least three lay people appointed by the Parish Priest. The Gift Aid Organiser and Parish Treasurer would normally be members. Lay members are appointed for a three year term and are eligible for reappointment at the end of the term. Among the matters for the Finance Committee are: All parish expenditure on projects of any nature which are expected to cost over £10,000; Consideration of future projects in connection with building (e.g. major repairs, modernisation etc.) arising from quinquennial or other surveys/reports; and, Regular inspection of Gift Aid records and number of Gift Aid donor.

Parish Priest references for Foundation Governors and Senior Leaders at Catholic Schools From time to time, every Parish Priest is asked to provide a reference for a parishioner who is applying to join a Local Governing Board, a Board of Directors or to take on a role as a either a Principal or Vice Principal at a Catholic School. This reference is an integral part of the application as these roles are acts of witness in a local parish community, they are formally appointed -like priests are – by the Diocesan Bishop, and represent the official teaching office of the Church in a particular school.

To be a practising Catholic is more than attending Mass. Here are some clear points to help define a practising Catholic: is a fully initiated member of the community – ie Baptised Catholic or Received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church who participates regularly within the Sunday Mass and participates in the prayer life (both public and private); who participates in the social action, the ministry and leadership, and the missionary concerns of the parish; he or she should not be at variance in the public forum vis-à-vis major doctrinal or moral teachings of the Church ie live a public life which does not contradict the Church's teachings on relationships and marriage by being a cause of scandal.

Ecumenical events during Lent

At St Wulstan's Wolstanton on Sunday 26 March at 4pm, an Ecumenical Service for Lent, with a performance of Stainer's Crucifixion. The service will be followed by light refreshments. All welcome.

Good Friday, Friday 7 April, Annual Walk of Witness This year, it is our turn to lead the annual Good Friday Walk of Witness in the centre of Leek. I haven't made any plans yet, but if you can help with singing, music, reading please let me know. There is a need for marshals to ensure the procession is safe. If you can help with this please let me know.

Second and other collections This weekend, 11 – 12 March CAFOD's Family Fast Day collection

Good Friday, 7 April

Annual collection for the Holy Places and Shrines of the Holy Land

Easter Weekend

Is one of the collections for Parish Priest and forms a major part of his income.

15 -16 April

Mission appeal by the Spiritan Fathers. Their Congregation was founded in 1703. Today there are over 3000 professed members

of the Congregation with lay Associates. Their mission continues in more than 60 countries around the world. Here is a link to their website <https://spiritans.co.uk>.

Cathedral Maintenance Collection £79.59 thank you for your kind generosity.

Collection

Last week's collection Gift Aid £77.00 Non- Gift Aid £97.39 Total £174.39