

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

Saturday 13 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16, 16:1-2; Ps 131; 1 Corinthians 15:54-57; Luke 11 :27-28
6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, Nikki (Spec Int)

Sunday 14 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

Apocalypse 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10; Ps 44; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26; Luke 1: 39-56
10am For you, the People of the Parish
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Monday 15 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Ezekiel 24: 15-24; Deut 32; Matthew 19: 16-22
9.40am Rosary 10am Margaret Rushton RIP (SVP)

Tuesday 16 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Ezekiel 28: 1-10; Deut 32; Matthew 19: 23-30
8.30am Holy Souls (HB)

Wednesday 17 August
Public liturgy

Feria in Ordinary Time
Ezekiel 34: 1-11; Ps 22 Matthew 21-1
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)

Thursday 18 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time, Parish Day of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations
Ezekiel 36: 23-28; Ps 50; Matthew 22: 1-14
9.40am Rosary 10am Edward and Mary Szczotka RIP
12 noon and 3pm Rosary
6pm Rosary and Benediction

Friday 19 August
Public liturgy

Feria in Ordinary Time
Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Ps 106; Matthew 22: 34-40
10am Funeral Mass for Natalia Narolski

Saturday 20 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Isaiah 66: 18-21; Ps 116; Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13; Luke 13: 22-30
6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, Kevin Oliver RIP

Sunday 21 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am For You, the People of the Parish
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Parish Priest
Parish Administrator
St Mary’s Catholic Academy
Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle
Safeguarding Rep

Fr Martin Pratt
Mrs Geraldine Duffy-Jentz
Mrs G Turner
Mrs R Waugh
Appointment pending
Archdiocese of Birmingham
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The Pope’s Prayer Intention for August: *We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating and serving their communities.*

Please pray for the sick: Pam Webb, Moyra Chadwick, Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, Norman Syddall, Andrew Clifford, David Wright, Janusz Szura and those who are in self-isolation and have been diagnosed with Covid-19.
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.

Prayers for the Faithful Departed We are asked to pray for the repose of the souls of Elsie Tideswell and Natalina Narolski. Natalina’s Funeral Mass will be celebrated, here at St Mary’s, on Friday 19 August at 10am. There will be a funeral liturgy for Elsie Tideswell on Monday 22nd August at 11.15am. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Anniversaries: Lily Nadin; Horace Keith John Drury; Joseph William Emery; Elizabeth Ann Walwyn; Theresa Elizabeth Plant; Mary Ellen Allen; Josephine Bull; Sandra Winifred Clayton; Mary Thompson; Harry Sherra



Dear friends,

The Sacrament of Confession – Reconciliation

Here is the second part of the article on the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the topic of sin.

What is sin?

Sin is failure in genuine love for God and neighbour caused by a disordered attachment to certain goods. It wounds human nature and injures human solidarity.

“GOD NEVER GETS TIRED OF FORGIVING US, BUT SOMETIMES WE GET TIRED OF ASKING FOR HIS FORGIVENESS.” POPE FRANCIS.

St Augustine calls it “love of oneself even to contempt of God.” In this proud self-exaltation, sin is diametrically opposed to the obedience of Jesus, which achieves our salvation (cf. Phil 2:6-9).

Sins are evaluated according to their gravity; the Church distinguishes between mortal and venial sin. Mortal sin destroys charity in a person’s heart by a grave violation of God’s law; it turns one away from God, who is our ultimate end and beatitude, by preferring an inferior good to Him. Venial sin doesn’t destroy charity in the soul, even though it weakens and wounds it.

For a sin to be mortal, three conditions are required: an action that has as its object a grave matter, committed with full knowledge (full awareness) and deliberate consent.

Sin is specified by the Ten Commandments according to Jesus’ answer to the rich young man: “Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, do not be unjust, honor your father and mother” (Mk 10:19). The gravity of sins is greater or lesser: a murder is more serious than a theft. The quality of the injured persons also counts: violence exercised against parents is more serious than that exercised against a stranger. A venial sin is committed when one does not observe in a minor matter the measure prescribed by the moral law, or when one disobeys the moral law in a serious matter, but without full knowledge or without full consent. Venial sin weakens charity; it involves a disordered affection for created goods; it impedes the progress of the soul in the exercise of the virtues and the practice of moral good; it merits temporal penalties. Venial sin that is deliberate and remains unrepented disposes us little by little to commit mortal sin. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1849–1864)

Parish Office Geraldine will be in the Parish Office on Mondays and Fridays between 830am and 1pm.

If you need to see the Parish Administrator or Fr Martin: we ask that you phone or email in advance, so that an appointment can be arranged at a convenient time for both. If you have an enquiry: please phone or email first to see if it can be sorted in this way. Masses can be requested by dropping off an envelope at the presbytery or given to Fr Martin. If you wish to request a particular date, then this is best done by coming to the office at the above times or by writing your telephone number on the envelope. Mass Intention envelopes are available at the back of church. Mass Cards can be purchased from the Piety Stall.

Back to School The new academic year is a few weeks away. Here are some key dates for everyone to know:

Friday 9 September 10am Mass in church with Year 6: parents and friends are welcome to attend Mass; the other classes at School will join online.

Saturday 10 September 6pm Family Mass in church. Children, parents and families are welcome for Education Sunday: let’s make God a part of this new school year and ask for His blessings on our learning and teaching

Thursday 15 September 4pm Meeting with parents of children preparing for First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation

Weekly School Masses will continue this year on Friday afternoons.

Deanery Visitation The parishes of our Deanery have been chosen for Visitation during the next year. The opening meeting of the visitation will take place at Holy Trinity, Newcastle, on Thursday 22 September at 7pm. The purpose of the Visitation is for the Archbishop or his representative to visit you: he wants to see you and to affirm and strengthen your faith.

Parish Day of Prayer for Vocations On Thursday 18 August, we will have a parish day of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for an increase in Vocations to the priesthood. The day will begin with Rosary at 9.40 followed by Mass at 10am. During the day parishioners are invited to pray for vocations in front of the Blessed Sacrament in 20-minute time slots. We will also recite the rosary at 12noon and at 3pm. The day of prayer will finish with rosary and benediction at 6pm. Please sign up for a 20-minute time slot on the sheet at the back of church.

SVP Summer Raffle. The Parish SVP group is continuing to assist isolated and elderly parishioners with meals on wheels deliveries. To support the SVP group, proceeds from our summer raffle will go towards this amazing work. Tickets will be on sale after Mass £1 per 5 tickets. The prizes include a meat voucher, bottle of whiskey, bottle of wine, chocolates, biscuits. The draw will take place on Sunday 14 August after 10am Mass. If you would like to make a donation towards the work of the SVP in our parish, please place donations in an envelope and hand them to Fr Martin or one of the stewards at the back of the church.

SVP helpers Can you spare a few hours each week to telephone elderly or isolated parishioners? If so, please see Fr Martin.

Important information for parents of children who will be in School Years 3 and 6 from September - Save the date - The meeting for parents and carers of children who are due to receive either their First Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2023. Parents and carers are advised that the compulsory meeting for parents will take place in church on Thursday 15 September at 4pm. It is essential that parents and carers attend this meeting with their children.

I would also like to inform parents of children who will be starting school Year 3 in September that the baptism of children aged 7 years old and over wishing to be Baptised must attend a course of instruction. Parents are asked to contact Fr Martin and attend Mass

Let’s be dynamic Catholics, let us:

- Be at Mass every Sunday: Sunday Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening at 6pm and Sunday morning at 10am
- Go to Confession once a month: Confession – the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated Saturday 10am – 1030am or by making an appointment.
- Praying for 5 minutes every day.
- Sharing our time and talent and treasure

Being safe in church While there are no legal restrictions in place, we want to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible. So we ask that:

- Use the hand sanitizer as you arrive at and leave the church.
- Please consider wearing a face covering while in church, as an act of charity to those who remain vulnerable or return home to vulnerable relatives.
- A number of benches still have cordons for those who wish to keep a physical distance and the church will be ventilated.

Can you help? The next parish Sweep and Cleans are on Saturday 20 August and Saturday 17 September at 10.45am. We will have tea and toast afterwards in the Narthex. Please let Fr. Martin know if you can help.

Dates for your diary

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| Monday 15 August | After Mass SVP meeting in the Narthex and 6.30pm Bible Book Club on Zoom |
| Thursday 18 August | Parish Day of Prayer for Vocations |
| Saturday 20 August | 10.45am Sweep and Clean |
| Monday 22 August | SVP Meeting after 10am Mass |
| Saturday 10 September | 6pm Family Mass in church for Education Day |
| Thursday 22 September | 7pm Deanery Visitation – Opening Meeting at Holy Trinity, Newcastle. |

4pm in Church: Meeting for parents of children who will receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation during 2023

Tuesday 1 November All Saints’ Day

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| 10/11 September | Catholic Education Service |
| 17/18 September | Catholic Evangelisation |
| 24/25 September | Fr Hudson’s: The social care agency |
| 23/24 October | Missio |
| 5/6 November | Johnson Associates for sick and retired priests |
| 19/20 November | Catholic Youth Services 3/4 December Poor Parishes |

Collection

Non Gift Aid £92.00 Gift Aid £178.28 Total £264.28

With prayers and best wishes for you and your family. Fr Martin