

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](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryleek)

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

Saturday 14 May

Public Mass and live-stream

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 14: 21-27; Ps 144; Apocalypse 21: 1-5; John 13: 31-35
2.30pm For you, the People of the Parish

Sunday 15 May

Public Mass and live-stream

10am Eric and Barbara Duffin RIP
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Monday 16 May

Public Mass and live-stream

Easter Feria

Acts 14: 5-18; Ps 113B; John 14: 21-26
10am Angela Bird

Tuesday 17 May

No Mass

Easter Feria

Acts 14: 19-28; Ps 144; John 14: 27-31

Wednesday 18 May

*Public Mass and live-stream
(please note change of time)*

Easter Feria

Acts 15: 1-6; Ps 121; John 15: 1-8
6pm Piotr Zwierski (GC)

Thursday 19 May

Public Mass and live-stream

Easter Feria

Acts 15: 7-21; Ps 95; John 15: 9-11
10am Fr Paul Hughes

Friday 20 May

Easter Feria

Acts 15: 22-31; Ps 56; John 15: 12-17
Mass will be celebrated at St Mary’s Academy
3pm May Devotions

Saturday 21 May

Public Mass and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, will be celebrated in the church.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29; Ps 66; Apocalypse 21: 10-14, 22-23; John 14: 23-29
2.30pm For you, the People of the Parish

Sunday 22 May

Public Mass and live-stream

10am Martin Hopkins
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Parish Priest

Fr Martin Pratt

tel 01538 382385 stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Administrator

Mrs Geraldine Duffy-Jentz

administrator.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk

St Mary’s Catholic Academy

Mrs G Turner

tel 01538 493888

Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle

Mrs R Waugh

tel 01538 714944

Safeguarding Rep

Appointment pending

Archdiocese of Birmingham

tel 0121 230 6240

NSPCC

tel 0800 800 500

Gift Aid Co-ordinator

Mrs M Lawton

ga.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk

Hospital Chaplaincy

University Hospital North Midlands

tel 01782 676400 ext 76400

Macclesfield District Hospital

tel 01625 663386

The Pope’s Prayer Intention for May: For faith-filled young people; We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary’s life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

Please pray for the sick Moyra Chadwick, Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, Brian Dale, 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.

Anniversaries: Elda Mathewson; Hannah Casey; Mrs Lovatt; Colin Sheldon; Maria Rita Kagan; Lionel Gregory Beetham; Frederick Cox; Maksymillian Kania; Anne Mary Stapleton; William Murphy; Mildred Rushton; William (Bill) Henry; Thomas Bostock; Dorothy Eileen Ash; Aleksander Jablonski; Edna Bernadette (Bunny) Rider; Marian Joy Witton; Father Joseph Anderson; Peter Roberts; Kenneth Oliver; Iwan Johnny Terluk; Agnes Smith; George O’Brien; Agnes Sullivan; Hilda Whitehouse; George Roby; Gilbert Hambleton; Leonard Michael Barker; Steven Thomas Allen; Elizabeth Smith; William Robert Whitton; William John Stevenson (Bill); John Moss; Angela Bird



Dear friends,

Let's prepare for Pentecost: "When Pentecost Day came around, the apostles had all met ..." (Acts 2:1)

I invite you to support the return to weekly attendance at Sunday Mass that is the Sunday Obligation which will recommence from Pentecost Sunday, the weekend of Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 June.

I know that some people still don't feel safe. It is for this reason that the Catholic Church in her wisdom and compassion teaches us that when someone is prevented from being at Mass due to illness, caring for the sick, and legitimate fear, there is no breach of the Sunday Obligation.

I look forward to welcoming you back to our beautiful church. You will be most welcome. It will be great to see you after the last two extraordinary years. While there are no legal restrictions in place, we want to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible. So we ask that:

- You 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.
- The church will be ventilated.

Let's get ready for Pentecost which is one of the three most important days in the Christian calendar.

- Let's be at Mass – Saturday at 230pm, Sunday at 10am
- Lets go to Confession – Saturdays 10am – 1030am or on request.
- Lets share our time – can you help with Sweep and Clean on these days? -Friday 27 May from 330pm and Saturday 28 May from 1030am
- Lets pray for 5 minutes every day. As we prepare for Pentecost let's use this prayer written by Pope Pius X:

O Holy Spirit of light and love, to you I consecrate my heart, mind and will for time and eternity. May I be ever docile to your Divine inspirations and to the teachings of the holy Catholic Church whose infallible guide you are. May my heart be ever inflamed with the love of God and love of neighbour. May my life faithfully imitate the life and virtues of Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him, with the Father, an you, Divine Spirit, be honour for ever.

Can you help, please? I am very grateful to the teams of stewards and cleaners who have made it possible to have public Mass in church over the last two years. It will be necessary to continue to clean the church after the Sunday Mass. If you can help, and if we can get at least one more team of 5 people it will share the work load. If you can spare 30 minutes on a Sunday after Mass, please let me know. Send an email to stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk

Preparing for First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation I want to encourage the parents and the families of the children preparing for these important occasions that it is crucial to be at Sunday Mass. We are preparing the children for communion with God and preparing them for communion with the Church - with the people of the parish who will witness the faith when you are at church. Over the last few weeks it has been good to see more families at Mass, and it is great to see you; the sacrifice which you are making will be worth it! Let's all encourage the families of all the children to bring them to Sunday Mass in church. My offer to the parents still stands: if you would like a refresher course in the Catholic faith over the next few weeks, please let me know. I am praying to St Joseph every day for the children and their families.

A Synodal Parish In our recent Synod Questionnaire you mentioned the following areas as priorities for our parish and for personal encouragement.

- ***The Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession*** - This is celebrated on Saturdays between 10am and 1030am. If you can't make this time, please do call to make an appointment.
- ***Reaching out to families, young people and children*** – It is great to see and to hear children at Mass especially on Sundays; it is a sure sign that we have a future generation. In the last week, I have been to the Chaplaincy at Leek College, the Parish Newsletter will be circulated to all parents of students at Painsley Catholic College in Cheadle, and I will be in contact with the Scout and Cub packs.
- ***Understanding the Scriptures*** - We shall continue to have Sunday Mass sheets with the Bible Readings; there has been a change for financial reasons. There will be similar sheets for Weekday Masses. There is Bible Book Club on Monday evenings on Zoom: at present we are reading the Book of Exodus. If you wish to join, please let me know.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 21 May	1045am Faith for Kids in the narthex
Thursday 26 May	Ascension Thursday: Mass will be celebrated for the School during the day and a Parish Mass will be celebrated at 6pm
Friday 27 May	10.30am St Mary's Catholic Academy Jubilee Celebration 330pm Sweep and Clean
Saturday 28 May	1030am Sweep and Clean
Monday 30 May	1030am Meeting for Eucharistic Ministers SVP Meeting in the narthex

Thursday 2 – Sunday 5 June HM Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee extended Bank Holiday

A second collection to support the local Diocesan response to those seeking safety in the Archdiocese from war in Ukraine

Archbishop Bernard Longley has asked parishes to hold a second collection on the 14/15 May 2022 to support our ability to respond to the many needs connected with this work of welcome. Any money donated will be held as a restricted fund by Father Hudson's and will only be used to support any necessary work. More details of the Diocesan Ukraine Appeal are available on the Archdiocese of Birmingham website. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, the diocese has requested that you donate via www.justgiving.com/campaign/aobukrainianappeal. Or by using this QR code.



St Mary's Parish Piety Stall the reopening will take place very soon with new stocks of First Communion and Confirmation cards; rosaries, crucifixes and Mass Cards. There is also a vacancy at the Piety Stall. I am looking for a volunteer to look after the Piety Stall at Sunday Mass. If you would like take on this role, please chat to Sue who does the ordering and looks after the Piety Stall on Saturdays.

Queen's Jubilee Celebrations On Friday 27 May St Mary's Catholic Academy warmly invites parishioners to join them in their Jubilee celebrations. Firstly, a time capsule is being created and is to be buried on the morning of 27 May. The children and staff will be writing letters to their future selves about their hopes, aspirations and dreams. The school would welcome letters also from Parishioners, so that the Parish and School are united together in the time capsule. Any letters requested to be delivered to St Mary's Catholic Academy by Monday 23 May. Secondly, the parish are invited to attend a Jubilee themed bingo session from 10:30am-11:15am. Refreshments will be provided. Participants are asked to arrive at 10:30am through the main school entrance. All visitors will be required to sign in at the front office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 01538 493888

Important notice if you or a relative will be going into Hospital at the Royal Stoke University Hospital To ensure that you or your relative receives a visit from a member of the Catholic Chaplaincy, for the next few weeks, at least, at the Royal Stoke University Hospital and County Hospital in Stafford, if you are admitted as a patient, even if they know you are a Catholic, the chaplaincy will not be automatically informed, and neither will anyone ask you if you want a visit. In order to be visited, you must contact the chaplaincy office – 01782 676400 for Stoke and 01785 887659 for County. Sacraments can still be administered at the bedside, even if someone has Covid (the office needs to be informed beforehand).

Young Adults Group In your 20s or 30s? Interested in discussing and deepening your faith? Please join us for a faith-based young adults group starting **Tues 17 May** at Coolock Pastoral Centre (access from Stubbs' Gate, ST5 1LU), **7-8pm**, meeting on a fortnightly basis. We will be watching and discussing the first 8 episodes of 'The Chosen', a contemporary multi-series television drama based around the life of Jesus Christ. If you would like more details, please email fr.marco.egawhary@rcaob.org.uk. Open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike, feel free to bring a friend!

Food Bank There has been an appeal for donations of non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. Items can be left in the basket at the back of the church. Donations of perishable food items can be left at St Mary's Academy, Cruso Street.

Facebook Mass we can't have a collection Thank you to those who have used the "Donate" button on the Parish Website. If you would like to donate by standing order, please email me at the Parish Office - stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk.

With prayers and best wishes for you and your family as we continue to celebrate Christ's Resurrection

Fr Martin