

The Catholic Parish of St Mary, Leek
This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216
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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 15 October
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Exodus 17: 8-13; Ps 120; 2 Timothy 3: 14-4:2; Luke 18: 1-8
6pm Vigil Mass, Pam Webb RIP (PW)

Sunday 16 October
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Pauline Milward RIP
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Monday 17 October
Public liturgy and live-stream

Memorial of St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr
Ephesians 2: 1-10; Ps99; Luke 12: 13-21
9.40am Rosary 10am Mabel and Harold Kelsall and Family (Spec Int)
11.30 Funeral Liturgy for Pamela Webb

Tuesday 18 October
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feast of St Luke, Evangelist
2 Timothy 4: 10-17; Ps144; Luke 10: 1-9
11.45 Funeral Liturgy for Johannah Renshaw
7pm Deanery Station Mass, Vocations to the Priesthood

Wednesday 19 October
Public liturgy

Feria in Ordinary Time
Ephesians 3: 2- 12; Isaiah 12: Luke 12: 39-48
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)

Thursday 20 October
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Ephesians 3: 14-21; Ps32; Luke 12: 49-53
9.40am Rosary 10am Edward and Margaret Donahoe RIP

Friday 21 October

Feria in Ordinary Time
Ephesians 4: 1-6; Ps1; Luke 12: 54-59
1.30pm Mass will be at St Mary’s Academy, parents and parishioners are welcome!

Saturday 22 October
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Ecclesiasticus 35: 12-14, 16-19; Ps32: 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18; Luke 18: 9-14
6pm Vigil Mass, Martyn Wilkes RIP

Sunday 23 October
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
NSPCC
Mrs M Lawton
University Hospital North Midlands
Macclesfield District Hospital

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The Pope’s Prayer Intention for October: For a Church open to everyone: We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

Please pray for the sick: Moyra Chadwick, Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, Norman Syddall, Andrew Clifford, 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 pray for the repose of the souls of Pam Webb and Johannah Renshaw. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Pam’s Funeral Liturgy will be on Monday 17 October at 11.30am and Johannah’s Funeral Liturgy will be on Tuesday 18 October at 11.45am.

Anniversaries: Wanda Tichosz; Eric Hampson; John Thomas Malkin; Ethel Plant; Tadeusz (Teddy) Laskowski; Sister Mary Angela Haslam I.B.V.M.; Rose Clarke; Vere Florence Malkin; Hilda Matthews; Jozef Gorski; Winifred Cooper; Margaret Whittaker; Mary Teresa Westaway; Thomas Healey; Gerald Anthony Ball; Nora Joan Smith; Rose Robinson; Ellen Kathleen Woodcock; Cyril James Clulow; Beryl Alice Parr



Dear friends,
From Monday evening to Friday afternoon I was at Thornycroft Hall near Macclesfield making a spiritual retreat. It is a requirement for priests in the Archdiocese of Birmingham to make a spiritual retreat every two years.

There were 6 priests on the retreat: a member of the Society of Pius XI; a parish priest from Liverpool; a priest from Germany; a retired priest from Salford; and myself and one other from the Archdiocese of Birmingham. During the week we were guided to reflect on the Beatitudes (Mt 5 1-12) as the qualities and characteristics of the priest. It was an excellent week and I am refreshed and ready to go.

Parish Visitation Archbishop Bernard will be visiting St Mary's on the weekend of 5 and 6 November as part of the wider visitation of all the parishes in the North Staffordshire Deanery. The parishes in our Deanery cover a large area from Clayton and Trent Vale, all the parishes in the Potteries, and several parishes across the Staffordshire Moorlands. The Archbishop will be visiting the parish to meet you. You are his parishioners and it is right that you have the chance to meet with him. The Visitation is not an inspection. It would be good that as many people as possible meet him. The Visitation will be focused on the Diocesan Vision: "We are called to be a Catholic diocese which is: faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour." Since the last Visitation in March 2018, there have been huge changes to our lives: the pandemic, the cost of living, the impact of the war in Ukraine, and how the media reports all of this to us. We are to provide the Archbishop with some key parish statistics and your responses to the Synodal Pathway. All of this will need to be in the context of a realistic look at future structures that are viable: there may not be a resident Parish Priest or two Sunday Masses. You will know that there are fewer people coming to church for Mass and in a short time there will be less than 100 priests for the parishes in our Archdiocese. We will not be able to sustain our current practice too far into the future. With this in mind, I am reminded of the parable of the fig tree (Luke 9:6-9)

"Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?' " "Sir," the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not then cut it down.'"

I need **your support**, friends! Let's be responsible for our part of the vineyard. Let's nurture it. Let's make it grow so that it will produce good fruit. I believe that we can reverse the trend. Let's be bold. Let's show that we want God in our lives. I want to encourage you to these actions:

- Let's return to Mass - I want to invite those who have not been to Mass since the beginning of the pandemic; those whose children will be receiving First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation next year: let's support the children in the best way by bringing them to Mass!
- Let's return to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Let's set aside 5 minutes every day to pray.
- Let's share our time, talent and treasure.

October, the month of the Rosary Almost every weekday we pray the rosary before Mass: the group of parishioners in church are our parish prayer group with people joining online. We pray for a number of intentions: some for particular causes in our parish, others for events we see and hear about in the news. If you can support the daily prayer of the rosary especially during the month of October I am sure that it will strengthen your prayer and faith.

A million rosaries Tuesday 18 October Children are being encouraged to pray the rosary for peace and harmony in the world on 18 October: it would be great if we could join them! Let's take up this initiative and be part of something great!

Rosary during October at St Mary's Catholic Academy The school would like to welcome you to share in saying at least a decade of the Rosary with the children of the Little Way prayer group on a Tuesday and Wednesday lunch at 12:45-1pm during the month of October. If you would like to join with them in saying the Rosary, at any point, or know other parishioners, parents, grandparents or carers who would like to join, please let Mrs Mellor know by calling the school office.

Deanery Station Mass Tuesday 18 October 7pm Can you help on this occasion, please? It is my hope that a good number of people will come from the parishes across the deanery. We need some help with stewards to welcome people to the church and guide people at Holy Communion, and with refreshments after Mass. If you can help, please sign the list at the back of the church.

Calendar for 2023 Our St Mary's Church Calendar for 2023 is now on sale after Mass at £5. Could you buy two calendars? The SVP group could then pass on the second calendar to one of the people they visit at home.

Sunday 13 November: Remembrance Sunday Poppy display Following the great success of last year's display of knitted poppies for Remembrance Sunday, we are going to repeat the project this year with the hope a bigger and better and brighter display in the Avenue. If you can knit some bright red poppies following the same pattern as last year, please let us know by sending a message to stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk. There are patterns available at the back of the church. We also need volunteers to help with the assembly of the knitted poppy display in the avenue on Saturday 12 November at 10.45. Please send a message via email if you can help with this.

Christmas Raffle We already have many amazing prizes including a crystal vase, lunch for two at the Blue Mugge, a meat voucher and many more. Tickets will be available soon. Can you take some tickets and sell them to your neighbours please?

Missio Red Box Collections Please don't leave donations at the presbytery. Make cheques payable to 'Missio Red Box'. Mark the reverse side of the cheque with reference – BIR131 and send in the post to Missio, 23 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1NU.

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.

Youth Day Weekend 19-20 November, 2022 The amazing students at Painsley Catholic College will join us for 6pm Mass on Saturday 19 November, leading music and singing and writing and reading the Bidding Prayers.

Thank you! Father Hudson's Care have sent a big thank you to St Mary's parishioners for raising £158.96 for their charity.

Dates for your diary			
Monday 17 October	Bible Book Club on Zoom	Tuesday 1 November	Mass for All Saints Day
Tuesday 18 October	7pm Deanery Station Mass at St Mary's	Saturday 3 November	6pm Family Mass
Thursday 20 October	7pm Journey of Faith	5 and 6 November	Parish Visitation
Sunday 23 October	Sunday Social after 10am Mass	Sunday 13 November	Remembrance Sunday: Act of remembrance after Mass
Thursday 27 October	SVP meeting after 10am Mass	Saturday 19 November	6pm Mass with music by young people from Painsley School
Monday 31 October	2pm Early Vigil Mass at St Mary's Academy for the All Saints Day. Parents and parishioners are welcome; be aware you will be required to sign in on arrival.	Monday 21 November	7pm Mass for Deceased relatives and friends and benefactors
		Thursday 24 November	5pm Parish Council
		Sunday 27 November	Sunday Social and 200 Club after Mass
			12.30pm Blessing of the crib at Market Square

Holy Days of Obligation Tuesday 1 November

Second Collections 23/24 October Missio
19/20 November Catholic Youth Services

All Saints' Day

5/6 November Johnson Associates for sick and retired priests
3/4 December Poor Parishes

Collection

Gift Aid £106.10

Non Gift Aid £95.04

Second Collection Cafod £201.55