

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 16 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Genesis 18: 1-10; Ps 14; Colossians 1: 24-28; Luke 10: 38-42
6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, For You, the People of the Parish

Sunday 17 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Janusz Szura (Spec Int)
11.30am The Sacrament of Baptism after Mass
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Monday 18 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Micah 7: 14-15, 18-20; Ps 84; Matthew 12: 46-50
9.40am Rosary 10am Kevin Oliver RIP

Tuesday 19 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Micah 6: 1-4, 6-8; Ps 49; Matthew 12: 38-42
Mass of Thanksgiving at the end of School Year
9.40am Rosary 10am Donor’s Int.

Wednesday 20 July
Public liturgy

Memorial of Saint Apollinaris, Bishop, Martyr
Jeremiah 1: 1, 4-10; Ps 70; Matthew 13: 1-9
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)

Thursday 21 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 2: 1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 35; Matthew 13: 10-17
9.40 Rosary 10am Jim and Ger Moore Int.

Friday 22 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feast of St Mary Magdalene
2 Corinthians 5: 14-17; Ps 62; John 20: 1-2, 11-18
10am Kath O’Donnell
3pm Rosary and Benediction

Saturday 23 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Genesis 18: 20-32; Ps 137; Colossians 2: 12-14; Luke 11: 1-13
6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, For You, the People of the Parish

Sunday 24 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Ada and Ken Worthington
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

tel 01538 382385 stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
administrator.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
tel 01538 493888
tel 01538 714944

Gift Aid Co-ordinator
Hospital Chaplaincy

Mrs M Lawton
University Hospital North Midlands
Macclesfield District Hospital

tel 0121 230 6240
tel 0808 800 500
ga.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
tel 01782 676400 ext 76400
tel 01625 663386

The Pope’s Prayer Intention for July: *We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; May their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility*

Please pray for the sick: 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.

Anniversaries: William Davenport; Molly Brookes; George Bernard Adams; John Morgan; Ellen Barlow; Jerzy (George) Kowalski; Catherine Ellen Jarvis (Kay); Gabriele Haywood; Anne Nancy Brough; Margaret Cross; Norman Stafford; Elizabeth Barnes; Pauline Wright; Judith Mary Theresa Goldstraw; Alfred Moss; Frances Bostock; Irene Sneyd; Jan Josef Bonczyk; Barbara Mary Wood; Margaret Pickford; Arthur Sheldon; Harriet Ann Cartledge; Kay O’Connor



Dear friends, Last Saturday, 2 July, we shared an uplifting Club Day! Congratulations to Joe for organising a great occasion. Let's look forward to next year.

Last Sunday, I took the opportunity to join the Edge@Alton Youth Group. During the afternoon there was Mass celebrated by Fr Chris, the Parish Priest and Chaplain to the Kenelm Youth Service, in the beautiful nineteenth century church designed by Pugin. After Mass we all enjoyed some refreshments and some activities which included a quiz. The group of youngsters had their own team with Fr Chris while I joined the team consisting of their parents. I am happy to report that I was on the winning team!

The Edge@Alton youth group is a great place for our parishioners in school years 6,7 and 8 to meet together, grow in friendship, fun and faith. Sadly, last Sunday there were no youngsters from Leek present. I guess that this is due to the long drive to Alton. My journey was over 30 miles. Is there any way that we as a parish can support the Edge@Alton Youth group with transportation for young people of our parish to join

this group?

A new Prime Minister and the importance of Catholic Social Teaching. These last days have been politically tumultuous with the resignation of the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, and now the entry of candidates into the Tory leadership race. The media is tending to focus on the economic policies and the taxation positions of these hopefuls, yet we know there is much more to the common good than economics, however important. What will candidates do to support families? To care for the needy and marginalised? To foster peace, reconciliation and justice in the international community? The events unfolding at the moment encourage us as Catholics to deepen our knowledge understanding of the Church's moral and social teaching. Catholic Social Teaching (CST) originated in 1891 with the Encyclical Letter, *Rerum Novarum*, A new thing, by Pope Leo XIII. It focused on the ill treatment of people at work and the lengths unscrupulous employers would go to during the industrial revolution. Since then, CST has addressed a wide range of issues including peace, the option for the poor, the common good and more recently the care of creation.

The Mass and the Blessed Sacrament. Here is the next extract from the article on the Mass, the Eucharist and the Blessed Sacrament. In this segment, we are reminded of the Mass as the Banquet of the Church.

5. The Eucharist, Paschal Banquet of the Church

5.1 Why is the Eucharist the Paschal Banquet of the Church?

"The Eucharist is the Paschal Banquet in as much as Christ sacramentally makes present his Passover [his 'passing' from this world to the Father through his passion, death, resurrection and glorious ascension and gives us his Body and Blood, offered as food and drink, uniting us to himself and to each other in his sacrifice" (*Compendium* , 287)

5.2 Celebration of the Eucharist and Communion with Christ

"The Mass is at the same time, and inseparably, the sacrificial memorial in which the sacrifice of the Cross is perpetuated and the sacred banquet of communion with the Lord's Body and Blood. But the celebration of the Eucharistic sacrifice is wholly directed towards the intimate union of the faithful with Christ through communion. To receive communion is to receive Christ himself who has offered himself for us" (*CCC* , 1382).

Holy Communion, ordained by Christ (*Take, eat ... drink of it, all of you ...* (Mt 26:26-28. Cf. also Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26) forms part of the basic structure of the Eucharistic celebration. Only when Christ is received by the faithful as the food of eternal life does his making himself food for us achieve its deepest meaning, and the memorial He instituted is carried out. This is why the Church so ardently recommends sacramental Communion to all who take part in the Eucharistic celebration, when they fulfill the necessary conditions to receive the Blessed Sacrament worthily.

5.3 Necessity of Holy Communion

When promising us the Eucharist, Jesus stated that this food is not only useful, but that it is necessary if his disciples are to have life. *Truly, truly I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you* (Jn 6:53).

Just as natural food keeps us alive and gives us strength in this world, similarly the Eucharist strengthens in us the life *in Christ* received at Baptism, and gives us strength to be faithful to our Lord on this earth until we reach the Father's house. The Fathers of the Church saw in the bread and water that the angel gave Elias a "type" or foreshadowing of the Eucharist (1 Kg 19:1-8). After receiving these gifts, Elias recovered his strength and was able to fulfil God's mission.

Holy Communion, then, is not just a necessity for some of the faithful more especially involved in the Church's mission, but rather it is a vital necessity for everyone. Only those who nourish themselves on Christ's own life can live in Christ and spread his Gospel. Christians should always have the desire to receive Holy Communion, just as the desire to achieve our last end should always be present in our life. This desire to receive Communion, explicit or at least implicit, is necessary for attaining salvation. Moreover, the actual reception of Holy Communion is necessary, with the necessity stemming from Church law, for all who have reached the age of reason "The Church obliges the faithful to take part in the Divine Liturgy on Sundays and feast days and, prepared by the sacrament of Reconciliation, to receive the Eucharist at least once a year, if possible during the Easter season" (*CCC* , 1389). This Church law is just a minimum, which will seldom be enough to develop a genuine Christian life. That is why "the Church strongly encourages the faithful to receive the holy Eucharist on Sundays and feast days, or more often still, even daily" (*CCC* , 1389).

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.

A Synodal Parish in a Synodal Church One of the priorities which you highlighted was the need to address the shortage of clergy. The best way we can do this is praying for Vocations to the Priesthood. At the back of the church there is a sign-up monthly prayer calendar: if one person in our parish can pray for vocations to the priesthood each day of every month it will be a testimony to our belief in the power of prayer and our need for priests.

During August, we shall have a day of prayer for Vocations. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for a day and you are invited to come to church to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Can you help?? I am incredibly grateful to the new Brass Cleaning Group. As well as ensuring that all the brass in church is kept in top condition, they have been very generous to offer to clean the sanctuary and the two side chapels.

Cleaning the church on Sundays after Mass – if you can help with cleaning the church after Mass on Sunday, I will be most grateful for your help.

Altar Serving – the ministry of altar server is very important for young people and helps their spiritual development. If you want to start altar serving, working as a member of a team, having an important role in our parish, being a leader of the people, please see Fr Martin.

Painting and decorating – the toilet at the back of the church requires decorating; the external walls of the garage; and the statue of St Therese in the avenue. Could you and a group of friends look after the sanctuary and two side chapels – with dusting and vacuuming?

<u>Dates for your diary</u>	Monday 18 July	630pm Bible Book Club on Zoom
	Saturday 23 July	1030am Sweep and Clean, Could you help for an hour to tidy the car park and avenue?
	Sunday 14 August	Monthly Parish Social after Mass

Holy Days of Obligation

Sat 13 & Sun 14 Aug	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday 1 November	All Saints' Day

Collection **Non Gift Aid £119.91** **Gift Aid £160.50** **Total 280.41** **Second Collection – Stella Maris** **£148.50**

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