

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 20 May <i>Public liturgy and live stream</i>	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confession <i>Acts 1:12-14; Ps 26; 1 Peter 4:13-15; John 17:1-11</i> 6pm Walsh Family INTS
Sunday 21 May <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	10am Piotr Zwierski RIP 4pm Rosary and Benediction
Monday 22 May	Easter Feria <i>Acts 19:1-8; Ps 67; John 16:29-33</i>
Tuesday 23 May	Easter Feria <i>Acts 20:17-27; Ps 67; John 17:1-11</i>
Wednesday 24 May <i>Public liturgy</i>	Easter Feria <i>Acts 20:28-38; Ps 67; John 17:11-19</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 25 May	Memorial of St Bede the Venerable <i>Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 15; John 17:20-26</i>
Friday 26 May <i>Public liturgy</i>	Memorial of St Philip Neri <i>Acts 25:13-21; Ps 102; John:15-19</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Saturday 27 May <i>Public liturgy and live stream</i>	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST 10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confession <i>Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; Corinthians 12;3-1,12-13 John 20:19-23</i> 6pm Januz Szura- Zwierski (Spec Int)
Sunday 28 May <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	10am Piotr Zwierski RIP 4pm Rosary and Benediction

Parish Priest	Fr Martin Pratt	tel 01538 382385 stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
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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

Pope’s prayer intention for May For church movements and groups We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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.

Anniversaries: John Moss, Angela Bird, Annie Josephine Munday, Carmel Brookes, Josef Grzegorzek, Panteley (Peter) Skuba, John Gell, Angela Rose Bird, Lorraine Catherine Kaczorowski, Feliks Milaszkiwicz, Wilfred Charles (Bill) West, Joseph Ambrose Mernagh, Terence Alfred Bowyer, Christine Rose Davies, Mary Collier, Kathleen Anne Quirk, Stanislaw Narołoski, May Frith, Harold Leo Sheldon, Mary Alfreda Pilney (Freda).

Dear friends, **Preparing for Pentecost** This week of the Church's calendar which precedes the great celebration of Pentecost next weekend is a week of prayer to the Holy Spirit. At the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles, we hear how Saint Mary prayed with the apostles in the Upper Room. Let's make this week a week of prayer to the Holy Spirit. Let's pray for our parish, our homes and families, for the children preparing for the sacraments that their parents will support them on their journey of faith. Here are two prayers to the Holy Spirit for our parish:

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish, and grant us a new vision of our glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new consecration to your service so that your love may grow among us, and your Kingdom come. Through Christ our Lord.

God the Holy Spirit Comforter and Sanctifier, melt our hearts that we may accept your love, renew our minds that we may know your truth, strengthen our wills that we may serve you faithfully. Through Christ our Lord.

Let's be a parish which treasures Mass, the Blessed Sacrament and receiving Holy Communion It has been noticeable since the beginning of the pandemic that more people were joining Weekday Mass and it was a significant part of their lives. This year, since the beginning of Lent, we have been able to have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament almost every day. And as we continue to celebrate the Easter Season, this is a great moment for us to build up both our practice at being at Mass and to build up our knowledge. It would be a great if we all knew the parts of Mass in the same way a musician knows and understands a piece of music or an engineer understands the mechanics of car. Over the next few weeks, I shall reproduce here extracts from a helpful article about the Mass.

The Eucharistic Prayer "Thus we begin the canon, with the confidence of children of God, calling him our most loving Father ... We pray for the Church and for all those who are a part of the Church — the pope, our families, our friends and companions. And a Catholic, with his heart open to all men, will pray for all men, because no one can be excluded from his love. We ask God to hear our prayers. We call on the memory of the glorious ever-Virgin Mary and of a handful of men who were among the first to follow Christ and to die for Him, and we recall our union with them"

The Consecration "... the moment of the consecration draws near. Now, in the Mass, it is Christ who acts again, through the priest: 'This is my body'... 'This is the cup of my blood.' Jesus is with us! The transubstantiation is a renewal of the miracle of God's infinite love. When that moment takes place again today, let us tell our Lord, without any need for words, that nothing will be able to separate us from him; that, as he puts himself into our hands, defenceless, under the fragile appearances of bread and wine, he has made us his willing slaves. 'Make me live always through you, and taste the sweetness of your love.'"

"More prayers, because we human beings almost always feel the need to ask for things — prayers for our deceased brothers, for ourselves. We have brought all our weaknesses, our lack of faithfulness. The weight is heavy, but he wants to bear it for us and with us. The canon ends with another invocation to the Blessed Trinity. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, who is all our love, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever"

As a parish which treasures the Mass, the Blessed Sacrament and receiving Holy Communion, here some important dates:

Saturday 10 June 11am First Holy Communion

Saturday 10 June and Sunday 11 June Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) during the Masses at this weekend, there will be a blessing and commissioning for the Eucharistic Ministers in our parish.

Sunday 2 July 2023 Annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford If you would like to join the annual pilgrimage to Hednesford on 2 July, the fare for the coach will be £17 per person. Please take your own packed lunch and a chair for the open air Mass. There is a list at the back of the church. Please sign up with a £5 deposit per person in an envelope and handed to Fr Martin or one of the stewards at the back of church.

Piety Stall Last week's half price sale was a great success! I am incredibly grateful to the two ladies for their hard work! Keep going! We shall have to open a Piety Shop in the centre of Leek if this continues!

Dates for your diary

- Saturday 10 June 11am Mass and First Holy Communion
- Thursday 15 June Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood
- Saturday 24 June 11am Sweep and clean
- Saturday 1 July 11am Mass and the Sacrament of Confirmation

Holy Days of Obligation

Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles, Martyrs

- Wednesday 28 June 2pm Early Vigil Mass in church with the pupils and staff of St Mary's Academy
- Thursday 29 June 7pm Mass in church

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Monday 14 August 2pm Early Vigil Mass in church
- Tuesday 15 August 7pm Mass in church

Collection

This weekend, there will be a Second Collection for Catholic Communications Sunday. The proceeds of this collection assist the Communications Team at the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Please visit the Bishops' Conference website: cbcew.org.uk. Here you will find the latest news, features, events, podcasts and more. You can also sign-up for the communications team's weekly newsletter.

Collection Last week's collection Gift Aid £ 111.00 Non- Gift Aid £146.96 Total £257.96

Have a great week! With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Martin