

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 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

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly
10am Ada and Ken Worthington
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Monday 25 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feast of St James, Apostle
2 Corinthians 4: 7-15; Ps 125; Matthew 20: 20-28
9.40am Rosary 10am Donor’s Intention
12noon Wedding Liturgy

Tuesday 26 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Memorial of St Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Jeremiah 14: 17-22; Ps 78; Matthew 13: 36-43
Mass of Thanksgiving at the end of School Year
9.40am Rosary 10am Kathleen

Wednesday 27 July
Public liturgy

Memorial of Blessed Robert Sutton, Priest, Martyr
Jeremiah 15: 10, 16-21; Ps 58; Matthew 13: 44-46
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)

Thursday 28 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 18: 1-6; Ps 145; Matthew 13: 47-53
9.40 Rosary 10am Irene and Family

Friday 29 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

Memorial of Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Jeremiah 26: 1-9; PS 68; Luke 10: 38-42
9.40 Rosary 10am Fr Gabriel Maguire CSSR RIP
3pm Rosary and Benediction

Saturday 30 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 2: 21-23; Ps 94; Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11; Luke 12: 13-21
6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, For You, the People of the Parish

Sunday 31 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Piotr Zwierski RIP
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

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

Anniversaries: Roland Astles; John Evans Ackroyd; Edwin Barnes; Hannah Mary Travis; Gladys May Saum; Ashley Stuart Webb; Sister Mercella Deegan I.B.V.M.; Zbigniew Turek; Maria Britton; Josephine Margaret Wright; Mary Lydia Bridgett; Kathleen Mary Salt; Amelia Klara Chudyk; Lilian Frances Harasimow; Stefan Salak; Mary Washington; Margaret Pulham; Marion Hawkins; Lancelot (Lance) William Gell; Muriel Heath; Eric Mills; Gertrude Mary Carding; Rose Elsie Murfin; Stanislaw Gorski; Ivy Catherine Vickers; John Somers; Gerald Grant; Peter Chadwick; Margaret Prendergast; Josefa Stepek



Dear friends, this weekend, the Church observes the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. There are copies of Pope Francis's message to you at the back of the church and available on the parish website.

Pope Francis in Canada Later today (Sunday) Pope Francis will begin a six-day trip to Canada. He will visit Edmonton, Quebec and Iqaluit. The trip will include meetings with civic and religious groups. The visit also has the purpose of meeting with the indigenous peoples. Let's keep Pope Francis in our prayers. As the successor of St Peter, his mission is to remind us of the words of the Lord.

From Archbishop Bernard: *An independent review undertaken by the charity Barnardo's on behalf of the Archdiocese of Birmingham in relation to the management of concerns about Joseph Quigley, a priest in the Archdiocese, is now available on the Diocesan website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk. The Trustees of the Archdiocese of Birmingham have accepted this review and its 18 recommendations in full and you can also see the full response on the website. As an institution it is for the present Bishops and Trustees to take corporate responsibility, to apologise, learn and ensure best safeguarding practice now and in the future. There has been a significant amount of positive change in Diocesan safeguarding practice. However, these recommendations will help inform ongoing learning and improvement within the Archdiocese.*

Welcome back to Sunday Mass – you have been missed! We are invited back to Mass on Sundays. Over the last few weeks, I have reproduced sections of a very helpful and clear article on the Mass and the Blessed Sacrament to help as we return to regular attendance at Mass on Sundays. The Church asks us to be present at Mass every Sunday not to make life difficult, but to invite us to participate in the most perfect act of worship, the act of worship Christ gave to us. When we are at Mass in church together on a Sundays and Holy Days we are demonstrating our communion with one another and with our brothers and sisters around the world. While we can pray at home, the Church also wants us to be present in person in church except in the case of illness, caring for the sick or real threat. Here is the last part of the article.

5.4 The Eucharistic minister. The ordinary minister of Holy Communion is the bishop, the priest or the deacon. The acolyte is a permanent extraordinary minister. Other members of the faithful to whom the Ordinary of the diocese has given the faculty of distributing Communion can be extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion when it is judged necessary for the pastoral good of the faithful and there is no priest, deacon or acolyte available.

"It is not licit for the faithful to take by themselves and still less to hand from one to another the sacred host or the sacred chalice." Holy Communion has the value of a sacred sign, a sign that should make clear that the Eucharist is a gift from God to man. Hence under normal conditions, when the Eucharist is distributed, there should be a distinction between the minister who distributes God's gift, offered by Christ himself, and the subject who receives it with gratitude, faith and love.

Dispositions of the body. Interior reverence for the Sacred Eucharist should also be reflected in the bearing of the body. The Church prescribes a fast. For the faithful of the Latin rite the fast consists in abstaining from all food and drink (except water and medicines) for an hour before receiving Holy Communion. Attention should also be paid to personal grooming, a suitable manner of dress, and to bodily gestures of veneration that show respect and love for our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament, etc. (cf. CCC, 1387).

The traditional way of receiving Holy Communion in the Latin rite—a reflection of faith and love, and of the piety of the Church over the centuries—is kneeling and on the tongue. The reasons that gave rise to this pious and ancient custom are still fully valid. One can also receive communion standing and, in certain dioceses, it is allowed—but never required—to receive the Sacred Host in the hand.

Through Holy Communion God makes us grow in grace and virtue, pardons our venial sins and the temporal punishment due to them, preserves us from mortal sins and helps us persevere in doing good. He draws us closer to himself (cf. CCC, 1394-1395). But the Eucharist was not instituted for the forgiveness of mortal sins; that is proper to the sacrament of Confession (CCC, 1395). The Eucharist draws all Christian faithful into unity with the Lord, bringing about the unity of the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ (cf. CCC, 1396). The Eucharist is the "pledge of future glory," that is, of the resurrection and eternal life and happiness with our triune God, with the angels and all the saints. "Having passed from this world to the Father, Christ gives us in the Eucharist the pledge of glory with him. Participation in the Holy Sacrifice identifies us with his Heart, sustains our strength along the pilgrimage of this life, makes us long for eternal life, and unites us even now to the Church in heaven, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints"

Amazon Wishlist for items for the church and parish offices I am incredibly grateful to you for purchasing cleaning and stationery items on the Amazon Wishlist. Items have been arriving during the week. Thank you for supporting the parish in this way.

Vocations Prayer Calendar I am very thankful to you for supporting the Vocations Prayer Calendar for this month: someone has signed up for everyday this month! Let's not lose the momentum for this, let's continue to pray to the Lord of the harvest so that he will send labourers to his harvest! During August, we shall have a full day of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for an increase in Vocations to the priesthood.

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 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?? I am incredibly grateful to those who have volunteered to do some decorating.

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.

Dates for your diary

Monday 25 July	630pm Bible Book Club on Zoom
Monday 8 and 22 August	SVP Meeting after 10am Mass
Saturday 13 August	Faith for Kids
Saturday 10 September	6pm Family Mass in church for Education Day
Thursday 15 September	4pm in Church: Meeting for parents of children who will receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation during 2023

**Thursday 15 September
Holy Days of Obligation**

Sat 13 & Sun 14 Aug	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin	Tuesday 1 November	All Saints' Day
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Collection	Non Gift Aid £114.68	Gift Aid £116.68	Total £231.36
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With prayers and best wishes for you and your family. Fr Martin