

**The Catholic church of St Mary Leek
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LEEK
Staffordshire
ST13 5NH
01538 382385
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St Mary's Catholic church, Leek

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Registered Charity no. 234 216

Parish Priest

Fr Martin Pratt

St Mary's Catholic Academy, Cruso Street, Leek

Principal

Mrs Turner

Tel

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**Parish Newsletter for Sunday 26 July 2020
YEAR OF THE WORD: THE GOD WHO SPEAKS**

All the listings below are live-streamed on the parish Facebook page

Sunday 26 July

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12; Ps 118; Romans 8: 28-30; Matthew 13: 44-52

Public Mass & live stream

9.45am Church open

10am Ken and Ada Worthington

4pm Rosary and Benediction

Monday 27 July

Memorial of Blessed Robert Sutton: Priest, Martyr

Live stream Mass

Jeremiah 13: 1-11; Deut 32; Matthew 13: 31-35

9.10am Rosary 9.30am For you, the People of the Parish

Tuesday 28 July

Feria in Ordinary Time

Live stream Mass

Jeremiah 14: 17-22; Ps 78; Matthew 13: 36-43

9.10am Rosary 9.30am Frank Lavin

Wednesday 29 July

Memorial of St Martha

No live-stream today

1 John 4:7-16; Ps 33; Luke 10: 38-42

Thursday 30 July

Memorial of St John Chrysologus, Bishop Doctor of the Church

Live stream Mass

Jeremiah 18: 1-6; Ps 145; Matthew 13: 47-53

9.10am Rosary 9.30am Billy Tobin RIP

Friday 31 July

Memorial of St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest, Founder of the Jesuits

Live stream Mass

Jeremiah 26: 1-9; Ps 65; Matthew 13: 54-58

9.10am Rosary 9.30am Celebrant's Intention

Saturday 1 August

Memorial of St Alphonsus Mary de'Ligouri, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Please note

Jeremiah 26: 11-16, 24; Ps 68; Matthew 14: 1-12

Weather permitting 10am -10.30am Confessions – in the presbytery car park

Inclement weather 10am Mass Celebrant's Intention

Sunday 2 August

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Public Mass & live stream

Isaiah 55: 1-3; Ps 144; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14: 13-21

9.45am Church open

10am Eric Duffin RIP

4pm Rosary and Benediction

The Sacrament of Baptism and the Sacrament of Matrimony - Please contact Fr Martin at the Parish Office.

For a Chaplain at the University Hospital North Midlands, please ask a member of the ward staff or call 01782 676400 Ext 76400

For a Chaplain at the Macclesfield District General Hospital, please call 01625 663386

Please pray for the sick Joan Floyd, Edward Walmsley, Chris Rea, Audrey Pointon, Rosemary Emery, Kathryn Higginbotham, Brian Dale, Norman Syddall, Sheila Syddall, Andrew Clifford, David Wright and those who are in self-isolation and have been diagnosed with Covid-19.

Due to the 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.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for July

We pray that today's families maybe accompanied with love, respect and guidance

Please pray for the repose of the Faithful Departed

We remember in our prayers at this time those who have died due to Covid-19.

Anniversaries

Gertrude Mary Carding 27/7/1980

John Somers 27/7/2010

Josefa Stepek 30/7/1999

Annie Kirby 8/1979

Joseph Maczka 8/1981

Bronislaw Siwec 8/1982

Winifred Moss 8/1983

Amelia Hughes 8/1987

Rose Elsie Murfin 27/7/1996

Gerald Grant 29/7/1972

Mary Ellen Bould 31/7/1992

Sabrina Mary Palmer 8/1979

Ellen Stafford 8/1981

Joshua Bailey 8/1983

Francis Deaville 8/1984

Philip Artesvor 1/8/1990

Stanislaw Gorski 27/7/1996

Peter Chadwick 29/7/1998

Agnes Lucy Mary Tunstall 8/1967

James Chell 8/1981

Mary Gertrude Berrisford 8/1982

Peter Cooper 8/1983

Leslie Haddon 8/1985

Sarah Thornton 1/8/1995

Ivy Cathrine Vickers 27/7/2008

Margaret Prendergast 29/7/2008

Eileen Gilhooly 8/1979 Edith

Mrs Goodwin 8/1981

Michelle Morris 8/1982

George Kimber 8/1983

Cyril Sheldon 8/1987

Margaret Rose Woolliscroft 1/8/2013



Dear friends, today at Mass, once again we hear Jesus preaching Parables. The Parables were Jesus's favourite form of teaching. Some are riddles and others are real life situations with which we know can associate. Each Parable engages you and me to know the Kingdom of God. We are *invited in*, they *create* a situation or use an image which is familiar, and then *the parable reveals* – and sometimes it takes time for the reveal to take place – what God or the Kingdom of heaven is like. Today there are four short Parables, inviting us, creating familiar scenes, revealing God and the effects He can have on our lives.

Today, 26 July, is also the day for Ss Anne and Joachim, the parents of Our Lady, the grandparents of Jesus. A big THANK YOU to all grandparents for the important witness of faith which you give.

Mass at St Mary's

I am pleased to let you know that St Mary's will be open for Mass on Sunday mornings; there will be no Saturday evening Masses until further notice. Weekday Masses will be available by the live-stream.

It is a very small, first step towards a regular pattern of Sunday Mass. The Sunday obligation remains suspended. I don't want anyone to be burdened by the thought that they are failing to fulfil this duty. You are not. Mass will continue to be live-streamed on the Parish Facebook page.

Things will be different for a while. Here are some of the things you need to know about Mass and the new guidelines with which we all have to comply.

- There is a one-way system in force along the avenue; maintain social distance.
- The church will open at 9.45am.
- The maximum capacity in church is 40; this includes a team of 10 volunteers.
- Sanitise your hands when entering the church.
- Please follow the stewards' instructions – there is a one-way system in church.
- There will be no access to toilets, choir loft, sacristy, Confessional.
- *Worshippers are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering while at Mass.*
- *While at Mass, worshippers should limit their interactions with anyone they are attending church with ie please maintain a social distance with anyone outside your household.*
- *During Mass: there is no Holy Water; there will be no singing; no votive candles; there will be no physical sign of peace; at Holy Communion, follow the stewards' instructions.*
- The collection will take place at the end of Mass.
- Sanitise your hands when leaving the church.
- All parish groups are suspended until further notice.

Collecting contact details of those who come to church for NHS Track and Trace

For the safety of all who attend Mass, the Government has advised that a contact 'phone number be kept for everyone who comes to Mass, for a period of 21 days. That information will be destroyed after 21 days. It will be made available to NHS Track and Trace if they contact the parish to request that information. It will only be made available to any third party if that is required by law. If you come to Mass as a family only one contact number will be needed. The legal basis on which the parish will hold this information is your consent. If you do not wish to provide your phone number for these purposes, you will still be able to attend Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation – "Confessions in the Car Park"

I am pleased to announce that the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available this Saturday, 1 August, *weather permitting*, in the presbytery car park from 10am – 10.30am. If the weather is inclement, I will live-stream Mass at 10am.

- Please **DO NOT** park on the presbytery car park.
- Please wait by the presbytery gate – maintain social distancing.
- Penitent and priest will sit at right angles.
- Please wear a face covering.

St Mary's: a parish Praying and Working together

Our Parish Working Together for the reopening of the church

I am very grateful to those who have volunteered to be stewards and cleaners for the phased reopening of the church. If there are to be more public Masses, more people will be needed to help with being stewards and cleaners; this is part of the Guidance we have been given: after each public Mass, Baptism, Wedding and Funeral, the church is to be thoroughly cleaned. If you can help initially on Sundays either as a steward or as a cleaner, please send an email to me at the Parish Office, giving your name, telephone number, and role. The email address is stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk This information will be forwarded to our Parish Co-ordinator.

Our Parish Praying Together: a Parish Prayer

As we work together during this extraordinary time, I invite you to pray this prayer at home in your families, individually, and at Mass, we will use it as the conclusion to the Bidding Prayers.

God our Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon the people of this parish, and grant us a new vision of your 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. Amen.

Maintenance to the church, presbytery and grounds

During the week, I received the most up to date Quinquennial inspection report on the church. There are 59 recommended repairs: some involve a more detailed inspection of high level areas; others require legal permission before skilled and qualified professionals undertake important work.

Other maintenance

There are some other maintenance tasks which require attention around both the church and the presbytery, in the garden and the car park, and the guttering and trellis on the garage. If you are able to help with these, please contact me at the Parish Office.

Health and Safety audit

Over the last 18 months, every parish has been conducting a Health and Safety Audit which will provide the Diocesan Trustees and its insurers with a detailed overview of every aspect of each of its properties; it is part of the legal, financial and moral obligations we have to conduct these assessments so that everyone can enjoy our beautiful church in safety.

At Facebook Mass we can't have a collection

I would like to thank all those who have started to donate by or increase their standing orders. I would like to thank those who have donated via the "donate" button on the parish website. If you would like to donate by standing order, please send an email to the Parish Office at stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk

The envelopes for Gift Aid are now ready for collection at the back of the church.

Last Sunday's collection: Gift Aid £189.00 Loose cash £138.70 **Total £327.70** Thank you for your kind generosity!

THANK YOU!

I am very grateful to you for your generous response to the purchase of essential items of PPE and cleaning materials required for the cleaning and reopening of the church.

To the SVP and the KSC: A big THANK YOU!!

I would like to thank the wonderful SVP and KSC for their telephone apostolates! It is great to know that you are keeping up your mission to befriend the elderly and isolated during this extraordinary time.

Online events

Monday 27 July

7pm Faith for Families

Thursday 30 July

No Bible Book Club this week, sorry.

Children's Liturgy at home

I am delighted to let you know about these online resources for Children's Liturgy. The videos are available on Facebook and YouTube. <https://www.facebook.com/colourandshapeonline> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdJNyn5xOrOB5634uplhCQg>

Please do keep well and stay safe, with my best wishes,

Fr Martin