

**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**  
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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 27 May**  
*Public liturgy and live stream*

**SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST**  
10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confession  
*Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; Corinthians 12:3-1, 12-13 John 20:19-23*  
6pm Januz Szura- Zwierski (Spec Int)

**Sunday 28 May**  
*Public liturgy and live-stream*

10am Piotr Zwierski RIP  
4pm Rosary and Benediction

**Monday 29 May**  
*Public liturgy and live stream*

**Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church**  
*Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ps 86; John 19:25-34*  
9.40am Rosary 10am. For you, the People of the Parish

**Tuesday 30 May**  
*Public liturgy and live stream*

**Feria in Ordinary Time**  
*Ecclesiasticus 35:1-12; Ps 49; Mark 10:28-31*  
9.40am Rosary 10am Donor’s Intention

**Wednesday 31 May**  
*Public liturgy*

**Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
*Zephaniah 3:14-18; Isaiah 12; Luke 1:39-56*  
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

**Thursday 1 June**  
*Public liturgy and live stream*

**Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest**  
*Genesis 22:9-18; Ps 40; Matthew 26:36-42*  
9.40am Rosary 10am Marie Hulme 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**Friday 2 June**  
*Public liturgy and live stream*

**Feria in Ordinary Time: First Friday**  
*Ecclesiasticus 44:1,9-13; Ps 149; Mark 11:11-26*  
9.40am Rosary 10am Rose Wollard RIP

**Saturday 3 June**  
*Public liturgy and live stream*

**SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**  
10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confession  
*Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9; Dan3; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; John 3:16-18*  
6pm Bill Lydon RIP

**Sunday 4 June**  
*Public liturgy and live-stream*

10am Ray Cossburn RIP  
4pm Rosary and Benediction

**Parish Priest**  
**Parish Administrator**  
**St Mary’s Catholic Academy**  
**Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle**  
**Safeguarding Rep**  
**Archdiocese of Birmingham**  
**NSPCC**  
**Gift Aid Co-ordinator**  
**Hospital Chaplaincy**  
**Macclesfield District Hospital**

Fr Martin Pratt  
Mrs Alice Murray  
Mrs G Turner  
Mrs R Waugh  
Mr Malcolm Sproat  
  
Mrs M Lawton  
University Hospital North Midlands

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**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:** May Frith, Harold Leo Sheldon, Mary Alfreda Pilney (Freda), Matthew Rushton, Gary Leggett, Victor Hambleton, Bernard Spencer, Evelyn Fitchett, Ewa Junasziw, Katy Pickford, Igor Glonski, Norman Yates, Martin Vincent Burke, Patrick Gerard Watters, Patricia Croasdale, Mary Elizabeth (Molly) Keates, Derrick John Moss, Gertrude Maria Lucia Boydon, Sister M Gabriel I.B.V.M, Selina Carding, Mark Beatty, Margaret Bettie Wheatley, Harold Frith, William Carding.

Dear friends, today the Church celebrates the great festival of Pentecost. In the Church's calendar, Pentecost is the third most important day of the year. It is my hope that this weekend is an uplifting occasion for all of us. Let's expect great things of the Holy Spirit who transformed the frightened disciples into courageous heralds and missionaries of the Good News. Let's allow the Holy Spirit to change us, to stir us and awaken us to the things of God.

Here is St John Henry Newman's Prayer to Saint Philip Neri, the founder of the Oratory Fathers, which encourages our devotion to the Holy Spirit:

O my dear and holy Patron, Philip, I put myself into thy hands, and for the love of Jesus, for that love's sake, which chose thee and made thee a saint, I implore thee to pray for me, that, as He has brought thee to heaven, so in due time He may take me to heaven also.

And I ask of thee especially to gain for me a true devotion such as thou hadst to the Holy Ghost, the Third Person in the Ever-blessed Trinity; that, as He at Pentecost so miraculously filled thy heart with his grace, I too may in my measure have the gifts necessary for my salvation.

Therefore, I ask thee to gain for me those His seven great gifts, to dispose and excite my heart towards faith and virtue.

Beg for me the gift of Wisdom, that I may prefer heaven to earth, and know truth from falsehood:

the gift of Understanding, by which I may have imprinted upon my mind the mysteries of His Word:

the gift of Counsel, that I may see my way in all perplexities:

the gift of Fortitude, that with bravery and stubbornness I may battle with my foe:

the gift of Knowledge, to enable me to direct all my doings with a pure intention to the glory of God:

the gift of Religion to make me devout and conscientious:

and the gift of Holy Fear, to make me feel awe, reverence and sobriety amid all my spiritual blessings.

Sweetest Father, Flower of Purity, Martyr of Charity, pray for me.

**Archbishop Bernard needs your help with the Diocesan Vision** Archbishop Bernard's vision for our diocese is, "Our Vision is to be a Catholic Diocese which is faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service to God and neighbour." The Archbishop wants to invite you to be part of the unfolding of his vision in three local meetings which will take place with parishioners from the parishes across our North Staffordshire Deanery at St Teresa's, Trent Vale. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 31 May again at St Teresa's. This meeting will focus on the four areas of the diocesan vision: evangelisation; formation; liturgy & worship and social outreach. Two people have already offered to represent us. It doesn't mean that no one else can; it is a case of the more people from our parish at the meeting, the better!

**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. 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 Lord's Prayer** "Jesus is the way, the Mediator. In him are all things; outside of him is nothing. In Christ, taught by him, we dare to call God our Father — he is the Almighty who created heaven and earth, and he is a loving Father who waits for us to come back to him again and again, as the story of the prodigal son repeats itself in our lives"

**The Sign of Peace** "Strengthening the bonds of fraternity with all souls helps us to unite ourselves more closely with Jesus in the Eucharist; and thus we also help bring about the concord among all men and women for which the Church intercedes in the Holy Mass"

**Lamb of God "Behold the Lamb of God ... Lord, I am not worthy ...** "We are going to receive our Lord. On this earth, when we receive an important person, we bring out the best — lights, music, formal dress. How should we prepare to receive Christ into our soul? Have we ever thought about how we would behave if we could only receive him once in a lifetime?

"When I was a child, frequent communion was still not a widespread practice. I remember how people used to prepare to go to communion. Everything had to be just right, body and soul: the best clothes, hair well-combed — even physical cleanliness was important — maybe even a few drops of cologne... These were manifestations of love, full of finesse and refinement, on the part of many souls who knew how to repay Love with love"(from "The Eucharist, Mystery of Faith and Love," Holy Thursday homily of St. Josemaria).

**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** The recent 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** Last week's collection Gift Aid £87.00 Non- Gift Aid £136.76 Total £223.76

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