

**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 29 April**

*Public liturgy and live stream*

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

10am    Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confession  
11am    Sweep and Clean  
*Acts 2:14, 36-41; Ps 22; 1 Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10*  
6pm    Nora Connolly RIP

**Sunday 30 April**

*Public liturgy and live-stream*

10am    Alan Mangan RIP  
4pm    Rosary and Benediction

**Monday 1 May**

*Public liturgy and live-stream*

**St Joseph The Worker**

*Acts 11:1-18; Ps 414-42; John 10:11-18*  
9.40am    Rosary    10am. For you, the People of the Parish.

**Tuesday 2 May**

*Public liturgy and live stream*

**Memorial of St Athanasius, Bishop Doctor of the Church**

*Acts 11:19-26; Ps 86; John 10:22-30*  
9.40am    Rosary    10am Donors Intention

**Wednesday 3 May**

*Public liturgy*

**Feast of Ss Philip and James Apostles**

*1Corinthians 45:1-8; Ps 18; John 14:6-14*  
9.40am    Rosary    10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

**Thursday 4 May**

*Public liturgy and live stream*

**Feast of the English Martyrs**

*Acts 7:55-60; Ps 30; Matthew 10:17-22*  
9.40am    Rosary    10am Alan Mangan RIP

**Friday 5 May**

*Public liturgy*

**Easter Feria**

*Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2; John 14:1-6*  
1.30pm School Mass Marie Elliffe RIP  
7pm    Mass for HRH King Charles III

**Saturday 6 May**

*Public liturgy and live stream*

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

10am    Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confession  
*Acts 6:1-7; Ps 32; 1Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12*  
6pm    Kathleen Greenwood RIP

**Sunday 7 May**

*Public liturgy and live-stream*

10am    Dennis Wilkes RIP  
4pm    Rosary and Benediction

**Parish Priest**

Fr Martin Pratt

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tel 01782 676400 ext 76400

**Macclesfield District Hospital**

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**Pope’s prayer intention for April** Let us pray for a Culture of peace and non violence. We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by states and citizens.

**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:** Terry Murphy, Moira Gabriel, David Briggs, Alice Laskowski, Katherine Butler, May Gladys Flannigan, Mary Machin, Thomas Ball, James Campbell, May Elizabeth Nötter, Michael Baratynski, Edward Stepek, Kathleen Fairbanks, Jan Urbanczik, Albert Grain, Jean Ball, Mr Brindley, Francis Borkowski, Irene Haywood, Mary Ansell, Ida Alice Bowcock, Boadicea Marren, Brenda Burnett Gibson, Avery Mary Biddulph, Christine McDonnell, Josephine Mary Thompson, Les Oliver, Kathleen Mary Patricia Pointon, Kristina Bernadette Tilbury, Bernard Joseph Dawson, Christopher Birch, Ira Lowe, Stanislaw Bangrowski, Albert Henry France, Thomas Salt, Fred Stafford, Wawrzyniec (Charles) Nawrot.

Dear friends, **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** This Sunday the Church continues to celebrate the Resurrection on the Fourth Sunday of Easter. Every year on this Sunday, the Gospel reading is taken from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel where Jesus identifies himself as the Good Shepherd and which gives this Sunday the designation of Good Shepherd Sunday. It is also the annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Please continue to pray for an increase in Vocations. The Church in our country needs priests more than ever! The monthly Vocations prayer calendar is at the back of the church. Please do sign up a day during the month of May to pray for Vocations. Every person in the Church shares the Vocation to holiness; holiness is not limited to any specific group. Let's continue with the "Holy Momentum", collaborate with God during each day and make more Holy Moments.

**The Coronation of HM King Charles III** Next weekend we shall celebrate the Coronation of HM King Charles III. We have been encouraged to pray for our new monarch. There will be a special Mass this Friday, 5 May at 7pm in church. If you can help with reading, please let me know.

**Archbishop Bernard needs your help with the Diocesan Vision** I am very grateful to those parishioners who represented us at the local Deanery Meeting last Wednesday at St Teresa's, Trent Vale.

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. If you can represent our parish at this important meeting with parishioners from the other parishes of our deanery, please let me know.

The third meeting, "My commitment and pray with me" will take place on Wednesday 28 June at 7pm at St Teresa, Trent Vale.

#### Can you help with the following?

I am looking for two or three maintenance teams of at least two people to conduct monthly visual maintenance checks. This includes one grotty job of cleaning grids. If you can help, I will be very grateful to you.

I am looking for a team of two or three to assist with opening and locking the church on Saturday evenings for Mass.

I am looking for new members to join one of the cleaning teams after Mass on Sunday mornings. If you help by giving 20 – 30 minutes once a fortnight to clean the church and keep it in top condition, please see me or one of the members of the cleaning team.

I would be very grateful for help with the rota for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers at Sunday Masses.

If you can help with these, please let me know

**Mass and the Blessed Sacrament are at the centre of our parish** Let's be a parish that treasures the Mass, the Blessed Sacrament and receiving Holy Communion. Since the beginning of the pandemic I have been struck by how we have had to change, adapt and grow in the last few years. When the pandemic started and for a long time, Weekday Mass became a huge part of the daily routine of a large number of people. 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.

#### Penitential Act

"The Confiteor makes us aware of our unworthiness; not an abstract reminder of guilt, but the actual presence of our sins and weaknesses. This is why we repeat: Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy. If the forgiveness we need had to be won by our own merits, we would only be capable of a bitter sadness. But, because of God's goodness, forgiveness comes from his mercy, and we praise him — *Gloria!*: 'for you alone are the holy one, you alone are Lord, you alone, O Jesus Christ, are the most high, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father'"

#### The Gloria

"We praise God, recognizing His holiness, as well as our need for Him. The Gloria is like a shout of joy to God, to the whole Trinity"

"From the recognition of our nothingness -- indeed, of our being sinners, in need of forgiveness -- we move on to proclaim the greatness of the thrice-holy God. Our tongue is unable to find the right words to express the recognition due to God, and we raise up our praise for all the good things we have received"

#### Opening Prayer or Collect

"The priest, in the name of all the people of God, prays this prayer to the Father. The priest provides a moment of silence here to remember our own intentions when offering this sacrifice of the Mass. We should take advantage of this moment to recall specific intentions.

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.
- Thursday 22 June 7pm Meeting with Eucharistic Ministers in church

**The Confessional and the Sacrament of Reconciliation** Since the reopening of the church following the lockdown, the Confessional has been an additional store room for furniture. It now seems a good time to use the Confessional for its intended purpose: the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There are some small items maintenance which are required before it can be used.

**Piety Stall** As you have noticed, the Piety Stall has taken a new and more central place in the Narthex. It is has created a lot more space than I had originally expected. Please do have a look. There are some good items. Remember it is good to have your crucifixes, rosaries and statues blessed.

#### Dates For Your Diary

- 4 May SVP Meeting after Mass in the Narthex
- 5 May 7pm Mass for HM Charles III
- 6 May Coronation Day
- 7 May Sunday Social following Mass.
- 8 May Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles
- 13 May 6pm Family Mass on the anniversary of the opening of St Mary's church. We hope to begin Mass with children bringing posies of prayers and placing them in front of the statue of St Mary.

**Collection** Last week's collection Gift Aid £269.00 Non- Gift Aid £167.06 Total £436.06

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