

# 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.’”**

## Sunday 29 August

Public Mass and live-stream

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 14; James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

10am Barbara Wood RIP

4pm Live-stream: Rosary and Benediction

## Monday 30 August

Live-stream Mass

## Feria in Ordinary Time

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Ps 95; Luke 4: 16-30

10am Lily Lynch RIP

## Tuesday 31 August

Live-stream Mass

## Feria in Ordinary Time

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; 9-11; Ps 26; Luke 4: 31-37

10am For you, the People of the Parish

## Wednesday 1 September

No live-stream today

## Feria in Ordinary Time: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Colossians 1:1-8; Ps 51; Luke 4:38-44

## Thursday 2 September

Public Mass and live-stream

## Feria in Ordinary Time

Colossians 1:9-14; Ps 97; Luke 5:1-11

930am Church open

10am Christopher Rogers RIP

## Friday 3 September

Public Mass and live-stream

First Friday

## Feast of St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church

1 Thessalonians 2:2-8; Ps 95; Matthew 16: 13-19

930am Church open

10am In Thanksgiving (HK)

## Saturday 4 September

Public Mass and live-stream

10am to 10:30am Confessions, will be celebrated in the presbytery car park.

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 35:4-7; Ps 145; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37

530pm Church open

6pm For you, the People of the Parish

## Sunday 5 September

Public Mass and live-stream

10am Janusz Szura (Special Intention)

4pm Live-stream: Rosary and Benediction

## Parish Priest

St Mary’s Catholic Academy,  
Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle  
Safeguarding Rep

Fr Martin Pratt

Mrs G Turner

Mrs R Waugh

Appointment pending

Archdiocese of Birmingham

NSPCC

Mrs M Lawton

University Hospital North Midlands

Macclesfield District Hospital

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## Please pray for the sick

Edward Walmsley, Chris Rea, Rosemary Emery, Kathryn Higginbotham, Brian Dale, 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.

## The Pope’s Prayer Intention for September

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

## Please pray for Faithful Departed

We pray for those who have died recently and due to Covid-19. Due to data protection legislation, in order for a name to be printed in this newsletter, the consent of the next of kin needs to be given.

## Anniversaries

Ann Jane Hambleton, Eliza Jane Hall, Mabel Kelsall, Dorothy Lomas, Albert Bowcock, Emel Swacez, Kenneth Pownell, Edward Finn, Sr Paschal Wallis IBVM, Norman Greenwood, Mrs Flannery, Joan Talks, Henryk Swiercz, Frank Clarke, Zofia Lazowska, Dionisy Rydzkowski, Joseph Pointon, Gerard McMullen, Margaret Coates, Michael Depczynski and Tadeusz Wojdak

Dear friends, it is a great joy for the whole Church and for our parish that two people will be received into Full Communion with the Church, receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and their first Holy Communion during Sunday's Mass. It is my hope that this moment will be an opportunity of renewal for all of us. Let's keep up the four actions of bold Catholics: being at Sunday Mass; monthly Confession; five minutes of prayer every day; and, sharing our time, talent and treasure.



**Welcome back! I have missed you!** Later this week, more public Masses will be available in church and it will be great to see you! The additional public Masses which will also be live-streamed: Saturdays at 6pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am. The Polish Mass remains suspended.

Here are some tips for coming to Mass:

**You are welcome!** I want everyone to know that at St Mary's they are valued and respected. It will be great to see you.  
**Get ready!** Sunday and Sunday Mass are important moments for us: it is the weekly Holy Day. There used to be a good custom of "Sunday Best" to mark the special occasion of Sunday. Let's give to God our best.  
**Read up!** Look up the Bible readings for Mass: it is great way to be prepared for Mass.  
**Bring a friend** If you haven't been to church for a while, ask a relative or a friend to come with you.  
**Covid 19** We are a caring and considerate parish community; we want everyone to be safe. The person sitting near you or their relative at home may be vulnerable so there are some extras we are asking everyone to do: wear a face covering; sign in for NHS Track and Trace; use the QR code; maintain social distance.

**Engage** The Church's vision is that we take part at Mass and the other sacraments, "fully, actively, and consciously". There will be a Mass sheet with all the readings and your responses.

**Children are welcome!** It is good to hear babies crying at Mass! It is a sign that our parish has a future.

**Holy Communion** If you haven't received Holy Communion for a while, it is good to go to Confession: you can go to Confession between 10am and 1030am on Saturday or call Fr Martin to make another arrangement. Going to Mass is going to a Sacrament and it is good to be at Mass so that we can give Christ the welcome he deserves. If your personal circumstances mean that you cannot receive Holy Communion, you can make a Spiritual Communion. Here is an act of Spiritual Communion:

**I wish, Lord, to receive You with the purity, humility and devotion  
with which Your most Holy Mother received You in the spirit and fervour of all the saints. Amen.**

**After Mass** At home take some time to reflect on the Mass which you have attended. What did you notice? How did it change you?

**Don't expect perfection** In an ideal world, the church will be packed to capacity and the sermon will be unforgettable(!) Don't forget, Christ is present at every Mass: in the People of God; in the Bible readings; and, in Holy Communion.

#### Parish Mission Statement:

**Our vision is to be a Catholic Parish living Christ's command, 'Love one another as I have loved you.'**

This Mission Statement taken from Christ's words of encouragement to the disciples at the Last Supper (John 15: 12) is an imperative which summarises his mission and wish for the Church today. In practice, our Mission Statement identifies and defines us as a Parish: this is how we live and are known. It is the vision for our evangelisation, formation, worship and social outreach.

As a Catholic Community we are a Synod. "Synod" means "to walk together." Let's walk together, loving each other as Christ loves. We will not always agree, we not all we able to walk at the same speed, but the most important act is walking together, sharing the same vision: having care and consideration for each other as Christ does.

**Step 4 of the Government's response to Coronavirus** As a caring and considerate parish, I want to reassure everyone that we shall continue with the now well established routines which are keeping people safe and stopping the spread of the virus.

**At Mass** - we continue with NHS Track and Trace; sanitising hands; social distancing; and use of face coverings.

**Confession – the Sacrament of Reconciliation** - will continue – weather permitting – in the presbytery car park. Please bring a face covering.

**Baptisms and Weddings** – please be in contact with me.

**Funerals** – unfortunately, it is not possible to celebrate Christian Funerals in church at the present time.

**It is back to School this week!** This week will mark the beginning of the new academic year. Please do support our Catholic Schools: St Mary's Academy, Leek, and Painsley Catholic College in Cheadle. Send a message of support to the Principals; like and follow the schools on social media, and pray for our Catholic Schools.

Thank you for your kind hearted response to the appeal for Bibles for St Mary's Academy. We have bought 60 copies of the Catholic Children's Bible published by St Mary's Press. I want every child to have the opportunity to know about the Bible. St Jerome, the fourth century priest and biblical scholar said, "Knowledge of the Bible is knowledge of Christ."

Dear parents and grandparents, every day pray for your child or grandchild. Here is a short prayer you could use each morning:  
**Heavenly Father, we pray for your giving us Jesus as our Saviour: he blessed the children who came to him, and welcomes those who come to him now. Look with love on our child /children / grandchildren and protect them with your love. May they grow in wisdom, grace and love of you. Through Christ our Lord.**

#### Dates for your diary

September This is SVP month. This is an opportunity to acknowledge the work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

The "Season of Creation" beginning with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on Wednesday 1 September.

Bible Book Club is now on a summer holiday. It will be back in the autumn. If you would like to join, please let me know.

**Calling all 200 Club members! Have you made your subscription for this year?** If you want to renew, please send a cheque made payable to: "BRC DTR St Mary, Leek". One number for 12 months is £12. The more subscribers, the bigger the winnings! Please send your cheques to Fr Martin.

**At Facebook Mass we can't have a collection** Thank you to those who have used the "Donate" button on the Parish Website. If you would like to donate by standing order, please send an email to me at the Parish Office at [stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk).

Collection for 22 Aug 2021 Gift Aid £200.00 Non Gift Aid £104.10 Total £304.10 Thank you for your kind generosity!

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