

The Catholic church of St Mary Leek
Compton
LEEK
Staffordshire
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This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered Charity no. 234 216



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|---|--------------------------|
| Parish Priest | Fr Martin Pratt |
| St Mary's Catholic Academy, Cruso Street, Leek | |
| Principal | Mrs Turner |
| Tel | 01538 493888 |
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Parish Newsletter for Sunday 29 November 2020

YEAR OF THE WORD: THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

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

Sunday 29 November

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 63: 16-17, 64: 1, 3-8; Ps 79; 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 33-37

10am **Live-stream Mass** - For you, the People of the Parish

11am – 12noon **Church open for Private Prayer**

4pm **Live-stream** - Rosary and Benediction

Monday 30 November

Live - stream Mass

Please note change of time

Feast of St Andrew, Apostle and Patron Saint of Scotland

Romans 10: 9-18; Ps 18; Matthew 4: 18-22

9am Tally Leigh RIP

Tuesday 1 December

Live - stream Mass

Feast of St Edmund Campion, Martyr

1 Corinthians 4: 9-13; Ps 33; Luke 9: 23-26

910am Rosary 930am Margaret Fowler RIP

Wednesday 2 December

No live - stream today

Advent feria

Isaiah 11: 1-10; Ps 71; Luke 10: 21-24

Thursday 3 December

No live - stream Mass

Migrants' Day

Memorial of St Francis Xavier, founding member of the Society of Jesus

Isaiah 26: 1-6; Ps 117; Matthew 7: 21, 24-27

Friday 4 December

Live - stream Mass

Memorial of St John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church:

Online Mass with St Mary's Academy

Isaiah 29: 17-24; Ps 26; Matthew 9: 27-31

910am Rosary 930am Holy Souls (FP)

First Friday

Saturday 5 December

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11; Ps 84; 2 Peter 3: 8-14; Mark 1: 1-8

1205pm Church open

1230pm Mass and the Sacrament of Confirmation: Kevin Oliver RIP

Public Mass and live-stream

935am Church open

Sunday 6 December

Public Mass and live-stream

10am Joan Greenwood RIP

4pm **Live-stream** - Rosary and Benediction

Weddings and Baptisms – are not possible during the current restrictions. If you are looking to arrange either a Wedding or a Baptism for after the lockdown, please be in contact with Fr Martin.

Funerals at St Mary's – unfortunately, at present, it is not possible to hold Funerals in church.

Going into hospital 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 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 December We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer

Please pray for Faithful Departed We pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Fowler, Patricia Ann Allen, Leslie Fitchett, and those who have died due to Covid-19.

Anniversaries

Horace Edward Millward 29/11/2007 Emily Wain 30/11/1992 Walter Andrews 30/11/2007 Talitha Rose Leigh (Tally) 30/11/2015
Doris Winifred Barrett 12/1967 James Joseph O'Brien 12/1967 Teresa Alcock 12/1979 Joseph Barlow 12/1979 Michael Hughes 12/1979
Robert Murfin 12/1979 Mary Carding 12/1981 Stanislaw Dymn 12/1981 Elizabeth Earley 12/1981 Stanislaw Joslow 12/1981
James Stewart 12/1982 Sadie Knight 12/1984 Lilian Oliver 1/12/1990 Iris Mary Sheldon 1/12/1990
Eileen Veronica (Vera) Stevenson 1/12/2014 Harry Wright 2/12/1975 Dennis Raymond Hulland 2/12/1995 Basil Laurence Saum 2/12/2001
Norman Clulow 2/12/2016 Ludovic Kempinski 3/12/1990 Honoria McTigue 3/12/1998 Mark Andrew Hammond 3/12/2017
Bernard Oliver 5/12/1989 Elizabeth Stanmore 5/12/2002



Dear friends, Happy New Year! Happy Advent! We all need some hope and this joyful season fills us with hope!

Next Saturday, 5 December, the church will re-open after the lockdown and during the first public Mass since November, some of the children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please be aware that numbers at Mass will be limited so that the children can be supported by their families. Any available seats will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

From this Sunday there will be a change to the celebration of Mass. Earlier this year, the Cardinal Sarah, the Prefect of that part of the Holy See's Civil Service which has oversight for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments addressed a concern to the Bishops of countries using the English language. Currently, the Collect or Opening Prayer at the beginning of Mass uses the word, "one" before the word "God" in the conclusion of these prayers. It has been deemed that this addition of the word, "one" can be mistaken and problematic. The Bishops of England and Wales have voted that the conclusion to the Collect at the beginning of Mass should be adjusted by removing the word, "one" from these prayers.

Before next weekend's partial reopening, please continue to join the Online Mass on the Parish Facebook page. It is a great support to me and to each other when there is an online congregation. It is a very positive action: the celebration of Mass is being streamed live into your homes! This is also having a positive impact on your prayerlife: those who join the online Mass are making daily Mass with the cycle of Scripture readings, prayers and celebrations a significant part of daily prayer.

Our church is open for Private Prayer Between 11am and 12noon on Sundays, the church will be open for Private Prayer. I am incredibly grateful to the teams of stewards and cleaners who have been able to make this possible. During this time, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Things will be different for a while. Please do come and pray in church; it will be a great act of witness to show our need for the church as a place of prayer and sanctuary. If you are coming to church:

- Wear a face covering
- Sanitise your hands when entering and leaving the church
- There is NO access to the toilets, choir loft, sacristy or Confessional
- We will also collect your contact details for the NHS Track and Trace; there is the QR code also.

6pm Daily Prayer During this time, our Bishops have asked to sustain each other in our patterns of prayer by joining a national shared moment of prayer each day at 6pm. As we are St Mary's Parish, I suggest that we use the Angelus as our daily 6pm prayer.

The angel of the Lord declared to Mary. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace ...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done to me according to your word. Hail Mary, full of grace ...

The Word was made flesh. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary, full of grace ...

Pray for us, Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may be brought, by his Passion and Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Look after yourself and each other! When we are part of a team each person is valued and everyone values each other. Let's keep that good example and act of witness.

- Keep in contact with your relatives and friends: call someone every day.
- Keep in contact with those who live alone, and not just the elderly: priests are encouraged to call another priest every day.
- Keep in touch through the Parish Facebook page
- Keep up with your daily prayers and routine
- Keep up with hobbies and pastimes
- Keep joining online Mass
- **STAY POSITIVE:**

The smallest gestures are most often the most appreciated and can make a world of difference. Let's remain united and resolute. You are doing great!

St Mary's: a parish Praying and Working together

Our Parish Working Together: Can you help with the reopening of the church? This will only be possible with *your* help! If you can help as a steward or cleaner, please let me know! Send an email to me at stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk

Our Parish Praying Together: a Parish Prayer Please pray for our parish that we will continue to be a place where we meet Christ in the Sacraments and each other. I ask you to use this prayer:

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.

Online events this week

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| Monday 30 November | 7pm | Faith for Families |
| Thursday 4 December | 230pm | Bible Book Club |

Raffle, Calendar and Cards I am very grateful to the Parish Finance Committee for their support with a Christmas raffle: prizes include gin, whiskey, chocolate, biscuits, a Pamper Hamper, a Christmas cake and a florist's voucher. Tickets will only be available when church is open on Sunday. It is hoped that we can get a calendar and note cards printed for sale also.

200 Club – New members are *ALWAYS* welcome: the more members, the bigger the prizes! Subscriptions run from January – December. Membership is £1 per month. Please send subscriptions, by cheque only, – existing and new members – to Fr Martin at the presbytery. Thank you to the new members!



The Parish SVP group has asked me to convey their thanks to our amazing parishioners: The SVP wish to thank you for your significant contribution to our outreach project. We have been able to arrange the home deliveries of 28 meals and also give assistance to two young families where the parents have lost their jobs. Prayer and best wishes, St Mary's SVP Group.

At Facebook Mass we can't have a collection Many thanks to all those who have started to donate by or increase their standing orders. 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.

If you shop online, it is possible to donate to the parish through the Easy Fundraising initiative. A number of online stores including Amazon contribute to a named charity for each online purchase. Thank you to those who have started to do this.

Thank you for your kind generosity.

From today's Responsorial Psalm: "God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted." (Ps 79) With prayers and best wishes, Fr Martin