

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’.**

Saturday 30 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 2: 21-23; Ps 94; Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11; Luke 12: 13-21
6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, For You, the People of the Parish

Sunday 31 July
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Piotr Zwierski RIP
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Monday 1 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

Memorial of St Alphonsus Mary de’ Liguori, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
Jeremiah 28: 1-17; Ps 118; Matthew 14: 13-21
9.40am Rosary 10am Donor’s Int.

Tuesday 2 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 30: 1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 101; Matthew 14: 22-36
9.40am Rosary 10am Nellie Grace RIP

Wednesday 3 August
Public liturgy

Feria in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 31: 1-7; Jer 31; Matthew 15: 21-28
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)

Thursday 4 August
Public liturgy

Memorial of St John Mary Vianney, Priest
Jeremiah 31: 31-34; Ps 50; Matthew 16: 13-23
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)

Friday 5 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time, First Friday
Nahum 2: 1, 3, 3: 1-3, 6-7; Deut 32; Matthew 16: 24-28
9.40 Rosary 10am Theresa Bolger RIP
3pm Rosary and Benediction

Saturday 6 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Wisdom 18: 6-9; Ps 32; Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19; Luke 12: 35-48
6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, For You, the People of the Parish

Sunday 7 August
Public liturgy and live-stream

10am Janusz Szura (Spec Int)
4pm Rosary and Benediction

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

Fr Martin Pratt
Mrs Geraldine Duffy-Jentz
Mrs G Turner
Mrs R Waugh
Appointment pending
Archdiocese of Birmingham
NSPCC
Mrs M Lawton
University Hospital North Midlands
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The Pope’s Prayer Intention for August: *We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating and serving their communities.*

Please pray for the sick: Pam Webb, Moyra Chadwick, Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, 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.

Prayers for the Faithful Departed We are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of Natalina Narolski. Natalina’s Funeral Mass will be celebrated, here at St Mary’s, on Friday 19 August at 10am. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Anniversaries: Mary Ellen Bould; Philip Artesvor; Sarah Thornton; Margaret Rose Woolliscroft; Ingeburg Beetham; Jean Adrien Finn; Frederick Russell Jackson; Joseph Joyce; John (Jack) McLoughlin; Katherine Muir; Vincent Harold Heath; John Leigh Nadin; Margaret Rushton; Agnes Lucy Mary Tunstall; Eileen Gilhooly; Edith Annie Kirby; Sabrina Mary Palmer; James Chell; Mrs Goodwin; Joseph Maczka; Ellen Stafford; Mary Gertrude Berrisford; Michelle Morris; Bronislaw Siwec; Joshua Bailey; Peter Cooper; George Kimber; Winifred Moss; Francis Deaville; Leslie Haddon; Cyril Sheldon; Amelia Hughes



Dear friends, I am very grateful to you for the support which you are giving to our parish at this time as we rebuild and grow. There is a large number of volunteers helping in the parish with different areas of responsibility. Please continue to do a great job. It shows that we are all sharing the responsibility for the life and mission of our parish. I am very grateful to the brass cleaning group which has taken on cleaning the sanctuary and the two side chapels. I am very thankful to the volunteers who have come forward to repaint the garage. I am very grateful to the volunteer who has indicated that they would repaint the statue of St Therese in the avenue.

Welcome back to Sunday Mass – you have been missed! We are invited back to Mass on Sundays. Over the last few weeks, I have reproduced sections of a very helpful and clear article on the Mass and the Blessed Sacrament to help as we return to regular attendance at Mass on Sundays. The Church asks us to be present at Mass every Sunday, not to make life difficult, but to invite us to participate in the most perfect act of worship, the act of worship Christ gave to us. When we are at

Mass in church together on a Sunday and Holy Days we are demonstrating our communion with one another and with our brothers and sisters around the world. While we can pray at home, the Church also wants us to be present in person in church except in the case of illness, caring for the sick or real threat.

Ordinary Fridays Our Catholic life observes Friday with special respect because of the Lord's Passion and Death. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus asks us to observe the First Fridays by attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion on nine consecutive First Fridays; it was one of the 12 promises the Lord made to St Margaret Mary during the sixteenth century and has been part of Catholic life ever since. As Catholics we also observe Fridays as days of penance by offering a form of self-denial in thanksgiving for the Lord's gentle mercy and our personal desire for conversion of heart. The Church does not prescribe, however, that fish must be eaten on Fridays. It never did. Abstinence always meant the giving up of meat rather than the eating of fish as a substitute. What the Church does require is that its members abstain on Fridays from meat or some other food or that they perform some alternative work of penance. Here are some practical suggestions for an act of penance on Fridays

- by abstaining from meat or some other food
- by abstaining from alcoholic drink, smoking or some form of amusement
- by making the special effort involved in family prayer, taking part in the Mass, visiting the Blessed Sacrament or praying the Stations of the Cross
- by fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved in this way to the needy at home and abroad
- by making a special effort to help somebody who is poor, sick, old or lonely

Deanery Visitation The parishes of our Deanery have been chosen for Visitation during the next year. The opening meeting of the visitation will take place at Holy Trinity, Newcastle, on Thursday 22 September at 7pm. The purpose of the Visitation is for the Archbishop or his representative to visit you: he wants to see you and to affirm and strengthen your faith.

Amazon Wishlist for items for the church and parish offices I am incredibly grateful to you for purchasing cleaning and stationery items on the Amazon Wishlist. Items have been arriving during the week. Thank you for supporting the parish in this way.

Vocations Prayer Calendar The prayer calendar for August is now at the back of the church. Let's not lose the momentum for this, let's continue to pray to the Lord of the harvest so that he will send labourers to his harvest!

Parish Day of Prayer for Vocations On Thursday 18 August, we will have a parish day of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for an increase in Vocations to the priesthood. The day will begin with Rosary at 9.40 followed by Mass at 10am. During the day parishioners are invited to pray for vocations in front of the Blessed Sacrament in 20-minute time slots. We will also recite the rosary at 12noon and at 3pm. The day of prayer will finish with rosary and benediction at 6pm. Please sign up for a 20-minute time slot on the sheet at the back of church.

SVP Summer Raffle. The Parish SVP group is continuing to assist isolated and elderly parishioners with meals on wheels deliveries. To support the SVP group, proceeds from our summer raffle will go towards this amazing work. Tickets will be on sale after Mass £1 per 5 tickets. The prizes include a meat voucher, bottle of whiskey, bottle of wine, chocolates, biscuits. The draw will take place on Sunday 14 August after 10am Mass. If you would like to make a donation towards the work of the SVP in our parish, please place donations in an envelope and hand them to Fr Martin or one of the stewards at the back of the church.

SVP helpers Can you spare a few hours each week to telephone elderly or isolated parishioners? If so, please see Fr Martin.

Important information for parents of children who will be in School Years 3 and 6 from September - Save the date - The meeting for parents and carers of children who are due to receive either their First Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2023. Parents and carers are advised that the compulsory meeting for parents will take place in church on Thursday 15 September at 4pm. It is essential that parents and carers attend this meeting with their children.

I would also like to inform parents of children who will be starting school Year 3 in September that the baptism of children aged 7 years old and over wishing to be Baptised must attend a course of instruction. Parents are asked to contact Fr Martin and attend Mass

Let's be dynamic Catholics, let us:

- Be at Mass every Sunday: Sunday Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening at 6pm and Sunday morning at 10am
- Go to Confession once a month: Confession – the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated Saturday 10am – 1030am or by making an appointment.
- Praying for 5 minutes every day.
- Sharing our time and talent and treasure

Being safe in church While there are no legal restrictions in place, we want to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible. So we ask that:

- Use the hand sanitizer as you arrive at and leave the church.
- Please consider wearing a face covering while in church, as an act of charity to those who remain vulnerable or return home to vulnerable relatives.
- A number of benches still have cordons for those who wish to keep a physical distance and the church will be ventilated.

Dates for your diary

Monday 8 and 22 August	SVP Meeting after 10am Mass
Saturday 13 August	Faith for Kids
Monday 15 August	Bible Book Club
Thursday 18 August	Parish Day of Prayer for Vocations
Saturday 10 September	6pm Family Mass in church for Education Day
Thursday 22 September	7pm Deanery Visitation – Opening Meeting at Holy Trinity, Newcastle.
4pm in Church: Meeting for parents of children who will receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation during 2023	

Thursday 15 September Holy Days of Obligation

Sat 13 & Sun 14 Aug Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Tuesday 1 November All Saints' Day

Second Collections

10/11 September	Catholic Education Service
17/18 September	Catholic Evangelisation
24/25 September	Fr Hudson's: The social care agency
23/24 October	Missio
5/6 November	Johnson Associates for sick and retired priests
19/20 November	Catholic Youth Services
3/4 December	Poor Parishes

Collection

Non Gift Aid £152.00 Gift Aid £105.20 Total £257.20

With prayers and best wishes for you and your family. Fr Martin