

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 4 September
Public Mass and live-stream

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Isaiah 35:4-7; Ps 145; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37
5pm 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*

Monday 6 September
Live-stream Mass

Feria in Ordinary Time
Colossians 1:24-2:3; Ps 61; Luke 6:6-11
10am Coleman Reilly RIP

Tuesday 7 September
Public Mass and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Colossians 2:6-15; Ps 144; Luke 6:12-19
930am Church open 10am In thanksgiving

Wednesday 8 September
No live-stream today

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Micah 5:1-4; Ps 12; Matthew 1:1-6, 18-23

Thursday 9 September
Public Mass and live-stream

Feria in Ordinary Time
Colossians 3:12-17; Ps 150; Luke 6:27-38
930am Church open 10am Ann Walsh (Intentions)

Friday 10 September
No live-stream today

Feria in Ordinary Time
1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 15; Luke 6:39-42
Today's Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's School.

Saturday 11 September

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

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Education Sunday

Isaiah 50:5-9, Ps 114, James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

Public Mass and live-stream

530pm Church open
6pm For you, the People of the Parish: Family Mass with children and their parents from St Mary's Academy

Sunday 12 September
Public Mass and live-stream

10am Dr Joseph RIP
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

Michael Depczynski, Tadeusz Wojdak, Samuel Hambleton, Esther Gordon, Barbara Priest, John William Barker, Margaret Byrne, Margaret Addy, George Broda, Martin Ernest Kane, Edna Mary Johnson, Eileen Whittaker, Ann Mary Spencer, Aloysius Borkowski, Mary Thelma Enid Shenton, Sister M Magdalen IBVM, Alf Shelton, John Edward Kenneth Chilcott, Antoni Fenn, Winifred Mary Grayson, Elizabeth Sheila Gallagher, Elizabeth Carding

Dear friends, on Wednesday of last week, 1 September, marked the beginning of the Season of Creation. This is a month long season to raise our awareness of our roles as stewards of creation. There is an additional newsletter this week which explains Pope Francis's letter on the care of our common home together with some practical steps that we can all take in caring for the environment.

Welcome back! I have missed you! During the last week, more public Masses were celebrated in church. This weekend, we restart the Saturday Mass at 6pm. Unfortunately, the Polish Mass remains suspended.

September is SVP Awareness Month – the Society of St Vincent de Paul – Can you help with making telephone calls to some of our elderly and isolated parishioners? Can you make a donation to support the delivery of meals on wheels? If so, please contact Fr Martin at stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk



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.

The Parish plan for the rest of the year:

Sunday Mass Come back to Mass! Mass is the greatest act of worship which we can give to God. If you are feeling confident about being in church, please come along. It will be great to see you!

Monthly Confession! It means the world to receive God's forgiveness and grace once each month to help become the best version of ourselves. Confessions are celebrated on Saturday morning between 10am and 1030a in the presbytery car park.

Pray for 5 minutes every day Set some time aside each day to pray. Use your favourite prayer, read a favourite passage from the Bible or prayer; talk to God about your life and your family.

Share your time, talent and treasure If you could help in our parish for an hour each week – it would make a world of difference! Could you help with our SVP Group? Do you have IT and / or typing skills? Can you help with Sweep & Clean and other maintenance jobs?

Can you support these events over the next few months?

- The Sacrament of Confirmation and First Holy Communion Masses. We need help in church to make sure these occasions are safe. Please contact Fr Martin if you can help.
- Bible Book Club will restart soon. We shall be reading St John's Gospel. If you would like to join, please let me know. Send an email to stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
- Sunday 14 November, 2021 will be Remembrance Sunday – we are planning to make a display of poppies for a display near the Crucifix and memorial near the entrance to the church. Can you help with making knitted poppies? If you can help, please send an email to Fr Martin at stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk

Step 4 of the Government's response to Coronavirus We are 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 Fr Martin.

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

It is back to School! Our Catholic Schools do an amazing job to support parents in the education and faith development of their children. 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.

Beginning later this week, School Mass will restart. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to invite parents or parishioners nor will it be possible to live-stream Mass on these occasions.

Next weekend, 11- 12 September, the Church marks Education Sunday. It is an occasion to ask for God's blessing on the work of our schools and to show our support to the children, staff and governors. I would like to invite to next Saturday evening's Mass all the children and parents in Year 3, 4, 5, and 6 to the 6pm Mass on Saturday. You will have to send your contact details to the school office for NHS Track & Trace, and during Mass face coverings are to be worn and social distancing will be necessary in church.

Edge@Alton For our younger parishioners in school Years 6, 7, and 8 will restart on Sunday 19 September at the Soli Centre, Alton. For more information and booking, please contact edgeatalton@gmail.com

Second collections 25 – 26 September The annual collection for Fr Hudson's care, the diocesan social care agency.
2 – 3 October Family Fast day collection, supporting CAFOD's Season of Creation project.

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. The draw was made last weekend. Fr Martin will be in contact with the winners soon!

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. Thank you for your kind generosity!

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