

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 6 August <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Wisdom 18: 6-9; Ps 32; Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19; Luke 12: 35-48</i> 6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, For You, the People of the Parish
Sunday 7 August <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	10am Janusz Szura (Spec Int) 4pm Rosary and Benediction
Monday 8 August <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	Memorial of St Dominic, Priest <i>Ezekiel 1: 2-5, 24-28; Ps 148; Matthew 17: 22- 27</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Lucia (Spec Int)
Tuesday 9 August <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	Feast of St Tereza Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), Virgin, Martyr, Patron of Europe <i>Hosea 2: 16-17, 21- 22; Ps 44; Matthew 25: 1-13</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Donor’s Int.
Wednesday 10 August <i>Public liturgy</i>	Feast of St Lawrence, Deacon, Martyr <i>2 Corinthians 9: 6-10; Ps 111; John 12: 24-26</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)
Thursday 11 August <i>Public liturgy</i>	Memorial of St Clare, Virgin, Foundress of the Poor Clares <i>Ezekiel 12: 1-12; PS 77; Matthew 18: 21-19: 1</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)
Friday 12 August <i>Public liturgy</i>	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Ezekiel 16: 1-15, 60-63; Is 12; Matthew 19: 3-12</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service)
Saturday 13 August <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	10am to 10.30am Confessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY <i>1 Chronicles 15:3-4,15-16,16:1-2; Ps 131; 1 Corinthians 15:54-57; Luke 11 :27-28</i> 6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday, Nikki (Spec Int)
Sunday 14 August <i>Public liturgy and live-stream</i>	<i>Apocalypse 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10; Ps 44; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26; Luke 1: 39-56</i> 10am For You, the People of the Parish 4pm Rosary and Benediction

Parish Priest	Fr Martin Pratt	tel 01538 382385 stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Mrs Geraldine Duffy-Jentz	administrator.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
St Mary’s Catholic Academy	Mrs G Turner	tel 01538 493888
Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle	Mrs R Waugh	tel 01538 714944
Safeguarding Rep	Appointment pending	
	Archdiocese of Birmingham	tel 0121 230 6240
	NSPCC	tel 0808 800 500
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Mrs M Lawton	ga.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
Hospital Chaplaincy	University Hospital North Midlands	tel 01782 676400 ext 76400
	Macclesfield District Hospital	tel 01625 663386

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 souls of Elsie Tideswell and Natalina Narolski. Natalina’s Funeral Mass will be celebrated, here at St Mary’s, on Friday 19 August at 10am. There will be a funeral liturgy for Elsie Tideswell on Monday 22nd August at 11.15am. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Anniversaries: Kate Challinor; Salomea Wasilewska; Howard William Lawrence Renshaw; Elizabeth White; Charles Hoof; Kenneth Arthur Lownds; Lawrence Stafford; Mary Margaret Yates; Jessie Pickford; Sister Brendan McCarthy I.B.V.M.; Edward Ash; Edith Boone; Stasia Przesmycka; Father John Clavin; Mary Ann Alcock; Josef Glogowski; Thomas Stanley (Stan) Booth; Robert (Bob) Carding



Dear friends, as we continue to rebuild and grow after the long months of lockdown, let's continue to work together to build up our parish and our life of faith. I know it isn't always easy and it would be easier and more convenient to do our own thing, but, I ask that we remain united and resolute.

A synodal parish in a synodal Church In the Synodal Questionnaires, the large majority of people asked for encouragement with going to Confession – the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Over the next few weeks, I shall reproduce extracts from two very helpful articles. Here is the first:

1. Why go to Confession?

Confession is a sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ to forgive sins, when he said to his apostles: "Whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; whose sins you retain, they are retained" (Jn 20:23). We go to confession because the new life given to us by God in baptism can be weakened and lost through sin. This is why Christ

wanted the Church to continue his work of healing and salvation through this sacrament.

Through the sacramental absolution of the priest, who acts in the name of Christ, God grants the penitent forgiveness and peace, restores the grace by which we live as a child of God and can reach heaven, eternal happiness. (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1420-1421; 1426; 1446)

Encouraging each other to return to Mass I know some people have either chosen to go to Mass elsewhere or not to return to Mass, but I would like to invite you to return to St Mary's. I would like to invite to Mass those who didn't have a regular practice of the faith before the pandemic began. Let's support the children and young people of our parish. If we are proud of our faith, they will be proud of their belief in Christ!

World Youth Day, 2023 The Kenelm Youth Trust are offering an exciting opportunity for young people aged 16-30 years to experience the Universal Church in Lisbon at the beginning of the school summer holidays next year. They have a limited number of places available for their pilgrimage group which will be participating in a full formation programme over the next 12 months as well as travelling together to Portugal at the end of July 2023, spending a week hosted by a Portuguese parish and then experiencing the full World Youth Day week long programme in Lisbon with the thousands of other young international pilgrims. This culminates with an open air prayer vigil and Papal Mass. Full details can be found via an information pack on the Kenelm website: <https://www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/wyd-lisbon-2023.html>

It would be wonderful to have some young people from North Staffs among the pilgrims! Should you require any further support please contact anna.howard@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk

Deanery Visitation The parishes of our Deanery have been chosen for a 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.

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 9.40am 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

Saturday 13 August	Faith for Kids at 10.45am in the narthex
Monday 15 August	SVP Meeting after 10am Mass
Monday 15 August	Bible Book Club 6.30pm on Zoom
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.
Thursday 15 September	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
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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 £ 78.00	Gift Aid £117.71	Total £195.71
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With prayers and best wishes for you and your family. Fr Martin