

**The Catholic Parish of St Mary, Leek**  
**This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216**  
**Compton, LEEK, Staffordshire, ST13 5NH**  
**Tel 01538 382385      Email [stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk)      Facebook @stmaryleek**

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

<b>Saturday 23 April</b> <i>Public Mass and live-stream</i>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <i>Acts 5: 12-16; Ps 117; Apocalypse 1: 9-13, 17-19; John 20: 19-31</i> 2.30pm Sue Ellis RIP
<b>Sunday 24 April</b> <i>Public Mass and live – stream</i>	10am Margaret Delicata RIP
<b>Monday 25 April</b> <i>No Mass</i>	<b>Feast of St Mark, Evangelist</b> <i>1 Peter 5: 5-14; Ps 8; Mark 16: 15-21</i>
<b>Tuesday 26 April</b> <i>No Mass</i>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF ST GEORGE, Martyr, Patron of England</b> <i>Apocalypse 12: 10-12; Ps 125; John 15: 18-21</i>
<b>Wednesday 27 April</b>	<b>Easter Feria</b> <i>Acts 5: 17-26; Ps 33; John 3: 16-21</i> 6pm Reception of the Body and Mass for the repose of the soul of Piotr Zwierski <i>Places in church will be limited</i>
<b>Thursday 28 April</b>	<b>Easter Feria</b> <i>Acts 5: 27-33; Ps 33; John 3: 31-36</i> 11.30am Funeral Mass for the repose of the soul of Piotr Zwierski <i>Places in church will be limited.</i>
<b>Friday 29 April</b>	<b>Feast of St Catherine of Siena, Co-patron Saint of Europe</b> <i>1 John 1: 5- 2:2; Ps 102; Matthew 11: 25-30</i> Mass will be celebrated at St Mary’s Academy 3pm Rosary
<b>Saturday 30 April</b>  <i>Public Mass and live - stream</i>	10am to 10.30am Confessions, will be celebrated in the church. <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <i>Acts 5: 27-32, 40-41; Ps 29; Apocalypse 5: 11-41; John 21: 1-19</i> 2.30pm For you, the People of the Church
<b>Sunday 01 May</b> <i>Public Mass and live – stream</i>	10am Kathleen Greenward RIP 1130am The Sacrament of Baptism 4pm Rosary and Benediction

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

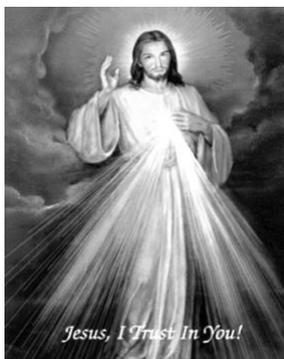
**Please pray for the sick** Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, Brian Dale, Norman Syddall, Andrew Clifford, David Wright, Janusz Szura and those who are in self-isolation and have been diagnosed with Covid-19.  
*Due to data protection legislation, in order for a name to be printed in this newsletter, the consent of the person who is unwell needs to be given.*

**The Pope’s Prayer Intention for April:** We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

**Please pray for the Faithful Departed.** We pray for the repose of the soul of Piotr Zwierski. The Funeral will take place, here at St Mary’s, on Wednesday 27 April and Thursday 28 April. Places will be limited in line with our current risk assessment.  
We pray for Andrew McGowan. His Funeral Mass will take place at St Mary’s, Norton, on Wednesday 4 May.  
Please keep in your prayers Fr Ted Simpson SCJ and Deacon Jack Foxall who died recently.

#### **Anniversaries**

Margaret Winifred Salt, Susan Frances Ellis, Margaret Delicata, Peter Harry Lowe, Clifford Mayers, Agnes Sullivan, Gladys Byatt, William Challinor, Nora Brown, Wladyslaw Hryciuk, Stanislaw (Stasha) Bielecka, Sister Philomena O’Brien I.B.V.M, Terry Murphy, Moira Gabriel, David Briggs, Alice Laskowski



Dear friends, my thanks to everyone for making the Easter celebrations with devotion: the musicians, the singers, the altar servers, the readers, the Eucharistic Ministers, the stewards, the cleaners, those who helped prepare the church by cleaning brass – it looks amazing; washing and ironing the altar linen, arranging the flowers – they look wonderful this year; and, everyone who was in the congregation. I am very grateful to you for your kind hearted support! Let's keep going!

I am very grateful to you for your very generous Easter offering! Thank you for the cards and gifts: they are appreciated very much indeed.

This weekend we welcome Fr Andrew Batare. He is a member of the Society of African Missions and will be here to make an appeal for them. The Society of African Missions (SMA) is committed to preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ chiefly in Africa and to people of African origin. The Society of African Missions regard solidarity with the poor and the powerless, commitment to reading the signs of the times, activities for justice and peace, dedication to building a better world, including care for the environment, as constitutive dimensions of witnessing to the Good News of Jesus Christ. They do this

through education, health care, development projects and working for justice. The SMA also help in caring for African immigrants in Europe and the USA and draw attention to those structures that oppress them and other people of the Third World. For more information about the Society of African Mission, please visit their website [www.sma.gb.org](http://www.sma.gb.org)

**A Synodal Parish in a Synodal Church** We are at a great moment when we can work together and build up our parish in a number of ways. In the recent Synod Questionnaire, some of the replies offered help in several ways. If that was you, please let me know! The offers of help were with: reading at Mass, singing at Mass, joining the SVP, computer literacy.

**Being safe in church while at Mass or other occasions** I am very grateful to you for your continuing co-operation with our desire to keep each other safe while in church. While other churches may have a different approach, let's remain considerate of each other at this time. I am aware that some people are comfortable with not wearing a face covering, and there are others who are not ready for this. Personally, I am not ready to do without a face covering for my own personal, private reasons. So we ask in church:

- Use the hand sanitizer when we arrive and when we leave.
- Wear a face covering if you wish; face coverings must be worn when singing.
- Singing is being introduced gradually; hymn books can be used.
- The church is to be ventilated: It is Leek and it's early Spring: wear a good coat, please!
- The cordons on the benches will remain except for the two side aisles where the cordons have been removed.
- Be mindful of others: someone on your bench may be vulnerable or the person on your bench may be returning home to someone vulnerable.
- Baptisms can take place either during Mass or after Mass; Weddings and Funerals can take place with limited numbers and the other mitigations in place.

**Preparing for First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation** I want to encourage the parents and the families of the children preparing for these important occasions that it is crucial to be at Sunday Mass. We are preparing the children for communion with God and preparing them for communion with the Church - with the people of the parish who will witness the faith when you are at church. Over the last few weeks it has been good to see more families at Mass, and it is great to see you; the sacrifice which you are making will be worth it! Let's all encourage the families of all the children to bring them to Sunday Mass in church. My offer to the parents still stands: if you would like a refresher course in the Catholic faith over the next few weeks, please let me know. I am praying to St Joseph every day for the children and their families.

**Faith for Kids** This is a new parish group which will meet on Saturday mornings. The first meeting will take place on Saturday 7 May in the narthex at 1045am.

**The St Mary's Easter Raffle** I am incredibly grateful to everyone who either bought raffle tickets or donated prizes for this year's Easter Raffle. There are two prizes which remain unclaimed. The tickets are: Pink 221- 225 C Ash and Blue 381 -385 Lillian.

**200 Club** At present there are 70 members of the parish 200 Club. Membership is £12 for the year. In this way your membership contributes to the ongoing mission and maintenance of our parish enabling us to make sure all the annual servicing of the heating, electrical appliances, and other safety checks can happen; it also enables us to maintain all the property to a high standard; and helps with the purchase of all the items which are needed for the celebration of the liturgy in church and allows the pastoral work and evangelisation to continue.

**Special Second Collection for Ukraine** A few weeks ago we had a special second collection for Ukraine which was sent to the charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) which is supporting priests and religious sisters staying with their parishioners in some of the worst hit areas. Neville Kyrke-Smith from the charity has asked me to convey the sincere thanks from CAN for your compassion and generosity.

**The Edge@Alton Youth Group** has made rosary decade beads, bookmarks and Easter Candles to raise money for the Donna Louise children's hospice. There will be a basket of items on sale at the back of church in the coming weeks.

**Dates for your diary**

23 - 24 April	Mission Appeal – this year the annual appeal is for the Society of African Missions.
Thursday 28 April	5pm Mini Parish Council in the Narthex
Monday 2 May	630pm on Zoom Bible Book Club
20 - 24 June	Vocations' Week at St Mary's Academy
Saturday 9 July	Leek Club Day. Soon we will be asking for volunteers to help

**Gift Aid** Are you a UK taxpayer? If so, and if you sign a Gift Aid declaration, the UK Government will add 25p to each pound you donate to our parish. For more information and how to sign up to Gift Aid, please be in contact with Marie. Her email address is [ga.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ga.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk)

**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 email me at the Parish Office - [stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk).

Thank you for your generous support of our parish

**With prayers and best wishes for you and your family as we continue to celebrate Christ's Resurrection,  
Fr Martin**