

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

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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 13 January** 10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Peace Day; Exchange Sunday
1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19; Ps 39; 1Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20; John 1:35-42
6.15pm Family Mass Ken and Marion Levell (AM)
- Sunday 14 January** 10am Mass Jan Dziurdzik RIP
1.30pm Polish Mass
4pm Rosary and Benediction
- Monday 15 January** **Feria in Ordinary Time**
1 Samuel 15:16-23; Ps 49; Mark 2:18-22
9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Nolly Brice (MC)
- Tuesday 16 January** **Feria in Ordinary Time**
1 Samuel 16: 1-13; Ps 88; Mark 2:23-28
9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Kathleen Greenwood RIP
11am Funeral Liturgy for the repose of the soul of Geoffery Hemmings RIP
- Wednesday 17 January** **Memorial of St Anthony, Abbot**
1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 143; Mark 3:1-6
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
- Thursday 18 January** **Feria in Ordinary Time**
1 Samuel 18:6-9, 19:1-7; Ps 55; Mark 3:7-12
9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Maureen Kelly RIP
- Friday 19 January** **Diocesan Feast of St Wulstan, Bishop**
Romans 6:17-19, 20-23; Ps 106; John 10:11-15
1.30pm Mass at St Mary’s Academy Celebrant’s Intention
- Saturday 20 January** 10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Sunday of the Word of God
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Ps 24; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
6.15pm Mass Ellen, John and John Jr Wright RIP
- Sunday 21 January** 10am Mass Janusz Szura-Zwierski (Spec Int)
1.30pm Polish Mass
4pm Rosary and Benediction

Parish Priest	Fr Martin Pratt	tel 01538 382385 stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Mrs Alice Murray	
St Mary’s Catholic Academy	Mrs G Turner	tel 01538 493888
Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle	Mrs R Waugh	tel 01538 493777
Safeguarding Rep	Mr Malcolm Sproat	sg.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
	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
	Macclesfield District Hospital	tel 01625 663386

Parish Safeguarding The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Malcolm Sproat. He can be contacted at: sg.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

The Pope’s Prayer Intention for January For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Please pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life Can you set aside one day each month to pray for Vocations? If so, could you sign the list at the back of church, please.

Please pray for the sick Jenny Kirkham, Moyra Chadwick, Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, Norman Syddall, Andrew Clifford, Janusz Szura- Zwierski, Fr Anthony Dykes.
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.

Please pray for the Faithful Departed Let’s pray for the repose of the souls of Fr Paul Lomas, Fr Christopher Greaney, Fr Sandy Brown and Geoffery Hemmings: Geoffery’s Funeral Liturgy will take place this Tuesday, 16 January at 11am here at St Mary’s

Anniversaries for this week: Margaret Cross, Norman Stafford, Elizabeth Barnes, Pauline Wright, Judith Mary Theresa Goldstraw, Alfred Moss, Frances Bostock, Irene Sneyd, Jan Josef Bonczyk, Barbara Mary Wood, Margaret Pickford, Arthur Sheldon, Harriet Ann Cartlidge, Kay O’Connor, Paul Birch, Alice Watson, Daniel Joseph Horgan, Jadwiga (Jane) Drabott, Kathleen Greenwood, Edith Hambleton, Vincent William Beetham, Peter Noel Meharg, Mary Goodfellow, Alexandra Duffy, Teresa Gallagher, Rose Palin, Henry Swietek

Dear friends, Today, in the Christian churches of Leek, Exchange Sunday is observed. We have sent a parish representative to St Paul's church for their Sunday Service and we are to receive parishioners from St Edward's.

Last week the new school term started and got underway with an uplifting celebration of Mass on Monday afternoon. I asked everyone at St Mary's, both the staff and all the pupils to fill every classroom, every lesson, to fill the whole school with Holy Moments. I suggested three Holy Moments which they might like to take up everyday this term. These are Holy Moments we can take up also. They are:

Pray for the children preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation: let's wrap them in a blanket of prayer;

Encourage someone as if Jesus was giving them courage; and,

Tell someone that God thinks that they are amazing.

Let's fill every home, every life, indeed the whole St Mary's parish with Holy Moments!

Next Sunday will be Sunday of the Word of God Pope Francis instituted the Sunday of the Word of God which will be observed next weekend. During next weekend's Masses, those who are Readers in our parish will be Blessed for their ministry of proclaiming the Word of God to us at Mass and on other occasions.

Year of Prayer, 2024 We are now in the year long spiritual preparation for next year's Jubilee Year. Let's be part of Pope Francis's bold vision of a "Symphony of Prayer". What a great thing to be part of the whole Church, around the world, dedicating this year to prayer! It is good to be part of a worldwide movement which is doing good. I encourage you to set aside 5 minutes of prayer every day. Pray the Lord's Prayer as the Pope has asked us to. Pray for our parish prayer intentions:

the children and young people of parish preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation;

for the sick and housebound parishioners;

for families;

for parents as the first teachers of the faith;

for children suffering from sickness;

for peace and justice.

Please do take your prayer card and let's be a parish joining in the great symphony of prayer!

Administration of Holy Communion Due to the prevailing risk, the norm for receiving communion remains on the hand. For those who wish to receive Communion on the tongue, please come to the Altar at the end of the congregational procession as the Minister of Holy Communion will need to sanitise his/her hands after every person receiving on the tongue.

Winter Weather Team I am asking for help ahead of any winter weather and for a team of volunteers to move snow and apply grit in the car park and along the two walkways to the church. Many of the people who used to do this aren't able to help any longer. If you can help, please let Fr Martin know.

Going into hospital If you are going into to hospital, there is now no obligation for the hospital to inform its chaplaincy department of your admission. When admitted to hospital, please ask the hospital to be in contact with their chaplain. Alternatively, be in contact with me and I make contact with the chaplain for you.

Coffee and cakes If you would like to join me for Coffee and Cakes on Thursday 18 January at 4pm, please sign the list at the back of the church.

Holy Days of Obligation during 2024

Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 January The Epiphany of the Lord

Wednesday 14 February Ash Wednesday

Thursday 28 March Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 29 March Good Friday: the Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday 30 March Holy Saturday: the Easter Vigil

Sunday 31 March Easter Sunday

Thursday 9 May Ascension of the Lord

Saturday 29 - Sunday 30 June Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles, martyrs

Thursday 15 August Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday 1 November All Saints' Day

Wednesday 25 December Christmas

Second Collections during 2024

Saturday 24 – Sunday 25 February CAFOD

Saturday 2 – Sunday 3 March St Chad's Cathedral Maintenance Fund

Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 April Mission Appeal for the Association for the Propagation of the Faith

Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 April Clergy Training Fund

Saturday 11 – Sunday 12 May Catholic Communications

Saturday 15 – Sunday 16 June Day for Life

Saturday 29 – Sunday 30 June Peter's Pence

Saturday 13 July – Sunday 14 July Apostleship of the Sea

Saturday 10 – Sunday 11 August Mission Appeal for the St Patrick Missionaries (Kilteagans)

Saturday 7 – Sunday 8 September Catholic Education Service

Saturday 14 Sunday 15 September Catholic Evangelisation

Saturday 21 – Sunday 22 September Fr Hudson's the Diocesan Social Care Agency

Saturday 5 – Sunday 6 October CAFOD

Saturday 19 – Sunday 20 October Missio

Saturday 2 – Sunday 3 November Johnson Association for retired and infirm clergy

Saturday 23 – Sunday 24 November Catholic Youth Services

Saturday 7 – Sunday 8 December Poor Parishes of the Diocese

200 club It's time to renew your subscriptions to the 200 Club. Please fill out one of the envelopes at the back of the church and enclose cheques of £12 for your annual membership. Cheques should be made out to BRC DTR St Mary's, Leek. If you are not already taking part please consider joining the parish 200 Club this year as it raises valuable funds for the running of St Mary's church and the costs associated with our Masses. There are two monthly cash prizes to be won!

Collection Gift Aid £75.00 Non Gift Aid £152.25 Total £227.25

Standing Orders for December £1121.50

Have a good week! With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Martin