

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 Facebook @stmaryleek

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

Saturday 15 July	10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Isaiah 55: 10-11; Ps 64; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13: 1-23</i> 6pm Family Mass Martin Murray RIP
Sunday 16 July	10am Mass Piotr Zwierski RIP 4pm Rosary and Benediction
Monday 17 July	Memorial in Staffordshire of Blessed John Sugar, priest, and Blessed Robert Grissold, layman; These two Beati collaborated in ministry to Catholics during the seventeenth century until they were arrested by an official search. They were Beatified in 1987 <i>Exodus 1:8-14,22; Ps 123; Matthew 10:34-11:1</i> 940am Rosary 10am Mass: Edward Sczotka RIP
Tuesday 18 July	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Exodus 2:1-15; Ps 68; Matthew 11:20-24</i> 940am Rosary 10am Mass Kevin Oliver RIP
Wednesday 19 July	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 102; Matthew 11:25-27</i> 940am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 20 July	Feria in Ordinary Time: Mass of Thanksgiving at the end of the academic year <i>Exodus 3:13-20; Pa 104; Matthew 11:28-30</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass For you, the People of the Parish
Friday 21 July	Memorial of St Lawrence of Brindisi <i>Exodus 11:10-12:14; Ps 115; Matthew 12:1-8</i> 9.40 Rosary 10am Mass Donor’s Intention
Saturday 22 July	10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Ps 85; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43</i> 6pm Family Mass Adriana Wheatley RIP
Sunday 23 July	10am Mass Rose Woolard RIP 4pm Rosary and Benediction

Parish Priest	Fr Martin Pratt	tel 01538 382385 stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Administrator	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 0800 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

The Pope’s Prayer Intention for July For a Eucharistic life. We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

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 John Balay, Jenny Kirkham, Moyra Chadwick, Chris Rea, Kathryn Higginbotham, Norman Syddall, Andrew Clifford, Janusz Szura
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 Please Pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Bernard Garratt.

Anniversaries for this week:, Marjorie Healey, Jozef Perucki, Natalina Narolski, Sister M Winifred I.B.V.M., Nellie McKay, Roland Astles, John Evans Ackroyd, Edwin Barnes, Hannah Mary Travis, Gladys May Saum, Ashley Stuart Webb, Sister Mercella Deegan I.B.V.M., Zbigniew Turek, Maria Britton, Josephine Margaret Wright, Mary Lydia Bridgett, Kathleen Mary Salt, Amelia Klara Chudyk,

Dear friends, Last Sunday, at the Vatican, during his weekly Sunday Angelus address to the pilgrims in St Peter's Square, Pope Francis urged Christians not to forget that there are a number of conflicts and clashes which are bringing suffering around the world. He called on all believers to never tire of praying because, he says, "prayer is the gentle force that protects and sustains the world." Pope Francis continued, "Even in this summer period, let us never tire of praying for peace." In a special way, he continued, "pray for the people of Ukraine who are so tried." He also reminded everyone not to overlook so many other neglected wars "that are unfortunately often forgotten: the many conflicts and clashes that bloody many places on earth." The Pope concluded his appeal by urging all men and women of goodwill to "take an interest in what is happening."

Holy Days of Obligation Let's continue to prioritise Mass on Holy Days of Obligation. The purpose of being at Mass on Holy Days is not to make life more demanding, but to show our devotion to the Lord. The next Holy Days of Obligation are:

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Monday 14 August 2pm Early Vigil Mass Tuesday 15 August 7pm Mass
All Saints Tuesday 31 October 2pm Early Vigil Mass Wednesday 1 November 7pm Mass

Kenlem Youth Trust for the Archdiocese of Birmingham Summer Camp 7 – 13 August, 2023 The Summer Camp is for all young people aged year 7 - year 13. The camp week involves a range of exciting activities including a day at Alton Towers with its brand new roller coaster - 'The Curse of Alton Manor'. There is also messy games, a day trip to a secret venue, our camp live band, night prayer and daily Mass all with the Alton Castle Mission Team. All young people will have a Summer Camp small group leader for the week to accompany them and enable young people to mix and make lots of new friends. The camp being based at Alton Castle, also means we will be making great use of the activities on site including biking, archery, and survival. Alongside this, summer camp provides spaces and times for prayer, adoration and for young Catholics to connect and gather together. For more information please visit: kenlemyouthtrust.org.uk/summer-camp.html

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.

Sacramental Preparation for 2024 The compulsory meeting for parents of those children in School Year 3 or School Year 6 at Saint Mary's Academy will take place at 4pm on Thursday 14 September and will take place in church. During this meeting, parents will be asked to provide details of their child's baptism by Friday 29 September, 2023. During the next academic year children preparing for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation will have to attend Mass in church on Sundays in four blocks of six consecutive weeks. Each child will receive their own Mass attendance and activity card; there is one activity card for each of the four blocks of six Sundays; there will be a short activity to be completed. At the end of the task, the Mass attendance and activity card will have been stamped by the priest. The four blocks of six weeks will coincide with the school term; holiday time will not be affected. There will be more about this in the parents' meeting on Thursday 14 September. Parents should be aware that Sacramental Preparation will take place in school on Thursdays beginning in January, 2024. Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation will take place during lunch time. Sacrament Preparation for First Holy Communion will take place after school. A register of attendance will be taken each week. I would also like to inform parents of children who will be starting school Year 3 in September that the parents of children aged 7 years old and over wishing to be Baptised must attend a course of instruction. If your child was baptised in another Ecclesial Community ie the Church of England your child can only be admitted to the Sacraments if they are aged 7 years or over, attend an additional course of instruction with their parents, and attend Mass every Sunday. Parents are asked to contact Fr Martin and attend Mass.

Altar Servers I would like to invite those children in Year 3 who have recently made their First Holy Communion and any child in school Years 4 and above who have made their First Holy Communion to become Altar Servers. The ministry of the altar server helps both the priest and the people to take part in the celebration of Mass. To be an altar server requires being able to learn new skills, to adapt to new situations, to be part of a team and to give a good example to everyone in church. There are two meetings Saturday 15 July at 11 am in church Monday 17 July at 4pm in church

Can you help with the following? I am looking for two or three maintenance teams of at least two people to conduct monthly visual maintenance checks. This includes one grotty job of cleaning grids. If you can help, I will be very grateful to you. I am looking for new members to join one of the cleaning teams after Mass on Sunday mornings. If you help by giving 20 – 30 minutes once a fortnight to clean the church and keep it in top condition, please see me or one of the members of the cleaning team. If you can help with these, please let me know

Archbishop Bernard invites you to the final meeting of the Parish Visitation. On Tuesday 18 July, at 7pm, the Archbishop will be at St Gregory's, Longton, for the final meeting of the Deanery Visitation. During this meeting we will hear the recommendations regarding the future of the Deanery. This is an important occasion for everyone in our parish. I do ask you to support this meeting; it would be good to have a good representation of parishioners, please.

UN Food Systems Summit 24 – 26 July Our food systems are both contributing to and affected by climate change. Each step in food production creates greenhouse gases that trap the sun's heat and contribute to climate change. Reducing emissions from the food sector requires changes at all stages, from producers to consumers. Learn more about food and climate change here: <https://www.unep.org/events>

Season of Creation 1 September - 4 October Look ahead to the Season of Creation. How can you help your parish/community to celebrate? Begin to make plans. Go to seasonofcreation.org for ideas.

Donations for flowers in church There have been some donations made for the flowers in church in recent weeks. If you would like to donate towards the flowers, please give these to Fr Martin

Dates for Your Diary

- Saturday 15 July 11am New Altar Servers
- Saturday 15 July 6pm Family Mass
- Monday 17 July 4pm New Altar Servers
- Tuesday 18 July 7pm Deanery Visitation Closing Meeting at St Gregory's, Longton
- Thursday 20 July 10am Mass of Thanksgiving at the end of the School Year
- Sunday 23 July 10am Mass, World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly; Reception into Full Communion and Confirmation; Sunday Social
- Tuesday 25 July at 7.00pm, Vocations Holy Hour at St. Gregory, Longton.
- Saturday 29 July 11am Sweep and Clean

Collection Gift Aid £70.30 Non Gift Aid £111.83 Total £182.13
Standing Orders The June 2023 standing order donations were £1,141.50p Thank you for kind generosity!
Have a good week! With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Martin