

**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’.**

**Saturday 23 September** 10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions  
Stamp 2  
**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
*Isaiah 55:6-9; Ps 144; Philippians 1:20-24,27; Matthew 20:1-16*  
6.15pm Mass Jithin Titto (Spec Int) (CF)

**Sunday 24 September** 10am Mass Christopher Rogers RIP (BR)  
Stamp 2 4pm Rosary and Benediction

**Monday 25 September** **Feria in Ordinary Time**  
*Ezra 1:1-6; PS 125; Luke 8:16-18*  
9.40am Rosary 10am Val Tatton RIP

**Tuesday 26 September** **Feria in Ordinary Time**  
*Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20; PS 121; Luke 8:19-21*  
2.30pm Funeral Mass for Mary Elizabeth (Maureen) Kelly.

**Wednesday 27 September** **Memorial of St Vincent de Paul, Priest**  
*Ezra 9:5-9; Tobit 12; Luke 9:1-6*  
9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

**Thursday 28 September** **Feria in Ordinary Time**  
*Haggai 1:1-8; PS 149; Luke 9:7-9*  
8.30 Mass Elections – The Leaven the Institute of Our Lady.

**Friday 29 September** **Feast of Ss Micheal, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels**  
*Daniel 7:9-10; 9-10, 13-14; John 1:47-51*  
Mass will be celebrated during the day in school For you, the People of the Parish

**Saturday 30 September** 10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions  
Stamp 3  
**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
*Ezekiel 18:25-28; Ps 24; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32*  
6.15pm Mass John Balay (Spec Int) (CF)

**Sunday 1 October** 10am Mass Piotr Zwierski RIP  
Stamp 3 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 Alice Murray	
<b>St Mary’s Catholic Academy</b>	Mrs G Turner	tel 01538 493888
<b>Painsley Catholic College, Cheadle</b>	Mrs R Waugh	tel 01538 493777
<b>Safeguarding Rep</b>	Mr Malcolm Sproat	<a href="mailto:sg.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk">sg.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk</a>
	Archdiocese of Birmingham	tel 0121 230 6240
	NSPCC	tel 0800 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
	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](mailto:sg.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

**The Pope’s Prayer Intention for September** For people living on the margins. We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

**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-Zwierski, Shirley Regan  
*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** We pray for Fr Keith Enstone, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Fr Edwin Cownley, Fr Paul Chavasse, CO. and Maureen Kelly. Maureen’s Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 26 September at 2.30pm, here at St Mary’s.

**Anniversaries for this week:** Annie Grosvenor, Richard Anthony McCaldon, Eileen Owen, Thomas Gell, William Brian Smallwood, Anthony Ellis, Denis Higgins, Sydney Robert Carding, Leopold Folga, Pamela Jean Webb, Hilda May Jones, Derek Richard Robinson, Teresa Ann Hampton, Christopher McMullen, Derek Oswald Wedge, Johannah Renshaw, Annie Reynolds, Catherine (Queenie) Beatrice Gould, Alice Patricia Murphy, Jose Campanorio, George Hambleton, Annie Nixon, Frederick Lindop, Samuel Hulme, Pauline Gonzalez, Michael Drury, Valerie Pegg, Dermont (Derek) Smith.

Dear friends, are you making Holy Moments? Be bold! Continue to make Holy Moments! You were made in the image and likeness of God and so you are capable of making Holy Moments that can contribute to continuing Jesus's Mission in your home, family, workplace, at the shops, with friends and here at church. Holy Moments are simple, straightforward, contagious, and have the possibility of changing the world!

**Sacramental Preparation** It was good to meet the parents of the children who are due to either make their First Holy Communion or receive the Sacrament of Confirmation last week. The Sacramental Preparation is incredibly important because these two Sacraments continue the mission of Jesus. The children who receive these Sacraments will be continuing Jesus's mission in our parish in the years ahead. Let's all take our part by encouraging the families of the children, and the children by letting them know by our Holy Moments that faith in God has a place in the modern world.

**Baptismal certificates and applications** I would be most grateful if the parents of those children who are beginning their Sacramental Preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation, to give copies of their child's Baptism Certificate and Application to me either at Sunday Mass this weekend or at the presbytery by Friday 29 September.

I want us, the whole parish, to work together to encourage the children and young people who will receive the sacraments next year. They are being prepared for amazing opportunities: the children due to receive First Holy Communion will meet the Lord who makes the blind see, the deaf hear, forgives sinners, looks for and rescues the lost. Those due to be Confirmed will receive "power"; the Greek word for power is the same word which gives us the English word, "dynamite". When they are Confirmed, they will become like dynamite, they will be explosive and unstoppable. Please encourage the children and their families. Let's pray for them. Let's offer our acts of self denial that the gift of faith will grow strong for them.

**Edge@Alton Youth Group** Edge@Alton is a monthly youth group for young people across the Staffordshire Moorlands in school years 6 to 9. We gather in faith for bucket loads of fun and our meetings usually take place in Alton and cost just £2! New members are always welcome! The first meeting of the new year will take place today (Sunday 24 September) For more information, please email [edgeatalton@gmail.com](mailto:edgeatalton@gmail.com)

**Fr Hudson's Care working to improve the lives of Children across the Archdiocese** Our Family Support Service and New Routes Fostering Service work to improve the lives of children across the Archdiocese. The Family Support Service is based in schools to support families that are facing challenges that can impact a child's wellbeing and educational attainment. In the last year the challenges faced by families across the Archdiocese have become clear, our Family Support Service Crisis Fund has provided almost four times as many grants to families, overwhelmingly to purchase food to feed the family, while they receive the support they need to improve their situation and reduce the impact of crises on children. Children who cannot remain with their family of origin are offered temporary shelter, support, love and care through our New Routes Fostering Service. Our Foster Carers are supported every step of the way, by experienced and compassionate Social Workers and through regular training and guidance. Although children often have little control over their situation your support of our work means that they can receive the love and support they need to thrive in school and beyond. Thank you for supporting those that can not help themselves. Thank you for your support in the Annual Parish Collection There are Gift Aid envelopes for Fr Hudson's at the back of church.

**The Season of Creation** From 1 September until the 4 October, the Church marks the Season of Creation. This isn't a liturgical season, but a time to raise awareness of our Christian role to be stewards of creation. Pope Francis has sent a message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. This has been uploaded to the Parish Website.

**October is the month of the Rosary** During an audience at the Vatican with members of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, Pope Francis has asked that the forthcoming month of October which is, by custom, the month of the rosary, be dedicated for praying for peace in Ukraine. Let's continue to pray for peace. Let's expect great things from the prayers of our patron, Saint Mary!

**Do you have a Red Box for Missio?** There are some parishioners have a red missio box at home. Please send your donation as a cheque – don't put cash in the mail – to Missio, 23 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1NU

**Year of Prayer, 2024**, Preparing for the Jubilee, 2025 On Thursday evening, during the Parish Council Meeting, we discussed the forthcoming Year of Prayer and listed some intentions that we can pray for during next year's year long prayer. I am planning to distribute a prayer card with our parish's intentions in time for the beginning of Advent.

**North Staffordshire Area Pastoral Council** – Day pilgrimage to the church of St Anne and Blessed Dominic Barberi Sutton St. Helens also, visit to Liverpool Catholic Cathedral Saturday 14th October 2023 Pick-up points: St. Augustine's Meir 8.30am Holy Trinity Newcastle 8.45am Cost per person £15 Under 16 £7.50.

Talk about St Teresa of Kolkotta, Fr. Michael Miners will be giving a talk on Tuesday 3 October 2023 at St. Wulstan's Catholic School Hall Wolstanton 7.00pm - 8.30pm.

**Eucharistic Ministers** Here is some news and important dates for our Eucharistic Ministers:

**Thursday 28 September** 6pm in church an evening Recollection for Eucharistic Ministers

**Saturday 30 September** and **Sunday 1 October**. During both the Saturday 615pm Mass and Sunday 10am Mass I will recommission the Parish Eucharistic Ministers

During the last few years, I am incredibly grateful to several Eucharistic Ministers have taken Holy Communion to parishioners at home. If you would be willing to help with this vital ministry which enables parishioners to receive Holy Communion and keep in contact with the parish, please do let me know. If you would be willing to take this up, I will explain how to conduct visits and the administration of Holy Communion at home. For safeguarding purposes, you will be required to apply for a DBS (Disclosure Barring Service certificate).

<b>Second collections</b>	Here are the dates of Second Collections for the remainder of the year.		
<b>23 – 24 September</b>	Fr Hudson's	<b>18 -19 November</b>	Parish SVP
<b>7 – 8 October</b>	CAFOD	<b>24 – 25 November</b>	Catholic Youth Services
<b>21 – 22 October</b>	Missio: World Mission Sunday	<b>9 – 10 December</b>	Poor Parishes
<b>4 -5 November</b>	Johnson Association		

<b>Thursday 28 September</b>	6pm Recollection for Eucharistic Ministers	<b>Thursday 26 October</b>	Coffee and Cake with Fr Martin
<b>Sunday 1 October</b>	10am Mass with Commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers	<b>Friday 27 October</b>	Half Term
<b>Saturday 7 October</b>	6.15 Family Mass	<b>Wednesday 31 October</b>	2pm Early Vigil Mass
		<b>Wednesday 1 November</b>	Holy Day of Obligation All Saints Day

<b>Collection</b>	Gift Aid £99.00	Non Gift Aid £114.15	Total £213.15	Thank you for kind generosity!
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**Second Collection for Catholic Evangelisation** Total £117.27.

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