

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 30 September Stamp 3	10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Ezekiel 18:25-28; Ps 24; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32</i> 6.15pm Mass John Balay (Spec Int) (CF)
Sunday 1 October Stamp 3	10am Mass Piotr Zwierski RIP (BR) 4pm Rosary and Benediction
Monday 2 October	Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels <i>Zechariah 8:1-8; PS 101; Matthew 18:1-5, 10</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Tenny Anthony (Spec Int) (CF)
Tuesday 3 October	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Zechariah 8:20-23; Ps 86; Luke 9:51-56</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Gerard Bowen (Spec Int) (CF)
Wednesday 4 October	Memorial of St Francis of Assisi <i>Nehemiah 2:1-8; Ps 136; Luke 9:57-62</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 5 October	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Nehemiah 8:1-12; Ps 18; Luke 10:1-12</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Joe Clarke RIP (CF)
Friday 6 October <i>First Friday</i>	Feria in Ordinary Time: Harvest Fast Day <i>Baruch 1:15-22; Ps 78; Luke 10:13-16</i> Mass in School during the day
Saturday 7 October Stamp 4	10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Isaiah 5:1-7; Ps 79; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43</i> 6.15pm Family Mass For you, the People of the Parish
Sunday 8 October Stamp 4	10am Mass Janusz Szura- Zwierski (Spec Int) 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

The Pope’s Prayer Intention for October For the Synod. We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

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
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, George Edward Boone, John Carding, Shriley Regan, and Brian Washington
George’s Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 12 October at 11am, here at St Mary’s

Anniversaries for this week: Michael Drury, Valerie Pegg, Dermont (Derek) Smith, Joseph Cooper, William O’Connor, Mary Agnes Hanley, John Ross McCreedy, Ethel Pownell, Gladys May Shaw, Arthur Stubbs, Archibald Ball, Francis Keates, Janek Chrzanowski, Edith Mycock, Elizabeth Barker, Robert Barnard Patalong, Jean Mary Quinn, Maria Cumbo, Winifred Rushton, Leonard Martin, Robert Prendergast, Patrick William Higgins, Mary Martina McGowan, Zbigniew (Bish) Lazowski, Charles Stuart Talks, Ann Van de Graaf, Ivy Catherine Woodings, Gordon Broadhurst, Ann Walmsley, Jonas Pretonis, Alan Boardman, Sister M de Sales Kelly I.B.V.M.

Dear friends, Welcome to Sunday Mass! If you haven't been to Mass for a while, it is great to see you! It is important that we are together. When we are together great things can happen. In the last few years we have purchased Bibles for St Mary's Academy, raised money so that the SVP can send meals on wheels, we have made sure that each is safe from the virus while we are in church and we have encouraged each other. Let's continue to be together and build up our parish!

On Wednesday of this week the Synod on Synodality will begin in the Vatican. The Synod began in 2021 with the first or local stage. For us, here at St Mary's, we had compiled a questionnaire which then fed into the wider diocesan stage. This second diocesan stage fed into a national conversation about the Synod. Thirdly, there was a continental stage. Now, beginning this week, is the universal stage. The Synod will take place from Wednesday 4 October until Sunday 29 October.

Who is the Synod for? By convoking this Synod, Pope Francis is inviting all the baptised to participate in this Synodal Process.

The main subjects of this synodal experience are all the baptised because all the baptised are the subject of the *sensus fidelium*, the living voice of the People of God. At the same time, in order to participate fully in the act of discerning, it is important for the baptised to hear the voices of other people in their local context, including people who have left the practice of the faith, people of other faith traditions, people of no religious belief. Special care should be taken to involve those persons who may risk being excluded: women, the people with disabilities, refugees, migrants, the elderly, people who live in poverty, Catholics who rarely or never practice their faith, etc.

How can I participate in the Synod? Everybody can actively participate in the synodal journeying with his/her prayer. The Synodal Process is first and foremost a spiritual process. It is not a mechanical data-gathering exercise or a series of meetings and debates. To help people in praying and sharing their prayers, the www.prayforthesynod.va website has been implemented.

What is the aim of this Synod? This Synod is intended as a Synodal Process. The aim of this synodal process is not to provide a temporary or one-time experience of synodality, but rather to provide an opportunity for the entire People of God to discern together how to move forward on the path towards being a more synodal Church in the long-term. A basic question prompts and guides us: How does this journeying together allow the Church to proclaim the Gospel in accordance with the mission entrusted to Her; and what steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow as a synodal Church?

What is Synodality? Synodality denotes the particular style that qualifies the life and mission of the Church, expressing her nature as the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel. Synodality ought to be expressed in the Church's ordinary way of living and working. Synodality, in this perspective, is much more than the celebration of ecclesial meetings and Bishops' assemblies, or a matter of simple internal administration within the Church; it is the specific *modus vivendi et operandi* of the Church, the People of God, which reveals and gives substance to her being as communion when all her members journey together, gather in assembly and take an active part in her evangelizing mission.

October is the month of the Rosary 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. I am planning to distribute a prayer card with our parish's intentions in time for the beginning of Advent.

Dates For Your Diary

Sunday 1 October Eucharistic Ministers	10am Mass with Commissioning of	Wednesday 31 October	2pm Early Vigil Mass
Thursday 5 October	5pm Carol Service meeting	Wednesday 1 November	Holy Day of Obligation All Saints Day
Saturday 7 October	6.15pm Family Mass	Saturday 11 November	6.15pm Family Mass
Saturday 14 October	11am Sweep and Clean		
Thursday 26 October	4pm Coffee and Cake with Fr Martin		
Friday 27 October	Half Term		

Holy Days of Obligation The Holy Days of Obligation are occasions for us to give an act of witness to our faith. The next Holy Day of Obligation is for All Saints' Day. Here are the arrangements:

Tuesday 31 October 2pm Early Vigil Mass	Wednesday 1 November 7pm Mass
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Second Collections

Here are the dates of Second Collections for the remainder of the year.			
7 – 8 October	CAFOD	18 -19 November	Parish SVP
21 – 22 October	Missio: World Mission Sunday	24 – 25 November	Catholic Youth Services
4 -5 November	Johnson Association	9 – 10 December	Poor Parishes

North Staffordshire Area Pastoral Council 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.

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.

Collection	Gift Aid £112.90	Non Gift Aid £148.50	Total £261.40	Thank you for kind generosity!
Second Collection	Last weeks Second collection for Fr Hudson's Totalled £126.41			

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