

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 8 July	10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Zechariah 9:9-10; Ps 114; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25-30</i> 6pm Mass Richard Lynch RIP
Sunday 9 July	10am Mass Janusz Szura-Zwierski Spec Int 4pm Rosary and Benediction
Monday 10 July	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Genesis 28:10-22; Ps 90; Matthew 9:18-26</i> 940am Rosary 10am Mass Kathleen Greenwood RIP
Tuesday 11 July <i>Please note Change of time</i>	Feast of St Benedict, Abbott: Patron Saint of Europe <i>Proverbs 2:1-9; Ps 33; Matthew 19:27-29</i> 8.30am Mass Donor’s Intention
Wednesday 12 July	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Genesis 41:55-57, 42:5-7, 17-24; Ps 32 Matthew 10:1-7</i> 940am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 13 July	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>Genesis 44:18-21, 23-29, 45:1-5; Ps 104; Matthew 10:7-15</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass For you, the People of the Parish
Friday 14 July	Memorial of St Camillus de Lellis <i>Genesis 46: 1-7, 28-39; Ps 36; Matthew 10: 16-23</i> 9.40 Rosary 10am Mass Anonette Clements RIP
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

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 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 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, Brian Washington
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. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr John Darley, retired priest of the Archdiocese.

Anniversaries for this week: Clive William Owen, Fred Goodfellow, Teresa Bonaccorsi, Michael Joseph Cannon, Shaun West, Pamela Christine Borkowski, William (Bill) Moss, Wladyslaw (George) Dziurdzik, Carol Ann Drew, Mrs Hill, Harold Bridgett, Hilda Mary Johnson, Christopher Walmsley, Barry Leek, Thomas Mooney, Jean Mary Pitt, Mary Agnes Morgan, Marjorie Healey, Jozef Perucki.

Dear friends, last Saturday (1 July), Bishop Stephen visited our parish and celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation for 13 of the young people in Year 6 at St Mary's Academy. In preparation to receive the Sacrament, the children undertook a course of instruction at School and were encouraged to be at Mass every Sunday. Now that they have been anointed it is important for all of us, families, school and parish to work together to ensure that the anointing they received remains vibrant and meaningful in their lives. The best way we can do this is to remember that we are anointed. We were anointed at Baptism, Confirmation, and I was anointed at Ordination. Let us be bold in the practise of faith, let's continue to

- Be at Mass every Sunday
- Go to Confession once each month
- Pray for 5 minutes every day
- Share our time, talent and treasure

Archbishop Bernard invites you to the final meeting of the Parish Visitation and Mass. 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 and the celebration of Mass which will be celebrated; it would be good to have a good representation of parishioners, please.

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 be 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 has 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 11am in church Monday 17 July at 4pm in church

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

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.

Prison Advice and Care Trust (PACT) PACT is holding a roadshow on Saturday 15 July between 10am and 1.30pm in the Grimshaw Room on the St Chad's Cathedral site, Birmingham. As Catholics, why do we support prisoners and their families? A woman we helped recently, said, 'Pact is like a little light, it gives you hope' Certainly, we are responding to Jesus' words, 'I was in prison and you came to me' – but something deeper is happening too. At the roadshow we will reflect on Catholic Social Teaching in the light of imprisonment. We will hear from people with lived experience of the criminal justice system. Prison chaplains and Pact services staff will speak about their work and the people we serve. The Welcome Directory is a small charity which supports faith communities to become places of welcome and acceptance for those leaving prison. Find out about how your parish might become such a place. PACT warmly invites you to join us in person at the Roadshow. You can register via this link ;

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/pact-to-host-justpeople-roadshow-in-birmingham-saturday-15-july>

Dates for your diary

- Saturday 8 July Leek Club Day
- Monday 10 July 6.30pm Bible Book Club
- Thursday 6 July 10.30am SVP Meeting
- Friday 14 July 4pm Parish Finance Committee meeting
- Saturday 15 July 11am New Altar Servers
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, 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

Collections Today's Second Collection, traditionally, the second weekend of July is known as Sea Sunday and there is a second collection for the Stella Maris organisation. Stella Maris is the largest ship visiting network in the world. Their work includes improving the lives of seafarers and fishers through a network of chaplains and seafarer centres, expert information, advocacy, and spiritual support. If you have been on a cruise from a British port the Catholic chaplain on board would have been supported by Stella Maris: I shall have to apply!

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

Collection	Gift Aid £122.00	Non Gift Aid £107.90	Total £229.90
Second Collection	For Peter's pence £166.43p		

Thank you for kind generosity!

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