

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 June	10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Confessions TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Genesis 3:9-15; Ps 129; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35</i> 6.15pm Mass John Kelsall RIP
Sunday 9 June	9.30am Morning Prayer from the Divine Office 10am Mass For you, the People of the Parish 1.30pm Polish Mass 4pm Rosary and Benediction
Monday 10 June	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>1 Kings 17:1-6; Ps 120; Matthew 5:1-12</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Bernadette McKenna (Spec Int) (JA)
Tuesday 11 June	Memorial of St Barnabas, Apostle <i>Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-13; PS 64; Mathew 5:13-16</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Joan McKenna Floyd RIP (JA)
Wednesday 12 June	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>1 Kings 18:20-39; Ps 15; Matthew 5:17-19</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 13 June	Memorial of St Anthony of Padua, Priest, Doctor of the Church <i>1 Kings 18:41-46; Ps 64; Mathew 5:20-26</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Mass Kevin Gerard Oliver RIP (AO)
Friday 14 June	Feria in Ordinary Time <i>1 Kings 19:9, 11-16; Ps 26; Matthew 5:27-32</i> 9.40am Rosary 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Mass in School during the day Celebrant’s Intention
Saturday 15 June	11am Mass and First Holy Communion ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Day for Life <i>Ezekiel 17:22-24; Ps 91; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34</i> 6.15pm Mass Ann Ryan (MJ)
Sunday 16 June	9.30am Morning Prayer from the Divine Office 10am Mass For you, the People of the Parish 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 Archdiocese of Birmingham NSPCC	sg.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk tel 0121 230 6240 tel 0808 800 500
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Mrs M Lawton	ga.stmary.leek@rcaob.org.uk
Hospital Chaplaincy	University Hospital North Midlands Macclesfield District Hospital	tel 01782 676400 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.

Children of primary school age must be accompanied by an adult if they need to leave the church to use the toilets during Mass or other Church services. Also, please do not let children of this age go near the votive candle stands unaccompanied, and do not let them run round the car park. It is important that we do everything to ensure that accidents do not happen. Thank you for your help in keeping our children safe.

The Pope’s Prayer Intention for June For migrants fleeing their homes. We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

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, Madeline Horter, Anne Malkin.
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 Winifred Atkins, Christine Mycock and Wilhelm Hermit. Christine’s Funeral will take place at Carmountside on Monday 10 June at 12noon. Wilhelm’s Funeral will take place at Carmountside on Thursday 13 June at 1130am.

Anniversaries for this week: Eileen Mary Grant, Matthew Kavanagh, Ian Michael Blenkinsop, Michael Joseph Carroll, Winifred (Winnie) Morrow, Nellie Sweetmore, Sister M Cecilia Turtle I.B.V.M., Christine Salt, Maciej Duduc, Valerie Clulow, Margaret Moss, Edward Percy Carding, James Martin Callinan, Kevin Gerard Oliver, Michael Wheatley, Anna Sawko, Veronica Elizabeth Renshaw, Michael (Mick) Stafford, Ada McKay, Diane Marie Ward

Dear friends, I am incredibly grateful to you for your kind generosity: we have raised the money to purchase the new Lectionary and have the monstrance repaired! Thank you! It is very kind of you!

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 an 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 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!

Let's wrap in a blanket of prayer

- The children who will be baptised in the coming weeks; let's encourage their families also!
- The children preparing to make their First Holy Communion – three children will receive their Holy Communion on Saturday 15 June during a special Mass at 11am; there are two more children who will make their First Communion on other occasions.
- The young people preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- The young people sitting public examinations at this time.
- Let's keep Filip in our prayers as he prepares to go the seminary. What a blessing that our parish will be sending a young man to the seminary to begin formation for the priesthood! Let's pray for more vocations! If every parish sent one man to the seminary there is the great possibility of a priest in every primary school, secondary school, hospital, prison and more priests in parishes.

Ordinary Fridays Our Catholic life observes Friday with special respect because of the Lord's Passion and Death. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus asks us to observe the First Fridays by attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion on nine consecutive First Fridays; it was one of the 12 promises the Lord made to St Margaret Mary during the seventeenth century and has been part of Catholic life ever since. As Catholics we also observe Fridays as days of penance by offering a form of self-denial in thanksgiving for the Lord's gentle mercy and our personal desire for conversion of heart. The Church does not prescribe, however, that fish must be eaten on Fridays. It never did. Abstinence always meant the giving up of meat rather than the eating of fish as a substitute. What the Church does require is that its members abstain on Fridays from meat or some other food or that they perform some alternative work of penance. Here are some practical suggestions for an act of penance on Fridays

- by abstaining from meat or some other food
- by abstaining from alcoholic drink, smoking or some form of amusement
- by making the special effort involved in family prayer, taking part in the Mass, visiting the Blessed Sacrament or praying the Stations of the Cross
- by fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved in this way to the needy at home and abroad
- by making a special effort to help somebody who is poor, sick, old or lonely

Consecrating our homes, families, school and parish to the Sacred Heart of Jesus For many generations it was usual to see a large picture of the Sacred Heart in a Catholic home: it was part and parcel of our Catholic way of life.

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus spread across the Church in response to and to combat the heresy of the Jansenists. The Jansenists rose to prominence especially in northern Europe during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Their message was uncompromising and rigid. The believed – falsely – that we relied on grace alone in the same way that the Protestant reformers had promoted, and that God limited his mercy to a few people. In response the devotion to the Sacred Heart has a much more positive and approachable appreciation for God, His grace and His mercy. Personally, I like the practical application of Sacred Heart devotion which includes the assurance that Christ is close to us by promising that he can establish peace in our homes, that sinners will be sure to find an ocean of infinite mercy, that priests will be able to help the most hardened sinners to convert, and, my favourite, that Christ will bless every place where a picture of his Sacred Heart is shown and honoured.

We have had prepared images of the Sacred Heart – it is a photograph of the stained glass window in memory of our former Parish Priest, Fr Anderson. There are large copies which you can display at home which has a prayer of consecration. There are smaller cards also. Please do take them! It would be great that every home and family dedicates itself to the Sacred Heart during this month. If you want, please take a family selfie and we can post them to the Parish Facebook page.

Altar Servers For the enrolment of new altar servers, I ask that the new altar servers attend Mass every weekend from now until 13/14 July so that they can be admitted into the Guild of St Stephen and receive their Altar Serving medal. It isn't a badge to acknowledge several weeks of altar serving, it is the badge of the members of the Altar Serving Guild. Additional altar serving – it would be great to see a good number of our altar servers on Saturday 15 June at 11am for First Holy Communion and Saturday 6 July at 11am for Confirmation.

Saturday 29 June 615pm Family Mass with Painsley Students We invite the families of the young people attending Painsley Catholic College in Cheadle to their Family Mass to celebrate Ss Peter and Paul. Last year, 13 young people received the Sacrament of Confirmation and now we only see 1 or 2 regularly at Sunday Mass. We are missing the young people!

Remember St Mary's in your Will As a parishioner or as a visitor to our beautiful church, a building of prayer and history, we ask you to consider leaving a legacy to St Mary's church when you are making your will. We are grateful for all generous donations at any time. This is a particular way of investing in the future. Thank you.

General Election We have a responsibility as Christians to vote and to defend Christian values in public life. We pray for all those who will seek election to parliament on 4th July. Take time to find out who your candidates are and, if you have a chance, to ask them questions before the election. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

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 as the end of the congregational procession has received Communion, as the Minister of Holy Communion will need to sanitise his/her hands after every person receiving on the tongue.

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.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 15 June 11am Mass and First Holy Communion

Thursday 20 June Day of Prayer for Vocations

Sunday 23 June Sunday Social after Mass

Saturday 29 June 615pm Family Mass with Painsley Students and their families

Saturday 6 July 11am Mass and Sacrament of Confirmation

Saturday 13 July Club Day

Sunday 21 July 4pm Afternoon tea – more details to follow soon!

Second Collections

Saturday 15 – Sunday 16 June Day for Life

Saturday 29 – Sunday 30 June Peter's Pence

Saturday 13 – Sunday 14 July Apostleship of the Sea

Standing Orders The May 2024 standing order donations were £1,214.83p

Collections Gift Aid £80.50

Non Gift Aid £114.66

Total £195.16

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