

THE CATHOLIC PASTORAL PARTNERSHIP OF  
BIDDULPH, GOLDENHILL, KIDSGROVE & PACKMOOR  
*UNDER THE PATRONAGE AND PROTECTION OF OUR LADY OF GRACE*

# SUNDAY BULLETIN

EASTER SUNDAY & LOW SUNDAY

SUNDAY 1ST & 8TH APRIL 2018

## A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

### *Easter triumph, Easter Joy*

A very happy Easter to you all! I love Easter. It's very different from Christmas, but the hopeful prospect of spring arriving makes it a time of freshness and newness. I know that a lot of older people, especially, appreciate the return of the longer, lighter evenings too.

Unfortunately, the real rulers of our world—not the politicians, but the big shops—want to turn these very special days into just more days of buying and selling, of profit and consumption. We should try to resist this, even if we can only do it in our own families and lives. Too

often we throw our hands up in surrender to the ever-advancing secular way of thinking. Easter is our greatest feast day, and so we should strive to keep it sacred by not just making it another day like any other. There are always essential services who have to work, and others who have to work because of the pressure put on them. We should take inspiration from the English Martyrs, who, even at great hardship to themselves, preserved the Catholic Christian way of life which had been handed on to them.

Today's bulletin is a two week bulletin. This is be-

cause there are fewer things going on at the moment. The next bulletin, will also be a two week edition, as I shall be having a few days off that week. If you have any items for the bulletin, please let us have them in good time.

You will see the notice for the Easter Monday Men's Mass at Sacred Heart. I would ask as many men as possible come along to the Mass to support this 90 year tradition. There is a great unspoken power when men stand up for the Faith. You will also see that in a few weeks, we will be having an open day at Goldenhill Community Centre. I ask everyone who values the centre to come to the day and show support. The centre will need lots of volunteer help to stay open!

## CHURCHES

**Biddulph** English Martyrs' Church, Church Road, Biddulph, ST8 6NE

**Goldenhill** St Joseph's Church, High Street, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 5RD

**Kidsgrove** St John the Evangelist's Church, The Avenue, Kidsgrove, ST7 1AE

**Packmoor** St Patrick's Church, Mellor Street, Packmoor, Stoke-on-Trent, ST7 4SN

## CLERGY & STAFF

### Parish Priest

Rev Fr Julian C Green  
St Joseph's Presbytery  
715 High Street  
Goldenhill  
Stoke-on-Trent  
ST6 5RD  
Tel: (01782) 782121  
Email: pp.partnershipparishes@gmail.com

### Priest in Residence

Rev Fr Paul Dean

### Deacon (retired)

Rev Dr David Child

### St Margaret Ward Chaplain

Jonny Leybourne

### Parish Secretary

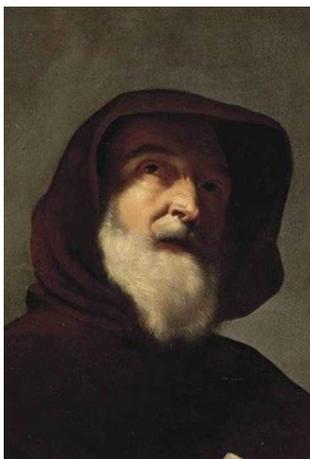
Teresa Harding  
Tel: (01782) 782121  
Email: partnershipparishes@gmail.com  
Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Fri  
9am to 3.30pm. Weds, Thurs  
9am to 1pm.

### Website

www.partnershipparishes.org

*The Parishes are part of the Archdiocese of  
Birmingham: Registered Charity no.  
234216*

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



### St Francis of Paola 1416–1507

Francis' parents were childless but, after asking the intercession of St Francis of Assisi, they had three children; the eldest son they called Francis. As a baby had a swelling in the eye, which threatened his sight. His parents turned again to St Francis and he was cured. At 13, he be-

came a Franciscan and took up the life of a hermit, living in a cave. In time, two companions joined him. This was the beginning of the so-called 'Minim Friars'. He promoted abstinence from meat as a penance, and taught people to take up fasting. He is known for his humility and poverty which were exemplary.

|   | <b>Biddulph</b> | <b>Goldenhill</b> | <b>Kidsgrove</b> | <b>Packmoor</b> | <b>The Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions)</b><br><b>Kidsgrove</b> Sat 6pm<br><b>Biddulph</b> Sun 8.30am<br><b>Goldenhill</b> Sun 10.30am<br><b>Packmoor</b> Sun 6.00pm |  |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| <b>Saturday 31st</b>  |                 |                   | 6.30pm           |                 | Easter Vigil Mass  | People of the Parishes   |
| <b>Sunday 1st</b><br><b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>   | 9.00am          | 11.00am           |                  | 6.30pm          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass  | Karol Grolik, George & Barbara Connell<br>Michael & Val Fryer & Culshaw family<br>Winifred Maughan |
| <b>Monday 2nd</b><br><b>Easter Monday</b>   |                 |                   | 12noon           |                 | Holy Mass  | Welsh & Waring families  |
| <b>Tuesday 3rd</b><br><b>Easter Tuesday</b>   | 9.15am          |                   | 9.30am           |                 | Holy Mass<br>Morning Prayer  | Bill Johnson   |
| <b>Wednesday 4th</b><br><b>Easter Wednesday</b>                                       |                 | 6.00pm            |                  |                 | Holy Mass  | Rita Lee   |
| <b>Thursday 5th</b><br><b>Easter Thursday</b>   | 6.00pm          |                   |                  |                 | Holy Mass  | Mandy Buxton   |
| <b>Friday 6th</b> <i>First Friday</i><br><b>Easter Friday</b>                         |                 |                   | 9.30am           | 6.00pm          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass   | Mary Dunning<br>Hurley family  |
| <b>Saturday 7th</b><br><b>Easter Saturday</b>   | 9.15am          |                   | 6.30pm           |                 | Holy Family<br>Holy Mass   | Leonard & Catherine Coates<br>James Nelson   |
| <b>Sunday 8th</b><br><b>Second Sunday of</b><br><b>Easter</b> ( <i>Divine Mercy</i> ) | 9.00am          | 11.00am           |                  | 6.30pm          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass  | Peter & Joan Jackson<br>Ethol Price<br>People of the Parishes                                      |
| <b>Monday 9th</b><br><b>ANNUNCIATION OF</b><br><b>THE LORD</b>                        |                 |                   | 12noon           |                 | Holy Mass  | Ellen & George McHugh  |
| <b>Tuesday 10th</b><br>Feria of Easter  | 9.15am          |                   | 9.30am           | 2.15pm          | Holy Mass<br>Morning Prayer<br>Holy Rosary   | Sick person (Angela)   |
| <b>Wednesday 11th</b><br>St Stanislaus  |                 | 6.00pm            |                  |                 | Holy Mass  | John & Alice Edwards   |
| <b>Thursday 12th</b><br>Feria of Easter   | 6.00pm          |                   |                  |                 | Holy Mass  | Tom Longshaw & Andrew Sturgess   |
| <b>Friday 13th</b><br>Feria of Easter   |                 |                   | 9.30am           | 6.00pm          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass   | Mary Dunning<br>Thanksgiving (Ss Anthony & Rita)   |
| <b>Saturday 14th</b><br>Feria of Easter   | 9.15am          |                   | 6.30pm           |                 | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass of Sunday   | Johnson family<br>Florence Robinson  |
| <b>Sunday 15th</b><br><b>Third Sunday of</b><br><b>Easter</b>                         | 9.00am          | 11.00am           |                  | 6.30pm          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass  | Shirley Potts<br>Margaret Fallon<br>People of the Parish   |

## EASTER MONDAY MEN'S MASS

*The tradition of a Mass for men to make their Easter Holy Communion was begun 90 years ago by Archbishop McIntyre of Birmingham as a demonstration of faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, at a time when the Anglican Bishop of Birmingham was pouring scorn on the Catholic belief. The practice spread throughout the Archdiocese and in Stoke-on-Trent we continue this tradition with pride.*

**All men and boys are invited to come to the men's Mass on Monday 2nd April at 10am at Sacred Heart Church, Tunstall.**

**The Celebrant & Preacher will be Bishop David McGough**

**Men's Disciple Group** We are coming to the end of our present series of men's discipleship meetings, looking at the Eucharist in the Bible. Our next meeting will be on Friday 6th April at 7pm at St Joseph's. All men are welcome to come.

## DIVINE RENOVATION DAY

*...with Fr James Mallon*

You will all have heard of Divine Renovation, the book by Fr James Mallon, and at the heart of the new initiatives we are following in our churches. Fr Mallon will be in London on Wednesday 9th May for a day conference, 9am to 5pm. If you would like to go, please see Fr Julian. The day is free of charge but there will be transport and food costs.

It would be great to have people come along on this day and hear the message of Divine Renovation! Let Fr Julian know as soon as possible as places are limited.

## PARISH REGISTERS

### Deaths

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Charlotte Thom. Funeral details later.

*Requiescat in pace*

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

**Flowers at St Joseph's** After a long time in charge of our altar flowers each week, Bernadette and Elaine are retiring. We owe a great debt of gratitude to them for their years of dedicated service behind the scenes. So that the responsibility isn't on one or two people, can we please have volunteers to do the flowers on a rota basis? The more volunteers, the less often you will have to do them. A volunteer can then coordinate a rota. Please see Fr Julian.

**Sacristy at St Joseph's** We also need someone who will take responsibility for setting up for each Mass, and keeping the stocks of votive candles up to date on the stands, changing the altar cloths and generally preparing all that is needed for the liturgy. This could be one person or a shared responsibility. Again, please see Fr Julian.

**Counters** This time for English Martyrs' and St Patrick's, we need a pair of people prepared to count once a month. Our auditors prefer this not to be a married couple or relatives. Please see Fr Julian if you can help.

## GOLDENHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE OPEN DAY

Thursday 26th April  
1pm to 7pm

*Come along and give your views and ideas for the future of the Goldenhill Community Centre*

**Free light refreshments throughout the day**

**Free activities for children 1 to 4pm: Face-painting, entertainment and gifts**

**Meet a Stoke City player and Pottermus 5 to 7pm**

*Organised by Wider Impact Consultancy Ltd on behalf of St Joseph's Parish, who have commissioned a feasibility study for the development of Goldenhill Community Centre, funded by the National Lottery*



**On Fire**

Set the world ablaze!

On Fire!

19th to 24th May 2018

St Joseph's Goldenhill

*Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Renewal*

You are invited to be part of our great Pentecost Festival, On Fire!

We will begin with a Novena of the Holy Spirit, from 11th to 19th May, inviting all our parishioners to pray this Novena, whether in church or at home.

Each day there will be a Novena Mass at 12noon with the Novena prayers.

The Festival begins with Sunday Masses on 19th & 20th May and an invitation to the young people of our parishes on Sunday afternoon.

From 21st to 24th May, we will have a daily programme including early morning Adoration and Mass (6am to 7.30am), morning Mass with 'meet the team' (9.30am), and the evening services (7pm) with the following themes:

Monday: 'The Father who loves'

Tuesday: 'The Father who forgives'

Wednesday: 'The Father who heals'

Thursday: 'The Father who sends'

During the rest of the days, the team will go into our schools and work with the children and young people.

We will need volunteers with leafleting, providing refreshments and other tasks, so please come to our meeting on Wednesday 11th April at 7pm at St Joseph's.

## FUNDRAISING

### Collections

**Biddulph/Packmoor** Gift Aid £396.10, Non Gift Aid £220.76. Total £616.86.

**Goldenhill** Gift Aid £225.00, Non Gift Aid £199.80. Total £424.80.

**Kidsgrove** Gift Aid £264.00, Non Gift Aid £176.16. Total £440.16.

**Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200 Club Draw** Weekly: 1st Prize £20, No.159 N Cook; 2nd Prize £10, No.34 G Lovatt; 3rd Prize £5, No.46 L Jones. Reminder the monthly subs are due this week.

### Biddulph & Packmoor 125 Club

If you don't already have a number please consider subscribing. You pay £1 a week, collected quarterly or half yearly, for your chance to win a weekly & monthly cash prize. For more details contact Mary Jervis on 514829.

### LENTEN ALMS

**Last week** The collection for Holy Places raised £366.35.

Thanks for all your almsgiving through the weekly collections during the season of Lent.

## DEANERY & BEYOND

**Evening for Parish Readers** All the readers in our churches are asked to attend a Deanery training session at St Teresa's Trent Vale on *either* 17th *or* 24th April at 7.30pm.

**Study Weekend** There will be a St Thomas Aquinas study weekend at St Dominic's Convent, Stone on 13th to 15th April. The cost is £150 if residential (£80 for low income) or £15 with lunch for non residential. For more details on the weekend contact Sr Valery on 01785 812091 or email: valerywalker@yahoo.co.uk

### Divine Mercy Sunday

8th April 2018



*When Jesus appeared to St Faustina he asked that a Feast of Mercy be held on the Sunday after Easter.*

You are invited to keep Divine Mercy Sunday at St Augustine's Meir. Exposition and Benediction at 2.30pm. Confessions from 1.30pm.

### Volunteer with Fr Hudson's Young at Heart Team

Can you help our Young at Heart team reach more isolated older people in North Staffordshire. There are various roles for volunteers : help at one of the Young at Heart groups; prepare food at the lunch club; mowing lawns and gardening; visit people at home and keep them company for a while. All volunteers will be given training, travel expenses, a regular newsletter and ongoing support. If you'd like to get involved call the team on 01782 269990

### Sanctuary Lamps

*This week the lamps are dedicated for:*

St John's: Tricia Chappell (PD); Giannasi Family (BC); Mick Taylor  
St Joseph's: Gladys Summerfield

*If you would like to dedicate the sanctuary lamps at our churches for an intention, please see Fr Julian. Minimum donation £5.*

### Parish Priest's Open House

The next Parish Priest's Open House, when Fr Julian is available to be seen, is on Monday 23rd April at 6.30pm at St Joseph's Presbytery.

## NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

### John 20:19-31

Having risen in the morning on the first day of the week, Jesus appeared first to Mary of Magdala from whom he had cast out seven devils. She then went to those who had been his companions, and who were mourning and in tears, and told them. But they did not believe her when they heard her say that he was alive and that she had seen him. After this, he showed himself under another form to two of them as they were on their way into the country. These went back and told the others, who did not believe them either. Lastly, he showed himself to the Eleven themselves while they were at table. He reproached them for their incredulity and obstinacy, because they had refused to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. And he said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation.'

### Preparing the Gospel

**KEY VERSE:** "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (v. 29).

**TO KNOW:** On the evening of the resurrection, the disciples were gathered in fear behind locked doors. They were overjoyed when the Risen Lord appeared in their midst with a greeting of "peace" (Hebrew, Shalom). Just as God breathed life into Adam, the first living being (Gn 2:7), the Son of God breathed the life-giving Spirit upon his disciples, sending them forth with the power to forgive sins. Thomas (called Didymus, meaning "twin") was absent on this occasion and he refused to believe their testimony. His defiant words "unless I see" (Jn 20:25) came from one who knew Jesus as an intimate friend. A week later, the Risen Christ appeared again, and this time Thomas was present. When Thomas touched Christ's wounds, he declared Jesus to be his "Lord and God." Jesus told Thomas that those who believed in faith were more blessed than those who needed visible proof.

**TO LOVE:** Am I Thomas' twin? Do I refuse to believe unless I see?

**TO SERVE:** My Lord and my God, help me to believe when my faith wavers.