

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2019

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



On Thursday and Friday I and two parishioners joined a few hundred priests and people from around the UK, and even further afield, for Divine Renovation 19 in West Bromwich. You will have heard me speak about Divine Renovation, the initiative for parish renewal, many times, and it is that initiative which is at the basis of the things which we do in our parishes, such as Alpha, Prayer Group, Men's group, Discipleship Groups, Missions, Retreats and the Christmas and Easter outreach services. All of this is founded on a vision of who and what we

are which is summed up by this phrase of Pope St Paul VI: "The Church exists for evangelisation".

I have been very buoyed up by the Conference these past two days, and I spent the days meeting and speaking to priests and people who are well along the journey with Divine Renovation, and those just starting out, but all of whom had a desire to see healthy and growing parishes. After all, that is what we should expect of the Church, as it has the power and grace of the Holy Spirit at its heart.

As I look ahead, I am filled with hope for our Partnership of Parishes. Although I see the number of people in Church for Sunday Mass on a gentle decline, I also see under the surface individuals who are coming to

a new and vibrant personal relationship with Jesus, the one thing which is most essential for life and growth in the Church. If you do not yet feel that you have that, then I invite you to come on the journey. Alpha is a great way to open up this relationship. It is not too late to come along. In April I will be launching something new, as a follow on to Alpha. It will involve a meeting which will take place each week, where people can get to know each other, and grow in knowledge of Jesus, and the teaching of his Church. It is called the Catechumenate, and will be for those seeking to enter the Church as well as those already with us but who seek a new relationship with the Lord. You'll hear more about this in coming weeks!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Wulfric of Haselbury 1080-1154

Wulfric was born in Compton Martin near Bristol. He was ordained priest, but lived a very worldly life, given over to hunting and feasting. A chance conversation with a beggar, however, brought about a deep inner conversion. He desired then to

live as a hermit in Haselbury, Somerset. Wulfric became renowned for gifts of prophecy, and was known throughout the land, and was believed to have healing powers. He was given over to a strict and frugal life with hard penances. By the time of his death, he had become one of the most influential priests in England.

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

KEY CONTACTS

Parish Priest

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

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.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding reps are:
Biddulph: Mary Lomas
Goldenhill: Suzanne Meakin
Kidsgrove: Denise Hewitt
Packmoor: Peter Whitehouse
They can be contacted through the Parish Office, or call the Diocesan Team on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rc-birmingham.org

Website

www.partnershipparishes.org

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

MASSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Kidsgrove	Packmoor	The Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions) Kidsgrove Sat 6pm Biddulph Sun 8.30am Goldenhill Sun 10.30am Packmoor Sun 6pm	
Saturday 9th			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	Elsie Walker
Sunday 10th Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mary Nixon Margaret & Jim Fallon Ron Lane
Monday 11th Our Lady of Lourdes		6.00pm			Rosary & Lourdes Devotions	Day of Prayer for the Sick
Tuesday 12th Feria			9.30am	2.15pm	Morning Prayer Holy Rosary	
Wednesday 13th Feria						
Thursday 14th Ss Cyril & Methodius						
Friday 15th Feria						
Saturday 16th Our Lady		9.00am	6.30pm		ALPHA Holy Mass of Sunday	Tony Ruane
Sunday 17th Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Michael Flatley Int John Martin Special Intention (VM)
Monday 18th Feria		1.00pm	9.30am 10.00am		Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration Memorial Mass	Ellen & George McHugh Winifred Maughan (1st Ann)
Tuesday 19th Feria	9.15am 8.00pm		9.30am	2.15pm	Holy Mass Morning Prayer Holy Rosary Prayer Group	David Pooley
Wednesday 20th Feria		10.00am			Requiem Mass	Michael Meakin RIP
Thursday 21st St Peter Damian	6.00pm	11.30am			Funeral Service Holy Mass	Sammy-Jo Price RIP Jim & Sarah Baker
Friday 22nd Chair of St Peter			9.30am	6.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Joan Gilligan Int Mary & Roy Jarvis
Saturday 23rd St Polycarp	10.30am	9.00am	6.30pm		ALPHA Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Special Intention Int John Martin
Sunday 24th Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Int Teresa Dutton Simon Doherty People of the Parishes



Alpha is up and running again on Saturday mornings at 9am at St Joseph's Goldenhill. This Saturday will be session 3.

Alpha is for everyone—regular parishioners, not so regular parishioners, people who are simply interested in discussing the big life questions and hearing a message which is Good News. Each week we will have a good breakfast together, watch the video, and have a relaxed discussion about its contents. Is this your time for Alpha? Who are you going to bring? Who are you going to invite?

Alpha Helpers!

Alpha helpers and leaders please come and meet with Fr Julian on Friday 22nd February at 7pm at St Joseph's Church, for prayer, review and further planning.

Prayer Group

Our partnership of parishes prayer group is growing! The aim is to pray for our Parish and its work, as well as the world, for our families and all our needs. The prayer group is on Tuesday evenings, every other week so the next one will be on the 19th February at 8pm and will take place at English Martyrs' in Biddulph. It is an hour long. Why not come along?

Parish Priest's Open House

If you need to see Fr Julian about anything, then come to the Open House session. The next Open House will be on Monday 18th February, 6.30pm to 7.30pm. There will be no Open House on 11th February.

Confirmation If any children or young people have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, and would like to, then please see Fr Julian as soon as possible. The normal minimum age is 10.

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion preparation is, from this year, going to be conducted in the parish, complemented by the work children do in school. *The only way for children to make their First Holy Communion is through taking part in the parish preparation.* All children should be in Year 4, and they should have made their First Confession in Year 3. If they have not yet made First Confession then parents will need to see Fr Julian to arrange for preparation for that Sacrament too.

Preparation has already begun at English Martyrs' Biddulph on Sunday mornings after the Morning Mass. Preparation at St Joseph's for St Joseph's and St John's parishes is on selected Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm at St Joseph's. Parents can sign up through school or by seeing Fr Julian. Enquiries through the parish office.

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS"

We are pleased to have the inspirational missionaries and students from the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) over from the USA. They will be leading us on a three night Retreat for Lent at St Joseph's Church, Goldenhill.

Tuesday 12th to Thursday 14th March

Each evening we will have:
 5.30pm Eucharistic Adoration
 6.30pm Holy Mass
 7.30pm Retreat Holy Hour
 Come and be renewed!

Sanctuary Lamps

This week the lamps are dedicated for:

English Martyrs: Alice Edwards
 St John's: Crotty, Howle & Davenport Families; Frances Ashton
 St Joseph's: James Sadler

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

Care Home Prayer Services



Kidsgrove The next prayer service will be at Maple Tree Court, Gloucester Rd on 19th February at 10.30am.

Biddulph The prayer service for our Biddulph Churches Together group is on Sunday 10th February at Park Lane Care Home at 3pm.

We welcome everyone to come and join us.

Men's Group

We are inviting men from the parish partnership to come together time to follow a series called 'Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible' by Jeff Cavins. We had an introductory meeting, but it's not too late to join us. Our next session is on Monday 25th February at St Joseph's Goldenhill at 7.30pm. All men, young and older, are welcome!

The English Camino

For young men aged 18+, we will walk the Camino Inglés from Ferrol to Santiago. Wednesday 3rd to Wednesday 10th July 2019. Cost will be about £400. To book see Fr Julian with a £100 deposit.

PARISH REGISTERS

Deaths

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Michael Meakin. Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul will be offered at St Joseph's Church on Wednesday 20th February at 10am followed by burial at Tunstall Cemetery.

And also for the soul of Sammy-Jo Price. The funeral service will be at St Joseph's Church on Thursday 21st February at 11.30am followed by burial at Tunstall Cemetery.

And also for the soul of Paul Dymnicki. Funeral arrangements will be at a later date.

Requiescat in Pace

FUNDRAISING

Collections

27/01/19 Biddulph/Packmoor

Gift Aid £350.42, Non Gift Aid £165.25, Total £515.67. **Gold-**

enhill Gift Aid £242.00, Non Gift Aid £169.00, Total £411.00.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £218.00, Non Gift Aid £140.42, Total £358.42.

03/02/19 Biddulph/Packmoor

Gift Aid £376.50, Non Gift Aid £158.00, Total £534.50. Pro Life

£90.97. **Goldenhill** Gift Aid £197.00, Non Gift Aid £185.87, Total £382.87. Pro Life £69.67.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £230.30, Non Gift Aid £130.21, Total £360.51. Pro Life £123.67.

Goldenhill and Kidsgrove 200

Club This weeks Draw: 1st Prize £20, No.129 S Hill; 2nd Prize £10, No.126 R Jones; 3rd Prize £5, No.190 J Moran. **Last Weeks Draw:** 1st Prize £20, No.47 P Waring; 2nd Prize £10, No.160 N Cook; 3rd Prize £5, No.175 P Knapper.

Biddulph & Packmoor 125 Club

The yearly (£51) and half yearly (£26) subs for the 125 club will be due on the 10th February. Please make cheques payable to 'English Martyrs' Church, Biddulph'. If you

would like to subscribe to the 125 Club, for a chance to win a monthly or weekly prize, please contact Mary on 514829 or speak to Gloria or Vincent after Mass.

APF Red Boxes If you have a red box from Biddulph or Packmoor, then please bring them to church during February to be emptied and counted. Thank you.

Fund Raising Evie Wilson would like to thank everyone at St Patrick's who supported her cake sale after the evening mass last Sunday. £80.06 was raised to help fund her school pilgrimage to Lourdes in May.

DEANERY & BEYOND

No One Beyond Reach CAFOD Trustee, John Guy, will be talking about his experience of their work in Sierra Leone on Wednesday 20th February at 6.30pm at the Coolock Pastoral Centre in Newcastle.

Vocations Mass St Teresa's parish, Trent Vale invites everyone to join them at a Mass to the Deanery Mass for Vocations on Thursday 28th February at 7pm. Celebrant will be Fr Michael Glover.

Sharing Hope in Crisis There will

be a day for those who work to apply Catholic Social Teaching in crisis situations, and serve the suffering at Maryvale Institute on Saturday 16th March. Donation only. Contact Paul Northam on 0121360 8118.

Women's Vocation Weekend

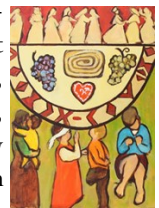
The Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ Sisters) are having a weekend of vocation discernment for young women in Liverpool 15th to 17th February. Enquiries to Sr Lynne on lynnefcj@hotmail.com or consult the website www.fcjsisters.org

CAFOD There will be a talk by CAFOD trustee John Guy, who will speak about his experience of working in Sierra Leone. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and to see the CAFOD materials for the next fast day in Lent.

Women's World day of Prayer

Friday 1st March

You are invited to Biddulph Methodist Church, Station Road, Biddulph at 1.30pm, for a service led by women from each church in the Biddulph



Church, followed by refreshments. It is open to both men and women!

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Luke 4:21-30

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside." And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. 'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.' When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

KEY VERSE: "No prophet is ever accepted in his own country"

TO KNOW: When Jesus preached in the synagogue at Nazareth, he quoted the prophet Isaiah who disclosed the signs which would show when the Messiah had come. Jesus announced "Today this passage is being fulfilled in your hearing." He was declaring that the Messianic times had begun in him. At first, the people marvelled at the gracious words spoken by Joseph's son, an ordinary carpenter. They were willing to accept Jesus for what he could do for them, for their personal advantage. Yet they wondered, since he performed miracles elsewhere, why had he not worked any in his own hometown? But when Jesus identified himself as a prophet, he was no longer accepted. Prophets called the people to accountability for their lack of faith in God, and their lack of justice and mercy toward others. Jesus compared his ministry to the prophets Elijah and Elisha who were rejected by their own, yet brought healing and hope to Gentiles. These "outsiders" had the wisdom to recognize the prophets in their midst. The people were outraged by Jesus' words, and they dragged him from the synagogue. When they attempted to throw him over a cliff; Jesus miraculously eluded them. **TO LOVE:** Pray for those who suffer persecution and martyrdom for the sake of the gospel.

TO SERVE: Lord Jesus, help me to listen to your voice.