

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

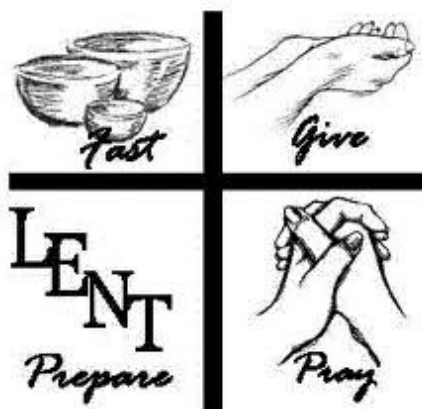
SUNDAY BULLETIN

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2018

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

I hope you have all had a good start to Lent. It was good to see so many at Ash Wednesday Mass this week, receiving the ashes and offering to God our Lenten discipline. Like a rope made up of three strands, bound together to make it strong, so our Lenten discipline will only be strong for us if we bind together prayer, fasting and almsgiving as one. Prayer opens our hearts and minds in a dialogue with God. Fasting helps us place God first, by seeing all other pleasures as secondary to him. And almsgiving is the fruit of prayer and fasting, which is charity or love for others. If you have not begun Lent well, then you haven't missed the boat. Now is the time to start!



Today I welcome Fr Thomas Horsch to our parish. He is a German priest of the Society of St John Mary Vianney. We are having a conference of our society with the German and English priests together with a couple of priests from France. We will be in Maryvale, learning more about Bl John Henry Newman, from Monday to Wednesday this week. Please remember us in your prayers.

At the moment my mother is in hospital, and will be there for a little while. As I need to be available for visiting, I am postponing the Thursday Holy Hours until next week. So no Holy Hour this Thursday. We have, however, already begun Stations of the Cross in

each of our churches each week. We also have our early morning Mass on Fridays of Lent. If you are going to work, please do come and drop in for a moment of silent prayer during Adoration (6am to 7am) or come to Mass at 7am. It will be great to see you. I am using that weekly time of prayer to pray for our parishes and for our parishioners. Come and join me and other parishioners this Friday.

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
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Priest in Residence

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Deacon (retired)

Rev Dr David Child

Youth Pastor

Jonny Leybourne

Parish Secretary

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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 Jacinta Marto 1910-1920

Together with her older brother Francisco, and her cousin Lucia, Jacinta was one of the visionaries of Fatima. Lucia described her as affectionate, if a little spoiled. In 1916, the three children had visions of an angel, preparing them for the visions they would receive of Our Lady

in 1917. Our Lady asked the children to pray the Rosary and to make sacrifices for sinners, and revealed the terrible judgment invited by sin. This deeply affected Jacinta who spent the rest of her short life in prayer and offering sacrifices and mortification for sinners. She was canonised together with her brother by Pope Francis.

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 No confessions this week | |
|--|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------|--|---|
| Saturday 17th | | | 6.30pm | | Holy Mass of Sunday | Mark Foden |
| Sunday 18th First Sunday of Lent | 9.00am 4.30pm | 11.00am | | 6.30pm | Holy Mass Holy Mass Stations of the Cross Holy Mass | David Pooley Simon Doherty & Maughan Family Glenda Bennett |
| Monday 19th Lent Feria | 2.15pm | | | | Requiem Mass | Bryan Dodd RIP |
| Tuesday 20th Lent Feria | | | 9.30am | 2.15pm | Morning Prayer Stations of the Cross | |
| Wednesday 21st Lent Feria | | 6.30pm | | | Stations of the Cross | |
| Thursday 22nd Chair of St Peter | 6.00pm | | | | Holy Mass | Holy Souls |
| Friday 23rd Lent feria <i>Lent Fast Day</i> | | 6.00am 7.00am | 9.30am 10.00am | 6.00pm | Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass Holy Mass Stations of the Cross Holy Mass | Private Intention Margaret Coates James Sanderson |
| Saturday 24th Lent Feria | 9.15am | | 6.30pm | | Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday | Int Josie Gannon (90th Bday) Patricia Convey |
| Sunday 25th Second Sunday of Lent | 9.00am 4.30pm | 11.00am | | 6.30pm | Holy Mass Holy Mass Stations of the Cross Holy Mass | Int Josie Gannon (90th Bday) Sarah & Arthur Holmes People of the Parishes |

PARISH REGISTERS

Deaths

Of your charity please pray for the soul of Bryan Dodd. Requiem Mass will be offered at English Martyrs' on Monday 19th February at 2.15pm followed by cremation at Car-mountside.

Please pray also for the soul of Mary Dunning. The funeral Service will be

on Monday 26th February at 11.20am at Bradwell Crematorium.

Please pray also for the soul of Russell Whalley. Requiem Mass will be offered at St Joseph's on Monday 26th February at 1.15pm followed by cremation at Bradwell. There will be a reception of body on Sunday 25th at 5.30pm.

Please pray also for the soul of Margaret Fallon. Requiem Mass will be

offered at St Joseph's on Friday 9th March at 10.30am. There will be a reception of body on Thursday 8th at 6pm.

Please pray also for the soul of William (Bill) Johnson. Requiem Mass will be offered at St John's on Friday 16th March at 1pm followed by burial at Tunstall cemetery.

Please pray also for the soul of Alice Edwards. Funeral arrangements later.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

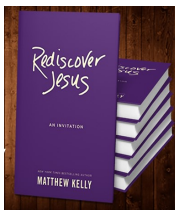


You are invited to come and share in the Stations of the Cross during Lent in our churches. Here are the times and places where we will pray the Stations of the Cross

during Lent:

- Sunday 4.30pm English Martyrs'
- Tuesday 2.15pm St Patrick's
- Wednesday 6.30pm St Joseph's
- Friday 10.00am St John's

**Your Invitation to
Rediscover Jesus**



For those who wish, parishioners at St John's invite you to come on Mondays of Lent. There will be tea and coffee and the opportunity to share what you have discovered in the book *Rediscover Jesus*. Begins at 10.30am and ends by 11.45am. Copies of the book are available free of charge from Fr Julian or the parish office.

FRIDAYS OF LENT

The Fridays of Lent are the weekly remembrance of the Passion and Death of the Lord. It is a day when we should try to do something extra. This year we offer especially to those going to work the opportunity to get the day off to a good start.

- 6am to 7am Eucharistic Adoration in St Joseph's
- 7am Mass at St Joseph's
- 9.30am Mass at St John's
- 10am Stations of the Cross at St John's
- 6pm Mass at St Patrick's

Men's Disciple Group At the moment we are doing a short course on the Eucharist in the Bible, with video presentations every few weeks. Apologies for the cancellation of this week's session. We will meet on Friday 2nd March instead, at 7pm. All men are welcome to come along.

Care Home Prayer Service



This month our prayer service outreach to the elderly will be at Maple Tree Court, Gloucester Rd, Kidsgrove on Tuesday 20th February at 10.30am. We would love to see more parishioners coming along and bringing the light of faith to those in the home. Just turn up and meet us there.

ST PATRICK'S DAY



Come and celebrate the Feast of St Patrick at St Patrick's church, Packmoor on Saturday 17th March.

Holy Mass at 11.30am followed by Bring and Share Buffet Lunch.

A great opportunity for the people from all our churches to come together!

The Friendship Club

The Friendship Club is our monthly meeting for older people. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 27th February, at the usual time of 2pm at Kidsgrove Town Hall. We always welcome new people, so come and give it a try. If you need transport please contact Matt Ford on 07587034299.

ALPHA

Alpha is up and running at St Joseph's once again, on Sunday afternoons at 3pm, finishing at 4.45pm. Afternoon tea, video presentation and discussion are what are involved. Friendship and welcome are included too. Maybe try out one of these sessions as a taster?

LENT HOLY HOURS



This Lent we are inviting people to come together on Thursday evenings for an hour of led prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. If you never know how to pray in Eucharistic Adoration or how to pray in silence, come along and learn how to spend time with the Lord. Each Holy Hour begins at 7pm

22nd February **No Holy Hour this week**

- 1st March at English Martyrs'
- 8th March at St John's
- 15th March at St Patrick's
- 22nd March at St Joseph's

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2018

You are warmly invited to a service at Biddulph Methodist Church, Station Road at 1.30pm on Friday 2nd March. The theme is 'All God's creation is Good'. The prayers will be for Suriname and the environment. The service will be led by women from all the Biddulph churches. Refreshments will be served and there will be a play area for pre-school children.

On Fire!

19th to 24th May 2018
St Joseph's Goldenhill



On Fire
Set the world ablaze!

Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Renewal

You are invited to be part of our great Pentecost Festival, On Fire! Apologies for the late cancellation of last week's meeting. All who are interested in helping with the Mission—publicity, organisation, hospitality, celebration—please come to a meeting at St Joseph's on Wednesday 21st March at 7pm.

FUNDRAISING

Collections

04/02/18: Biddulph/Packmoor
Gift Aid £391.30, Non Gift Aid
£196.19. Total £587.49. Life
£113.41.

Goldenhill Gift Aid £334.00, Non
Gift Aid £192.03. Total £526.03.
Life £74.79.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £213.00, Non
Gift Aid £174.18. Total £387.18.
Life £108.73.

11/02/18: Biddulph/Packmoor
Gift Aid £351.00, Non Gift Aid
£198.07. Total £549.07.

Goldenhill Gift Aid £201.00, Non
Gift Aid £202.21. Total £403.21.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £150.50, Non
Gift Aid £154.37. Total £304.87.

**Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200
Club Draw** Weekly 11/02/18:1st
Prize £20, No.87 A Walker; 2nd
Prize £10, No.4 M Aylward; 3rd
Prize £5, No.95 B Smithson. Weekly
18/02/18:1st Prize £20, No.144 C
Fell; 2nd Prize £10, No.85 W Wal-
ley; 3rd Prize £5, No.5 M Aylward.

Cake Sales Goldenhill UCM cake
sale raised £50. **Evie Wilson**
would like to say a huge thank you to every-
one who supported her Fundraising
for Lourdes Cake Sale. So far she has
managed to raise £143.

Biddulph & Packmoor 125 Club
The 125 club subs are due this

month. You can either pay £51 for
the year or split it and pay £26 now
and £25 in August. Cheque payments
should be made payable to 'English
Martyrs' Church, Biddulph'. There
are numbers available if you would
like to join, please phone Mary on
514829.

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.

LENTEN ALMS

There will be a second collection for
Lenten Alms each Sunday of Lent.
The alms given will go to the follow-
ing charities:

18th Feb St Francis Leprosy Guild

25th Feb CAFOD

4th March St Chad's Cathedral

11th March Friends of the Holy Land

18th March Aid to the Church in
Need

25th March Holy Places

This week's collection is for St Fran-
cis' Leprosy Guild. Founded by 1895
by Kate Marsden, a Franciscan ter-
tiary, the Guild today continues the
work of relieving those suffering with
leprosy. All the money going to the
charity goes to grants for leprosy
centres in Asia, Africa and Brazil.
Please be generous.

DEANERY & BEYOND

**Archdiocese of Birmingham
Pilgrimage to Lourdes** The dates
for this years pilgrimage are Saturday
26th May to Friday 1st June. There
are various hotel options; the cheap-
est is £715 by Air for 6 nights (single
room supplement £150) or £434 by
coach for 5nights (single room sup-
plement £125). This year we are not
arranging a parish group. If you wish
to go with the Diocese, please ask
Teresa in the parish office for details
and booking forms

Parish Priest's Open House

The next Parish Priest's Open
House, when Fr Julian can be avail-
able to be seen, is on Monday 5th
March from **6.30 to 7.30pm** at St
Joseph's Presbytery. There will be an
open house most Mondays at the
same time. Please call to confirm on
the day to ensure that the open house
is on.

Sanctuary Lamps

This week the lamps are dedicated for:

St John's: Birthday Remembrance for
Christine and Marie Twomey (EC);
Gibson & McGough Families.

St Joseph's: Mary Heath

**If you would like to dedicate the
sanctuary lamps at our churches
for an intention, please see Fr Jul-**

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a
high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There
in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became daz-
zlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them.
Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with
Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonder-
ful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you,
one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say;
they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in
shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my
Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they
looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only
Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to
tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had
risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully,
though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the
dead' could mean.

Preparing the Gospel

KEY VERSE: "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him" (v 7).
TO KNOW: Soon after Jesus' first prediction of his passion
and death (Mk 8:31), he took three of his disciples up a moun-
tain to give them a glimpse of his future glory. It was on a
mountain that God was revealed to Moses, the liberator and
Law-giver, (Ex 19:3) and to Elijah, the great prophet (1 Kgs
19:8). The appearance of Moses and Elijah on the Mount of
the Transfiguration was a revelation that Jesus was the new
liberator and prophet, showing the unity and continuity of
God's redeeming work. Peter was awestruck and proposed to
set up three tents ("booths," such as those in which the Israel-
ites lived on their journey to the Promised Land). A cloud
overshadowed them all, reminiscent of the *shekinah* glory of
God that filled the wilderness tent (Ex 40:35). The voice of
God confirmed Jesus' divine authority. His words must be
heard and obeyed (Dt 18:15).

TO LOVE: Does the way I live reveal God's kingdom to oth-
ers?

TO SERVE: Lord Jesus, help me to be your presence to all
whom I meet.