

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

SUNDAY 24TH JUNE 2018

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Of all the saints, apart from Our Lady, the one who receives most attention in the Church's liturgy is St John the Baptist. We hear about St John the Baptist in Advent, on two consecutive Sundays. We have two feast days in the calendar: today's, celebrating his birth, and the other, commemorating his martyrdom. He is also remembered in the Gospel readings at Mass after Christmas, and at different moments through the year.

If you are observant, you'll realise that today's feast day is exactly six months before Christmas. (Yes, it's only six months away). The fact that the Church has placed the feast of the birth of John as the mirror image of the feast of the birth of Jesus tells us of the importance that John has in



relation to Jesus. He was the one to prepare the way, the best man to the bridegroom, who comes to make the Church his bride.

In the Middle Ages, St John the Baptist received far more devotion than he does today. The number of medieval churches and institutions dedicated to him was enormous. We also need to rediscover St John the Baptist, not necessarily through devotions, but through heeding his

message, preparing the way for Jesus, and imitating him, by preparing the way for others to Jesus.

Next week, we will be celebrating the First Holy Communion for children across our parishes. On Tuesday, I will be hearing the First Confessions of children who, mostly, will receive their First Holy Communion next year. It is not just my task, but that of all who are faithful disciples, to encourage people to come to Jesus. It would be easy to think that, because it is First Communion Sunday next week, we can go off to other churches or leave Mass off for a Sunday. But I want to encourage you to come, and be a prayerful witness, and a joyful encouragement, to the parents, children and visitors.

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
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Deacon (retired)

Rev Dr David Child

St Margaret Ward Chaplain

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Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Fri
9am to 3.30pm. Weds, Thurs
9am to 1pm.

Website

www.partnershipparishes.org

SAINT OF THE WEEK



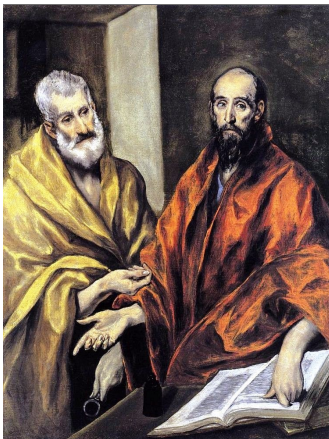
Bl Zynoviy Kovalyk 1903-1941

A Catholic priest of Greek rite and member of the Redemptorists, Bl Zynoviy went to work among the Ukrainians. He became known as a great singer and preacher, and so great was his devotion, that people came from great distances to hear him preach. At the time of the Soviet invasion

in 1939, he was in Lviv. While other priests preached sermons which would not offend the Soviets, Fr Zynoviy denounced their atheism and lies. He said he was ready to die for the truth. He was arrested for his preaching and tortured, but he used this as an occasion to minister to fellow prisoners. He was martyred in June 1941.


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 6.00pm	
Saturday 23rd			6.30pm		Vigil Mass of the Feast	Mark Foden
Sunday 24th NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST	9.00am	11.00am 1.00pm	2.30pm	6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Baptisms Baptism Holy Mass	Michael Flatley Michael Meaney & Family People of the Parishes
Monday 25th Feria			12noon		Holy Mass	Margaret Coates
Tuesday 26th Feria	9.15am		9.30am	2.15pm	Holy Mass Morning Prayer Holy Rosary	Sick Person
Wednesday 27th St Cyril of Alexandria		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Mary Davis
Thursday 28th St Irenaeus				6.30pm	Vigil Mass of the Feast	Holy Souls
Friday 29th ST PETER & ST PAUL <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>	11.00am	9.30am 6.30pm	2.15pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Private Intention Thanksgiving (NB) People of the Parishes Thomas Mannion (SVP)
Saturday 30th First Martyrs of Rome	9.15am		6.30pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Private Intention Frank Welsh
Sunday 1st Thirteenth Sunday of the Year	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	David Pooley Arthur & Sarah Holmes People of the Parishes




THE FEAST OF ST PETER & ST PAUL

This Friday is the Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is such an important day in the Church's year, because it recognises that our faith and the Church are both 'apostolic'. They are founded on the foundation of the Apostles, of whom St Peter and St Paul were the leaders. Each in their own way shape the Church. St Peter is the rock on which the Church is built. He is the one who gives stability, and whose presence is seen in the way in which the Church grounds our Faith on the sure Tradition which has been handed on from the Apostles to the present day. This is the chief task of the Pope: to safeguard the handing on of the truth of faith. St Paul shows how the Faith has to be proclaimed, and taken to the furthest ends of the earth, as well as to places near at hand. It is this missionary impetus which brings new life to the Church in every age.



ALPHA
 We have started a new Alpha. Alpha is an invitation to come and ask the most important questions of life, in a relaxed environment. We share some food, and share our ideas based on the video presentations. There are eight weekly meetings on Sundays at 4pm at St Joseph's. The first session started on Sunday 10th June. Why not come along and try a session this Sunday?

Care Home Prayer Service



Kidsgrove Our monthly prayer service for the elderly will be at Maple Tree Court, Gloucester Rd, Kidsgrove on Tuesday 26th June at 10.30am. We would love to see more parishioners coming and bringing the light of faith to residents. Come and meet us at the home.

Biddulph Some other Christian churches in Biddulph have, for many years, provided prayer services in the care homes in Biddulph area. Some people have recently dropped out of running these. And so we are having a meeting of people from across all the churches of Biddulph Churches Together on Thursday 28th June at 7.30pm at English Martyrs'. If you feel called to help with this outreach, please come to the meeting.

Biddulph Churches Together Open Café
 10am to 12noon
 Saturdays 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th July
 Biddulph Churches Together will be running their Open Café at the Town Hall again this year. Everyone is welcome to just pop in for tea/coffee and homemade cakes each Saturday. We also need volunteers for serving and making cakes: the last Saturday in July is English Martyrs' day for taking charge.


St Patrick's Garden Party



Saturday 14th July
 2pm to 4pm
 Our annual garden party is coming around again. This is a lovely event to bring people together from across our parishes in the beautiful garden at St Patrick's. Make it a date...and pray for fine weather!



St Joseph's Academy Summer Fayre
 Please come and support the school's summer fayre, which is taking place on Friday 6th July at 3.30pm at the school.



Deanery Penitential Evening
 On Friday 13th July, there will be a Penitential Service for the whole Deanery at St Theresa's Church in Trent Vale at 7pm. There will be a number of priests to hear confessions available during the service. It is a great way to make this Sacrament a more regular part of your spiritual life.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms
 Welcome to the family of the Church to Mikolaj and Victor Jarón who will be baptised at St Joseph's Church today. Welcome also to Harper Rose Kelly who will be baptised at St John's Church today.

The Friendship Club



The Friendship Club is our monthly meeting for older people. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 26th June, 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 more details or would like to arrange transport please ring 01782 269990

Parish Priest's Open House
 Fr Julian is normally available on Monday from 6.30pm to 7.30pm at St Joseph's Presbytery Goldenhill for all enquiries but the regular Monday evening have now stopped for the summer. There will be an Open House only once a month during the summer months: Monday 23rd July and Monday 13th August. If you need to see Fr Julian more urgently, then please phone the Parish office.

Sanctuary Lamps
This week the lamps are dedicated for:
 St John's: Winnie Maughan & Family; Dorrie Clare
 St Joseph's: Special Intention (MM)
 St Patrick's: Susan Burke
If you would like to dedicate the sanctuary lamps at our churches for an intention, please see Fr Julian. Minimum donation £5.

Fr Julian invites...
 ...all parishioners to celebrate with him his 50th Birthday. We will have a hog roast and parish party in the presbytery garden on Sunday 22nd July from 1pm to 5pm. Please bring salads, side dishes and desserts to share. The hog and the drinks will be provided!
 Everyone welcome!

FUNDRAISING

Collections

Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £376.80, Non Gift Aid £155.92. Total £532.72. Day for Life £94.96.

Goldenhill Gift Aid £144.00, Non Gift Aid £185.40. Total £329.40. Day for Life £14.30.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £244.90, Non Gift Aid £130.95. Total £375.85.

Day for Life £112.58.

Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200 Club Weekly Draw 1st Prize £20, No.174 Fr J Green; 2nd Prize £10, No.130 M Mannion; 3rd Prize £5, No.82 H Chappell. **Monthly Draw** 1st Prize £75, No.192 B Smart; 2nd Prize £50, No.61 V Jones; 3rd Prize £25, No.180 C Taylor. Monthly subs are due next week.

DEANERY & BEYOND

Hednesford Pilgrimage The afternoon pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford will be on Sunday 1st July, starting at 1pm. There will be a coach leaving St John's, Kidsgrove at 12noon with other pick ups at Newcastle and Meir. To book a place on the coach please speak to John Coates or Pam Colclough (or call the parish office).

Recharge & Revive Retreat Day Maryvale Institute invite you to a retreat Day on Saturday 14th July. The day will begin at 10am with Mass at 12noon followed by lunch and ending with Adoration and Benediction at 4pm. The cost is £30 and you will need to book in advance by ringing 0121 360 8118.

Adoremus The National Eucharistic Congress is taking place from 7th to 9th September in Liverpool. There are still tickets available to be part of this national event in honour of the Blessed Sacrament. The cost of the tickets for Friday or Saturday is £40. The Friday and Saturday sessions include inspiring talks including by Bishop Robert Barron and Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Go to www.birminghamdiocese.org/adoremus to book your place.

Knock Pilgrimage There will be a fully escorted pilgrimage to the Knock Shrine in Ireland on 10th September for 4 nights. The cost is £599 per person sharing, HB with flights from Liverpool or Birmingham. For more information contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him. Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I shall be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.' While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kumi!' which means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

Preparing the Gospel

KEY VERSE: "He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction'" (Mk 5:34).

TO KNOW: In the midst of a busy day of ministry, Jesus received two urgent requests for healing, but in entirely different ways. Jairus, a synagogue official, approached Jesus directly with the plea to heal his young daughter who was critically ill. As Jesus set out to respond to this need, a woman followed him, pushing through the crowds in order to be healed. Because of her flow of blood, the woman should not have been in the crowd, as she was considered "unclean" and would defile the people (Lv 15:25-33). The woman had spent years seeking a cure to no avail, and in faith-filled desperation she touched the hem of Jesus' garment (*tzi-tzit* – tassels worn on the hem of a Jew's garment to remind him to keep the covenant commanded in Deut 22:12). A surge of power went out from Jesus and the woman was healed instantly. Although the woman was fearful, Jesus assured her that her faith had made her whole. At that moment, Jesus was informed that Jairus' daughter had died. Jesus told the distraught father not to be afraid but to put his faith in him. Jesus entered the house where the little girl lay, took her by the hand, and raised her to new life. The child was twelve years old, the marriageable age of a girl at that time, and the same number of years that the woman was afflicted by a haemorrhage. Jesus restored both to be bearers of new life.

TO LOVE: Lord Jesus, help me to reach out to others with your healing touch.

TO SERVE: How can I bring Jesus' healing to someone in pain?