

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

NINETEENTH & TWENTIETH SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 12TH AUGUST & 19TH AUGUST

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Once again this week we have a two week bulletin. I think it works better than the slimmed down weekly version we've had in previous years.

This week I am beginning a series of homilies based on the theme of the Eucharist, as we are currently hearing the sixth chapter of St John, on the Bread of Life, and the Church in England & Wales is preparing for the national Eucharistic Congress in September. This is a good time to look at the very practical questions which are associated with the good reception and veneration of this great gift.

You may remember that, shortly after the Parish Mission which the Franciscan Friars and Sisters gave us in May, I said that the experience was more of a

retreat than a mission. And that this is something we should continue in the life of our partnership of parishes. Indeed, during the Mission, it was the daily early morning Adoration and Mass which I found so beneficial for myself. The Ember Days, which used to be in the Church's calendar, marked the four seasons of the year with a call to penance, prayer and thanksgiving. And so I propose to invite all parishioners to join in three days of 'retreat' - not going away, but in our daily lives - gathering in one of our four churches for those three days for a time of renewal. The first of these will be in September. Please see page 3 for further details.

In fact, it seems to me that, as well as the invitation to

others to come and meet the Lord, the great duty we have is to come to know him better through a deeper life of prayer. The Welcome to Mass sheet is an invitation to use the time before Mass to pray, and to guide that with suggestions for prayer. It has had a certain level of success, but it does require people to arrive in good time and to accept the invitation to meet the Lord in silence, using the Mass sheet to prepare for Mass.

Thanks to everyone who came on the walk of solidarity with refugees and asylum seekers on Saturday. Don't forget that this coming Wednesday is the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. If you are going away, travel and return safely!

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Bl Otto Neururer 1882-1940

Fr Otto was an Austrian priest who was a timid but academic man, given to bouts of depression. He studied for the priesthood in Italy and was ordained in 1907. He was a curate, RE teacher and worked with the Christian Social Movement. After the annexation of Austria by the Nazis,

Neururer was arrested because he advised a Catholic girl not to marry a divorced man, who was very friendly with the Nazis. He was sent to concentration camps in Dachau and then Buchenwald. When it was found that he had baptised a fellow prisoner, he was tortured by being hanged upside-down until he died.

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Kidsgrove	Packmoor	The Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions) Kidsgrove Sat 6pm Biddulph Sun 8.30am Goldenhill Sun 10.30am Packmoor On request during August	
Saturday 11th			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	Maura Maguire & Christine Tully
Sunday 12th Nineteenth Sunday of the Year	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mark Coupe Margaret & James Fallon People of the Parishes
Monday 13th Feria		6.00pm	9.30am 10.00am		Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass	Holy Souls Holy Souls
Tuesday 14th St Maximilian Kolbe	9.15am			6.30pm	Holy Mass Vigil Mass of the Feast	Holy Souls Anthony Stephen Barreto
Wednesday 15th THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY	11.00am	9.30am	6.30pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	John, Alice & Stephen Edwards People of the Parishes Winifred Maughan
Thursday 16th Feria						
Friday 17th Feria						
Saturday 18th Our Lady			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	Winifred Maughan
Sunday 19th Twentieth Sunday of the Year	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Maurice Whiston Thanksgiving People of the Parishes
Monday 20th St Bernard		6.00pm	9.30am 10.00am		Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass	Sue Murphy John, Alice & Stephen Edwards
Tuesday 21st St Pius X	9.15am				Holy Mass	James Baker
Wednesday 22nd Queenship of Our Lady		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Special Intention
Thursday 23rd St John Wall	5.00pm 6.00pm				Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass	Special Intention
Friday 24th St Bartholomew			9.30am	6.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Margaret Coates Holy Souls
Saturday 25th Our Lady	9.15am		6.30pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls Int Peter & Janet Convey (Ruby Wedding)
Sunday 26th Twenty-First Sunday of the Year	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Terry Wilson People of the Parishes Sr Augustine

The Assumption of Our Lady
 Wednesday is the Assumption of Our Lady and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please see the Mass times on page 2.

Church Cleaning and Flowers at Biddulph We are appealing for a few more people to join the church cleaning and flower rotas at English Martyrs. If you are interested in volunteering please see Teresa Dutton or give your name and phone number to Fr Julian.

Catholic Newspapers If you currently order the Universe or Catholic Herald through the parish and no longer wish to receive a copy please let Teresa in the parish office know and she can cancel it. If you don't have a Catholic newspaper and would like to order one each week, please also let Teresa know.

Care Home Prayer Services



Kidsgrove The next prayer service will be at Ravenswood at 11am on the 25th September. There will be no service in August as previously advertised. We would love to see more parishioners coming and bringing the light of faith to residents. Come and meet us at the home.

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Biddulph The next prayer service for our Biddulph Churches Together group is on Sunday 26th August at 3pm at Park Lane Home. (Please note the correction to the previous details). We welcome everyone to come and join us.

PARISH REGISTERS

Marriage

Congratulations to Ashley Lawson and Louise McCormick who were married at St John's, Kidsgrove on Saturday 11th August.

Death

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Josie Gannon. Funeral arrangements later.

Requiescat in pace

EMBER DAY

PARISH RETREAT DAYS

The Ember Days are part of the traditional Christian calendar, and mark the four seasons of the year. They were taken out of the liturgical calendar at the reform of the liturgy after Vatican II. They are a quarterly opportunity to be renewed in grace through penance, fasting, prayer and thanksgiving.

In our partnership of parishes we are renewing the spirit of the Ember Days by inviting parishioners to come to a parish-based retreat each quarter.

The first Ember Days Retreat will be at St John's Kidsgrove from Wednesday 19th to Friday 21st September.

All our parishioners from across our parishes are invited to come together for three days of spiritual renewal. Each day of the retreat, Wednesday to Friday, there will be the following programme:

- 6.00am Eucharistic Adoration
- 7.00am Holy Mass
- 9.30am Holy Mass with Homily
- 6.00pm Eucharistic Adoration
- 7.00pm Retreat Evening

"Lent is our annual retreat, while the Ember Days serve as quarterly check-ups. A grave and earnest mood comes over Mother Church, but there are no tears or mourning. Fasting is not so much an expression of penitence and sorrow as a joyous tithing to God, and an incentive to almsgiving." (Fr Pius Parsch)

The Friendship Club is our monthly meeting for older people. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 28th August, 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

Sanctuary Lamps

This week the lamps are dedicated for:

St John's: Marianne Slack, Winnie Maughan, Family & Baby Patrick; Maureen & Tony Giannasi (BC)
 St Joseph's: For the People who lost loved ones in the Greece Fires.

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

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 is an Open House only once this month on Monday 13th August. If you need to see Fr Julian more urgently, then please call the Parish office. Normal weekly Open House returns on Monday 3rd September.

Safeguarding in the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Archbishop Bernard Longley has commissioned a review of our current safeguarding/child protection practices to ensure that our systems to protect our children and young people are as effective as possible. The review is being conducted by an independent charity called Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE). As part of the review, SCIE would like to speak with any individuals who have had experience with any safeguarding issues within the Archdiocese, and have experience of working with our parish safeguarding representatives and the safeguarding team at the Archdiocese. **If you are able to contribute to this important review and share your experiences with SCIE then please contact Hugh Constant (Hugh.Constant@scie.org.uk or 020 7766 7374 or 07872 602207.**

FUNDRAISING

Collections

29/07/2018: Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £372.40, Non Gift Aid £151.34, Total £523.74.

Goldenhill Gift Aid £129.00, Non Gift Aid £129.75, Total £258.75.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £329.50, Non Gift Aid £139.74, Total £469.24.

05/08/2018: Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £409.50, Non Gift Aid £175.50, Total £585.00.

Goldenhill Gift Aid £207.00, Non Gift Aid £212.21, Total £419.21.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £211.30, Non Gift Aid £149.80, Total £361.10.

Sponsored Walk Eugene Menzies is undertaking a 17 mile walk on behalf of the local charity C-R-Y Jordan Burndred Memorial Fund to provide heart screening for young adults. You can sign up to sponsor him after Mass at English Martyrs' on 19th and 26th August. The walk is on 27th and goes

from Meakins CC to Knypersley CC and back. Your support would be much appreciated. If you are not attending Mass at English Martyrs' and wish to sponsor Eugene, please contact Teresa in the parish office.

Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200 Club Weekly Draw 05/08/18

1st Prize £20, No.126 R Jones; 2nd Prize £10, No.92 D Hewitt; 3rd Prize £5, No.137 T Clarke.

12/08/18 1st Prize £20, No.141 S Eardley; 2nd Prize £10, No.131 E Bettany; 3rd Prize £5, No.91 J Clarke.

The monthly, quarterly and annual subscriptions are all due in September. The annual big prize draw will take place after 6.30pm Mass on Saturday 25th August at St John's.

Biddulph and Packmoor 125 Club

Many thanks for your continued support. The half yearly subscription of £25 is now due. You can

pay by cash or cheque made payable to English Martyrs Church, Biddulph. There are numbers available; please contact Mary Jervis on 514829.

DEANERY & BEYOND

Harvington Hall Pilgrimage The pilgrimage to the shrine of the English Martyrs will take place on Sunday 2nd September, starting at 1.45pm with confessions followed by mass at 3pm. Parking is free and there is a picnic area with tea & coffee available; please bring your own chairs. There will be free tours of the Hall which can be booked on the day.

SVP Celebration Mass The Mass will take place at St Chads Cathedral on Saturday 22nd September at 12noon. Mass will be followed by refreshments and addresses from the SVP National President, Helen O'Shea and Clare Short former Labour MP.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Sunday 19th August: John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowd: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

Sunday 26th August: John 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Preparing the Gospel

KEY VERSE: "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day" (v.54).

TO KNOW: Jesus is both word and sacrament. In the earlier part of John 6, the "bread of life" is a figure of God's revelation in Jesus the "word made flesh". Beginning in verse 51, the sacramental theme comes to the fore. Just as God fed the Israelites with heavenly manna on their wilderness journey in the Exodus, Jesus nourishes the faithful with his own body and blood on their spiritual journey. Jesus plainly said that his flesh was "true food" and his blood was "true drink". The reality of these words was emphasized by the Greek word for eating that meant to "gnaw" or to "munch." Ordinary bread sustains human life, but heavenly bread, the Eucharist, lets those who eat it receive divine life.

TO LOVE: In what ways am I Christ's presence to those I meet today?

TO SERVE: Lord Jesus, help me to appreciate your presence in the Eucharist.

KEY VERSE: "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life" (v.68).

TO KNOW: Jesus' teaching on being the Bread of Life was too much for most of his followers. Many left him. Jesus asked the twelve apostles if they too planned to leave him. Peter, the leader of the future Church, confessed his faith in the life-giving words of Jesus. There was no one else to whom he could go. The twelve apostles are mirrors of ourselves, flawed but graced human beings.

TO LOVE: Do my words help to bring others to faith or lead them astray?

TO SERVE: Lord Jesus, help me to believe your word of life.