

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2023

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



Last weekend, we learned the sad news of the death of Bishop David McGough, the Emeritus Auxiliary Bishop for our northern area of the Diocese from 2005 to 2019. He was a true son of Tunstall, and always spoke so affectionately about his home city, and particularly this end of the city. He was a great

friend to our parishes and often helped with supplying for Masses, even when he wasn't doing his official duties. He was a real Biblical scholar, and had a particular love for St Paul. I remember hearing him preach to the seminarians at the English College in Rome, when we were on a parish pilgrimage, and his insight into the Scriptures was fascinating.

I know that everyone will be praying for him as we await news of his funeral, which may be a little time away yet. We will have a Requiem Mass in our parishes too for the repose of his soul once we know when the funeral will be. We surround all the members of the McGough family with love and prayers, recognising that the news was a shock to them.

As we begin Holy Week today, let us really dedicate this week to the Lord and not be distracted by other things which can wait. It was a great preparation to have our penitential service on Thursday evening with a good participation of parishioners. I hope that you will all make the effort to come and be part of the celebrations of Holy Week. The liturgy of the Easter Triduum is something quite special. It is worth the effort, even if it means making a sacrifice to do so.

Finally, a word of congratulations to Peter Whitehouse, who has completed 70 years as an altar server at St Patrick's. 70 years and still going strong! We wish him many more years at the service of the Lord at the altar.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Bl Tarsykia Matskiv 1919-1944

Bl Tarsykia was a Ukrainian nun of the Order of the Servant Sisters of Mary Immaculate. She was an ordinary hard-working sister, who dedicated herself to sewing and teaching others the skill. She had entered the convent in 1938. When the Russians were invading Ukraine in

1944, she took her final vows before the chaplain. On 17th July 1944, she answered the door, thinking it was the priest coming to celebrate the Mass. But it was a Russian soldier who suddenly and without warning shot her dead, simply because she was a nun. Pope St John Paul II named her a martyr and beatified her in 2001.

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

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Julian C Green
St Joseph's Presbytery
715 High Street
Stoke-on-Trent ST6 5RD
Tel: (01782) 782121
fr.julian.green@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Secretary

Teresa Harding
Tel: (01782) 782121
Email:
OLG.parishes@rcaob.org.uk
Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Fri
9am to 3.30pm. Weds, Thurs
9am to 1pm.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding reps are:
Biddulph/Packmoor: Julie Shufflebotham & Lorraine Connell
Goldenhill:
Kidsgrove: Denise Hewitt
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

Diocesan Website

birminghamdiocese.org.uk

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

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Kidsgrove	Packmoor	Confessions for Holy Week only St Joseph's Sat 6pm; Sun 10.30am; Mon & Wed 5pm; Fri 12.30pm; Sat 11am to 12noon English Martyrs' Sun 8.30am; Tues 10.15am; Thurs 9pm; Fri 11am St Patrick's Sun 6pm	
Saturday 1st		6.30pm			Holy Mass of Sunday	Joan & Michael Eardley
Sunday 2nd PALM SUNDAY	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Bill Adams Bernard Cunningham Bill & Mary Whitehouse
Monday 3rd Holy Monday		5.30pm 6.00pm			Stations of the Cross Holy Mass	Holy Souls
Tuesday 4th Holy Tuesday	9.15am			2.15pm	Holy Mass & Stations Stations of the Cross	Clifford family & friends
Wednesday 5th Spy Wednesday		5.30pm 6.00pm			Stations of the Cross Holy Mass	Mandy Buxton
Thursday 6th MAUNDY THURSDAY	7.30pm 10.00pm				Mass of the Lord's Supper Holy Hour and watching until midnight	People of the Parishes
Friday 7th GOOD FRIDAY	10.30am 6.00pm	12noon 3.00pm			Stations of the Cross Stations of the Cross Solemn Liturgy of the Passion Liturgy of the Passion	
Saturday 8th HOLY SATURDAY		8.00pm			Easter Vigil Mass	Mary & John Blood
Sunday 9th EASTER SUNDAY	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Annina Marraffino Geoff Lovatt Winifred Maughan
Monday 10th Easter Monday		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Bernard Cunningham
Tuesday 11th Easter Tuesday	9.15am				Holy Mass	Cullen family & friends
Wednesday 12th Easter Wednesday		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Special Intention
Thursday 13th Easter Thursday	12noon				Holy Mass	Shirley Steed & Roger Currie
Friday 14th Easter Friday		9.30am			Holy Mass	Thomas & Joan Warham
Saturday 15th Easter Saturday		6.30pm			Holy Mass of Sunday	John Martin
Sunday 16th DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Low Sunday/ Second Sunday of Easter	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Gerry Booth Tony Blood Vincent Davis

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN THE ST8 AREA

GOOD FRIDAY 2023

Christians together in the ST8 region will again be celebrating Easter together on Good Friday. There is something for all ages. You can sing with us, have a time of reflection with us, or even get messy with us.

SING WITH US!!

You are invited to join us as we sing and pray at different locations around Biddulph and Biddulph Moor.

11:00-11:10 @ Meeting Point 1
Meet at Town Hall Steps.

11:15-11:25 @ Meeting Point 2
Meet at area opposite Biddulph Methodist Church.

11:30-11:40 @ Meeting Point 3
Meet in front of the Health Centre.

You are then invited to join our Biddulph Moor Team

12:30-13:30 @ Meeting Point 4
Meet at Biddulph Moor Cross Roads.

REFLECT WITH US!!

There will also be reflective services open for all to attend at the following locations:

09:30 @ Biddulph Methodist Church
10:30 Stations of the Cross @ English Martyrs' Church
15:00 @ Christ Church, Biddulph Moor
18:00 @ English Martyrs' Church

Messy Church

GET MESSY WITH US!!

MESSY CHURCH will take place at **Biddulph Town Hall** from **10:30am-12pm**. It will be a stay and play with Easter craft activities for children and young people. There will be refreshments for the grown ups.

Lenten Alms Charities Thanks for your generosity to our previous weeks' Lenten alms collections. We collected £523.50 for Aid to the Church in Need. Last week we collected £686 for Number 11, to which was added £1031.44 collected by St Margaret Ward Academy.

Easter Offering Don't forget that the Easter Offering is the collection that goes to the Parish Priest. The parish envelopes, like the direct payments and electronic payments, go to the Parish. The loose collection and the money in the specific Easter offering envelopes goes to the priest.

Easter Monday Men's Mass This year the North Staffs Easter Monday Men's Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Stephen Wright at Sacred Heart, Tunstall at 10am.

Walsingham Pilgrimage The Diocesan one day pilgrimage to Walsingham is on Saturday 13th May. There are places available on a coach leaving from Holy Trinity Newcastle. If you would like to book a place (£25 for adults), the please call Julie on 07791 759713

Lawton Rise Service Thanks to the great number of parishioners who turned up to support the service at Lawton Rise recently. There will be further services in the future.

Holy Week Choir The final practice for the Holy Week Choir is on Wednesday evening at St Joseph's at 6.30pm. It's not too late to join! They will be leading singing on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the main liturgies.

Welcoming Places Goldenhill The welcoming place is not open during the schools holidays (Holy Week and Easter week). It resumes on 18th April 10am to 1pm at St Joseph's Academy.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Booking is now open for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes which takes place from Saturday 27th May to Friday 2nd June. There are various travel and hotel options. For more information and booking, please visit the [Diocesan website](#) or contact Kath in the pilgrimage office on 0121 230 6288/ admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk

Mary's Meals As you know, our Partnership of Parishes has been supporting Mary's Meals with generous donations of money for the past eleven years. However, those who run the charity recognise that the greatest foundation for their work is prayer. So they are launching a prayer appeal for Mary's month of May. We will be taking part, with a Holy Hour during the month of May, and also a sign up sheet so people can pledge a Rosary on a particular day of the month.

Mercian Community Trust This charity, which tackles issues of poverty locally and has been set up by the Church of England, are looking to appoint a Part-Time Activity Coordinator/Administrator for the New-chapel Community Hub. The person would also provide admin support remotely for Dovedale House near Ilam. The post is initially for one year, with 15 hours per week 9flexible working), at £13.50 per hour. If you are interested please email terry.bloor@lichfield.anglican.org Closing date for applications is 19th April.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Welcome to the family of the Church to Christopher Arthur McGinley and Edward McGinley, baptised at St Joseph's on 19th March.

And also to Mia Leavy, baptised at St Joseph's on 26th March.

First Holy Communions

Congratulations to those children who received First Holy Communion for the first time at St Joseph's on 21st March: Olivia Moran, Jessica Moran, Bella Moran, Valentina Quinn and Charlie Ward.

Confirmations

Congratulations to the young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Joseph's on 21st March: Henry Amison, Riley Bailey, Harry Bentley, Grace Boyle, Rosemarie Braddock, Marika Duma, Mason Esposito, Emily Fairey, Luke Finemore, Madeleine Harker, Thomas Harker, Matilda Hellowell, Hallie Jones, Hannah Kotlenga, Lucas Mannion-McKinlay, Anthony Maughan, Martin Maughan, Christopher Maughan, Denis McGinley, Oliva Moran, Jessica Moran, Bella Moran, Isabella Nixon, Daniel Quinn, Valentina Quinn, Diogo Ramos, Ethan Shaw, Charles Ward and Ruby Worgan.

And also to Ashley Hodgkinson confirmed at St Joseph's on 26th March.

Fr Hudson's Society are looking for a trustee with accountancy or financial experience to sit on the Board of the charity and its finance sub-committee. If you have these skills, and would like to contribute your time to the charity please contact the CEO, Andy Quinn, on 07966 935533 to discuss.

Parish Office & Parish Priest's Open House

The Parish Office is open at the normal times which are on the front of the bulletin. Please call first if you wish to visit.

Open House There is no Open House on the next three Mondays. The next opportunity to see Fr Julian in the Open House is on Monday 24th April at 6.30pm.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

Week beginning 2nd April:

English Martyrs': Annina Marraffino
St Joseph's: John & Mary Leese

Week beginning 9th April:

English Martyrs': For parishioners in need of our prayers

St Joseph's: Winifred Maughan & family

St John's: John Martin

To dedicate a lamp, please place min donation of £5 in an envelope with preferred church and intention on the front.

Hospital If you or someone you know needs a priest in hospital, you need to contact the chaplaincy yourself. For Royal Stoke call 01782 676400. It is important to specify that it is the Catholic chaplain you want.



Mass for Marriage

THE ARCHDIOCESE of BIRMINGHAM
OFFICE for MISSION
"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..."

An invitation to married couples, those celebrating a milestone anniversary and those preparing to marry this year.

Celebrant: Bishop Stephen Wright

Saturday 29th April 2023, 12 noon
at St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham
followed by light refreshments

To let us know you are coming (by 17th April) visit:
www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Holy Week begins with the celebration of the festive entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on **Palm Sunday**. This is either in the form of a Procession or entrance with blessing of palms at Mass. The rest of the Mass on Palm Sunday becomes more solemn as it commemorates the Passion of the Lord, with the reading of the Passion narrative, this year from St Matthew's Gospel.

The three minor days of Holy Week are an opportunity to pray and prepare for the latter part of the week. These are good days for personal reading of the Passion, attending the devotions or Mass in church, and going to Confession.

The **Easter Triduum** (meaning three days) begins on the evening of **Maundy Thursday** with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. At this Mass we remember how Jesus washed his disciples' feet, how he instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist and the Priesthood, and then began the drama of his Passion in the Garden of Gethsemane. We are invited to spend time with him in the Garden as we keep watch at the Altar of Repose.

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. It may be a Bank Holiday but it is **not** a day for celebrations. It is the most solemn day on which we remember and re-enact the Passion of the Lord in the great Liturgy which begins at 3pm, the hour when Jesus died.

On **Holy Saturday** we remain in silence and are invited to keep the fast going if we are able. After the sun sets, we gather for the Solemn Vigil Mass of Easter. The fire is lit, and the new Paschal Candle consecrated and lit from the fire, representing Christ risen from the dead. The Easter proclamation is sung. We hear readings which tell of the promises made in the Old Testament and their fulfilment in the New. We welcome adults into the church through baptism or reception into full communion. Finally, we celebrate the first Mass of Easter. On **Easter Sunday** we continue the baptism theme, with the renewal of our baptism promises.