

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMASTIDE

SUNDAY 3RD JANUARY 2021

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



A Happy and Blessed New Year to you all! I know we are all praying that it will be better than last year. However, I think we are going through the mill a little before things improve. At least we are able to have Mass publicly, and come to church to pray, if we feel confident in doing so.

Today is the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. It is replaced, as it falls on Sunday, by the Second Sunday after Christmas. This is the

first time that we have kept this Sunday, with its particular liturgy, for many years, as we now celebrate the Epiphany on 6th January again, rather than transferring it to Sunday.

The Name of Jesus is all powerful, as well as being an expression of our intimate friendship with the Lord. Let us make honouring and calling on the name of Jesus our special New Year resolution this year! Specifically we should **ensure that we never use**

the name of Jesus in vain. All too often it becomes a swear word even on the lips of believers. Let's get rid of this ugly practice. It is also a good reminder of the holiness of the name by **bowing our head when we pronounce the name of Jesus**, especially in our prayers. But most of all, let us **call of the name of Jesus frequently.** Just saying the name is a prayer calling on the Lord in itself. Let it be on our lips every day, and especially in our troubles.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



St Manuel González García, 1877-1940

St Manuel was born in Seville and went to seminary aged 12. He said, "If I were born a thousand times, a thousand times I would be a priest". Doctor of Theology and Canon Law, he was ordained in 1901. He dedicated himself to promoting Eucharistic devotion, asking the laity to

accompany Jesus who was abandoned in the tabernacle. Appointed as parish priest in Huelva, he set about improving education for the poor, and helped to provide food to families during a strike. He became Bishop of Málaga in 1920, and Bishop of Palencia in 1935. Here he founded an order of Eucharistic missionaries. He died in 1940.

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: 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

YouTube Channel

<https://tinyurl.com/wqtqx76>

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

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Kidsgrove	Packmoor	The Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions) St Joseph's Sat 6pm (<i>Main porch</i>) English Martyrs' Sun 9.40am (<i>Side chapel</i>)	
Saturday 2nd		6.30pm			Holy Mass of Sunday	Kath Bailey
Sunday 3rd Second Sunday of Christmastide (B) <i>Holy Name of Jesus</i>	9.00am 10.00am	11.00am			Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Dec of Aston & Burton families Andrew Moruzzi Michael Maughan
Monday 4th <i>Feria (Votive of the Holy Name)</i>		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Heart to Heart	Peter Moran
Tuesday 5th <i>Feria</i>	9.15am 9.45am				Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	John, Julia & Bernard Biggane
Wednesday 6th THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	9.15am	6.00pm			Holy Mass Holy Mass	Beryl Wheeldon People of the Parishes
Thursday 7th <i>St Raymond of Penyafort</i>	6.00pm 6.30pm				Holy Mass Heart to Heart	Eileen Marrow
Friday 8th <i>Feria</i>		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Esther & Joseph Phillips
Saturday 9th <i>Feria</i>	9.15am	6.30pm			Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	People of the Parishes John Martin
Sunday 10th Baptism of the Lord (B) <i>Last Day of the Christmas season</i>	9.00am 10.00am	11.00am			Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Winnie & Geoff Hulson Eileen Marrow Peter Moran
Monday 11th <i>Feria Ordinary Time Week 1</i>		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Heart to Heart	Arthur & Sarah Holmes
Tuesday 12th <i>St Aelred of Rievaulx</i>	9.15am 9.45am				Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Margaret, Jimmy & Tony Casey
Wednesday 13th <i>St Hilary of Poitiers</i>		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Ann Munchenberg
Thursday 14th <i>Feria</i>	6.00pm 6.30pm				Holy Mass Heart to Heart	Phillip Riley
Friday 15th <i>Feria</i>		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Int Bill & Barbara Edwards
Saturday 16th <i>Our Lady</i>	9.15am	6.30pm			Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Mary Millington Bridget Culhane
Sunday 17th Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)	9.00am 10.00am	11.00am			Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Joe Flatley John Clewlow John & Mary Moran & Dec of Moran family

THE YEAR AHEAD

Here are a few dates for your diary, that we can look forward to, in hope of better times ahead, and the ability to kick start our parish life again!

Sun 14th Feb—Invitation to start the 33 day consecration to St Joseph

Weds 10th to 18th Mar—Solemn Novena to St Joseph

Tues 13th July—Fr Julian's Silver Jubilee Mass and Parish celebration

Sun 25th July—Partnership of Parishes BBQ

Sat 23rd to Sat 30th Oct—Walking Camino Pilgrimage to Santiago

CAMINO NEWS

Fr Julian is hoping to take up the Camino again. The last section will be in October. This year is a Holy Year in Santiago, as the feast day of St James falls on a Sunday, and the Holy Door of the Cathedral is now open. However, our Holy Father has agreed to the request of the Cathedral Chapter to make this a super-Holy Year, which will last two years. The Cathedral has reopened after the extensive restoration, which kept it closed for two years. If you would like to see what it now looks like, have a look on YouTube at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/y9abv2hk> (click in the digital version online)

FIRST FRIDAYS

In this day and age, arranging times for confessions is hard, especially for a lone priest with several churches! The easiest times (before or after Sunday Mass) are also inconvenient because of other things going on. We Catholics need to get back to the practice of confession. So, from February, there will be a monthly opportunity on First Fridays. We will have Mass, Holy Hour, and Confessions every First Friday of the month, in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It will be at St Joseph's church, with Mass at 6pm, followed by Holy Hour and confessions with visiting priests.

HEART TO HEART



Heart to Heart is our time of directed prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at St Joseph's and English Martyrs'.

St Joseph's on Mondays at 6.30pm
English Martyrs' on Thursdays at 6.30pm

Why not come along to either evening and meet the Lord Heart to heart?

Heart to Heart is about 45 minutes

SACRAMENTS & LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

Baptisms Baptisms can take place but only 6 people can attend, not including the priest.

Weddings Weddings are limited to 6 people in tier 4.

Funerals Funerals, including Requiem Masses, can still take place in church. The number attending funerals is still limited to 30, not including the priest, stewards and funeral directors' staff. The number attending auxiliary acts, such as Reception into church and burial of ashes, is 6.

First Holy Communions We had some First Holy Communions in December. There will be further celebrations of First Holy Communion during Sunday Mass in the New Year.

Confirmation The Confirmations which were scheduled to take place in March, and then rescheduled for November, but which haven't yet taken place will be rearranged in the New Year.

Last Sacraments The so-called Last Sacraments—Absolution, Anointing, Viaticum, and Final Commendation—can always take place, and people should not hesitate to call a priest in good time before the death of a loved one. In the case of sudden death, you can also always call a priest to come to pray for the dead.

SUPPORT OUR FOODBANK

Please support Stoke-on-Trent foodbank with your donations this Advent. Please bring your food items, toiletries and cleaning products to English Martyrs' or St Joseph's. Don't forget, food needs to be long life, dried, tinned or packaged, and within date! No fresh food please! Remember how many people are being affected adversely by the Coronavirus crisis, those who have lost their jobs or income. We anticipate a lot of demand for our foodbank this Christmas. Please be generous with your donations.

Please join us once again this year in supporting Mary's Meals with our crib offerings. We have pledged, over the past six years, to support Toleza school in Malawi and to pay for their Mary's Meals. Mary's Meals is a wonderful charity which supports children and families in the developing world. It raises money to be able to feed children in a place of education. They are given an enriched porridge which gives them the nutrition that they need. They also benefit from schooling which, otherwise, they might not receive. Over 1.4 million children receive a Mary's Meal every school day in 18 different countries.

It costs a mere £15.90 to feed a child for a whole year. We appeal to our parishioners' generosity each year to raise the £6000 that it costs to feed all the children in Toleza school for the whole year. Please be generous in sponsoring at least one child's Mary's Meals for the coming year.



Parish Office & Parish Priest's Open House

Teresa will be in the office on Monday and Tuesday this week. After that she is back in on Monday 4th January. **There is no access to the parish office or presbytery for parishioners for present.** If you need to see Teresa, then you will have to speak through the office window or in the porch.

If you need to see Fr Julian in person, then please arrange by phoning or emailing. Meetings can be held socially distanced in church. Most consultations can also be done by phone.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

Dedications for w/b 3rd January:

English Martyrs': Special Int (MM)
St Joseph's: Kevin Potts; Pat Dodds
The sanctuary lamps at St John's & St Patrick's are no longer lit, as the Blessed Sacrament has been removed from the tabernacle in each of these churches.

Dedications for w/b 10th January:

St Joseph's: Bob Watts; John & Mary Leese

To dedicate a lamp please put your donation (minimum £5) in an envelope marked 'sanctuary lamp' and preferred church. Place in collection basket.

Goldenhill and Kidsgrove 200 Club Annual Draw Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the annual end of year draw:

1st Prize (£1000) Norma Bailey (30)
2nd Prize (£500) Ken Holmes (14)
3rd Prize (£250) Bernadette McGough (64)

This week we begin the new year of the draw which runs now from January to December. Because there are fewer people now in the 200 Club, we have amended the prizes so that just over 50 per cent is given in prizes. The annual prizes remain the same. However, there will be only two weekly prizes (£20 and £10) and the monthly prizes will now be £50, and two prizes of £25.

Subscriptions are now due: annual is £52; quarterly is £13. For those who pay monthly the amount is £5 this month.

Hospital If you know someone in hospital, ask the nurses to call the Chaplain on call. This is the best way of notifying the Catholic chaplain. Otherwise, please call the chaplaincy on 01782 676400, and specify that it is the Catholic chaplain you want. If you have any problems in getting in touch, or know someone in another hospital, please contact Fr Julian.

PARISH REGISTERS

Deaths

Of your charity please pray for the soul of John Hooper. Funeral service & Committal at Bradwell Crematorium will be on Friday 8th January at 2.40pm.

And also for the soul of Doreen Clare. Requiem Mass will be offered for the repose of her soul on Monday 18th January at 1.30pm followed by committal at Bradwell crematorium.

Requiescant in pace

The numbers of people who can attend a funeral is limited by law to 30. Please do not turn up to a funeral without asking family first. If you wish to make contact with a family to see if you can attend a funeral please make contact through the Funeral Director rather than the parish.

VOLUNTEERS

We always need new volunteers for church opening, cleaning and stewarding. If you want to volunteer, there is now no age restriction. We just ask that you be in good or reasonable health. Please see Fr Julian if you can help.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Baptism of the Lord: Mark 1:7-11

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said: 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time: John 1:35-42

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

KEY VERSE: "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you"

TO KNOW: The baptism of Jesus is another "epiphany," or divine manifestation. Christian baptism is very different from Jewish ritual washings or cleansings, which were self-administered and could be repeated many times. Christian baptism is administered by another person and happens only once in a lifetime. At the heart of Christian baptism is dying to one way of living and then rising to a whole new way of life. In baptism, the elect are plunged into the death and resurrection of Christ. By submitting to baptism Jesus embraced our full humanity. God's beloved Son sanctified the foul waters of our sinfulness by his divine presence. Just as God's favour rested on Jesus, all God's children are beloved sons and daughters.

TO LOVE: Do I understand my own baptismal promises so I can practice them in my daily life?

TO SERVE: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, fill me with grace to do your work here on earth.