

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER)

SUNDAY 16TH APRIL 2023

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
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fr.julian.green@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Secretary

Teresa Harding
Tel: (01782) 782121
Email:
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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

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Today is the Sunday with more names than any other! This day is usually known, in our country, as Low Sunday, but it can also be called the Second Sunday of Easter, Quasimodo Sunday, the Sunday in albis. However, since the Pontificate of Pope St John Paul II, this Sunday is the called Divine Mercy Sunday. As a great promoter of the spiritual testament of St Faustina, St John Paul wanted the whole Church to celebrate this feast day, revealed to St Faustina in her visions of the Divine Mercy. The Divine Mercy picture reminds us of the link to the Cross. Jesus reveals his Heart which was opened to us on the Cross. And from that Heart flows a love which is both human and divine (represented by the red and white light).



Today we welcome our mission priest, Fr Remy, from the Spiritans. He is celebrating all the Masses here, while I am in the parish of Our Lady, Help of Christians in Luton. I will be preaching about the Divine Mercy and promoting the Prayer & Life Workshops which I am going to be giving in that parish starting next week. Please pray that the parishioners respond well to the invitation to take part in the workshops.

During the week I am going to be on my annual retreat at Stonyhurst in Lancashire. However, I will come away from the retreat to be able to celebrate Bishop McGough's Requiem Mass at Tunstall on Wednesday night. I hope that many parishioners will also be able to be there.

Those from St John's have been asking about the water leak, and when it will be fixed. We now have a contractor who is going to do the work in the first week of May. So, it's a relief to get that job done!

Thanks to all who helped make the Easter Triduum a marvellous celebration. Thanks to all of you for your generosity in supporting me through the Easter offering, and for your cards and best wishes.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



St Robert de Turlande 1000-1067

St Robert's mother gave birth to him while in a forest, and many expected this was sign that he would be a hermit. After his education, Robert was ordained priest of the church of Brioude in France. It was there that he founded a hospice for the poor of the region. He later felt the

call to become a monk, which he did at Cluny. He and two companions decided to seek the combination of a contemplative life and service of the poor, and moved to Auvergne, where they restored 50 churches, and constructed a new Benedictine house at a place he called Chaise Dieu (the Seat of God), where he eventually died.

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Kidsgrove	Packmoor	Confessions from next week St Joseph's Sat 6pm; Sun 10.30am English Martyrs' Sun 8.30am St Patrick's Sun before Mass on request	
Saturday 15th		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
Monday 17th Feria of Easter		9.30am			Holy Mass	Holy Souls
Tuesday 18th Feria of Easter				2.15pm	Holy Rosary	
Wednesday 19th Feria of Easter						
Thursday 20th Feria of Easter						
Friday 21st St Anselm						
Saturday 22nd Feria of Easter		6.30pm			Holy Mass of Sunday	Andrew Maguire
Sunday 23rd Third Sunday of Easter	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Marie Reilly Michael & Maureen Meaney & family People of the Parishes
Monday 24th ST GEORGE	11.45am	6.00pm			Funeral Service Holy Mass	Brenda Dale RIP Special Intention
Tuesday 25th St Mark	9.15am				Holy Mass	Bishop David McGough
Wednesday 26th Feria of Easter		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Reception into church	Special Intention Malachy Doherty RIP
Thursday 27th Feria of Easter		9.30am 12noon			Holy Mass (in School) Requiem Mass	Holy Souls Malachy Doherty RIP
Friday 28th St Louis de Montfort		9.30am			Holy Mass	Bernard Cunningham
Saturday 29th St Catherine of Siena		6.30pm			Holy Mass of Sunday	Joan & Peter Jackson & Kath Bailey
Sunday 30th Fourth Sunday of Easter <i>Good Shepherd Sunday</i>	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	George & Barbara Connell & Karol Groluk Geoff Lovatt People of the Parishes

Bishop David McGough The funeral of Bishop McGough takes place this week. His body will be received into Church at Sacred Heart, Tunstall, on Wednesday 19th April at 6pm followed by a Requiem Mass. Everyone is invited to attend. The Funeral Mass, celebrated by His Grace the Archbishop, will be at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, on Thursday 20th April at 12noon. Please remember the family in your prayers and pray for the repose of the soul of Bishop McGough. There will be a parish Requiem Mass in the coming weeks.

Lenten Alms Charities The amount donated for the Holy Places on Palm Sunday was £381.70. We have received a letter from the Sisters in Hanley thanking us for the collection which amounted to £1000. They have used it for the ongoing cost of food to feed the people who come to the Compassion Kitchen, as well as to give the homeless an Easter treat. It was great to be able to support the Sisters in their work.

Thanks to C McGough & Sons Funeral Directors who provided the beautiful floral displays for Easter at St Joseph's this year.

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), please call Julie on 07791 759713

Lawton Rise Service The planned service for April is being postponed. Watch out for future dates which will be published here.

Welcoming Places Goldenhill Welcoming Place at St Joseph's Academy Goldenhill resumes on 18th April 10am to 1pm at St Joseph's Academy. Why not drop in for tea, coffee and a chat?

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](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk) 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.

Biddulph 125 Club Firstly, many thanks for those who support our 125 Club, and to Mary, Gloria, Vincent and Sheila who have worked hard to make it such a success over the years. The 125 Club has supported the parish during the years of paying for the extension and renewal of the Church in 2000, and for the work around the Consecration in 2016. There is always work to do, and we are looking to support the parish in developing the 'wilderness' to the side of the Church, replacing the pathway, and possibly putting gates and railings in front of the Church. Beth Wilson is taking over the running of the Club. However, working full time means a few changes to reduce the workload are necessary. From now on the draw will take place monthly on the first Sunday of the month. The monthly subs are £5 per number. As 50 per cent of the proceeds have to go in prizes, the prizes will be as follows: 1st Prize: 25% of subs; 2nd Prize: 16.6% of subs; 3rd Prize: 8.3% of subs. Wherever possible a standing order, or bank transfer, is the best way of dealing with this but, if not possible, cheques or cash can be given. We have numbers available so please see Beth if you want to start taking part!

Reaching North Staffs is an charitable organisation working in the whole North Staffs area to support vulnerable and disabled adults with issues such as mental health, housing

DIOCESAN VISION: UNFOLDING GOD'S PLAN

The clergy of the Deanery have asked the Area Pastoral Council to organise three meetings so that parishioners from across the parishes of North Staffs can get together to discuss the Diocesan Vision and its implications for our Parishes. Everyone is invited to these three sessions:

Wednesday 26th April "Reflect with me on our Diocesan Vision"

Wednesday 31st May "Make a powerful change"

Wednesday 28th June "My commitment and prayer"

All the sessions take place at St Teresa's Church, Trent Vale, beginning at 7pm and finishing at 8.30pm. The views from your Parish are important to us and to the future of our Church.

needs and social isolation. If you or anyone you know needs help, or you would like to help, then please go to the website www.reaching.org.uk for more information.

Situations Vacant: Choral Directors The Archdiocese is seeking up to five enthusiastic Choral Directors to work with the Programme Director to implement the National Schools Singing Programme within the Archdiocese. Suitable for new graduates, with a September start. Choral Directors will receive in-service training, both on starting and as continuing personal development. Each Choral Director will work in around 10-12 schools. They will be responsible for the development of choral singing in those schools, nurturing the potential of our children in the communities where they are located. The core work of a Choral Director takes place during the school day in diocesan primary schools. In addition, children will be encouraged to take part in after-school choirs led by Choral Directors, which will participate in parish worship and in Diocesan and Deanery events. For more information please visit the Diocesan website <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs>

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Welcome to the family of the Church to Alexandre Montero Redo and to Sophie Alexandra Victoria Baker who were baptised, confirmed and received Holy Communion for the first time at the Easter Vigil on 8th April at St Joseph's.

And also to Frederick Harris Baker, baptised on 9th April at St Joseph's.

Receptions into the Church

Welcome to the fulness of Communion with the Catholic Church to Laura Jane Edwards, Jennifer Eardley and Toni Leese, who were received into the Church, confirmed and received Holy Communion for the first time at the Easter Vigil on 8th April at St Joseph's.

Deaths

Of your charity please pray for the soul of Brenda Dale. Funeral Service at English Martyrs' on Monday 24th April at 11.45am followed by burial at Carmountside cemetery.

And also for the soul of Malachy Doherty. Reception into Church on Wednesday 26th April at St Joseph's at 6.30pm. Requiem Mass on Thursday 27th April at 12noon at St Joseph's, followed by burial at Tunstall cemetery.

And also for the soul of Clara Jane Waters. Funeral and committal at

Carmountside Crematorium on Friday 28th April.

And also for the soul of John Woodall. Funeral Service at St Joseph's on Thursday 4th May at 11.30am followed by burial at Tunstall cemetery.

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 The next Open House to see Fr Julian is on Monday 24th April at 6.30pm. Because of Bank Holidays and Fr Julian's personal holiday, the only Open House in May will be on Monday 22nd May.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

Week beginning 16th April:

St Joseph's: Leese & Potts families

Week beginning 23rd April:

English Martyrs': Cecil Aston

St Joseph's: Moss & Keenan families

St John's: John Martin

St Patrick's: Clare Guest intentions

To dedicate a lamp, please place min donation of £5 in an envelope with preferred church and intention written on the front, and put into the collection or hand to a steward.

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



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Today is a day of great grace! Divine Mercy Sunday is the day to focus on the love of the Heart of Jesus, which brings mercy to a sinful world. How much the world is in need of the Mercy of God! Following the revelations to St Faustina, we are invited to contemplate the picture of the Divine Mercy and to echo the simple words: "Jesus, I trust in you". We can also pray the Divine Mercy chaplet, using the normal Rosary beads. On the three introductory beads we say: "In the name of the Father...", Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostles' Creed. Then on the five decades we say the following prayers:

On the large bead: Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the ten smaller beads: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

At the end of the five decades: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (3 times)

The hour of mercy is three o'clock in the afternoon, the time when Jesus gave up his spirit on the Cross, and his side was pierced with a lance, revealing the Heart which flows with love, mercy and compassion for all mankind.