

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 14TH JANUARY 2018

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



I don't know about you, but Christmas seems like a really long time ago already. I think that it was a good celebration of Christmas, in spite of the fact that I had a Mass marathon, with Christmas arriving before the Fourth Sunday of Advent had even finished! We saw more people come to Mass this year, compared to last year. St Joseph's and English Martyrs' were pretty full, and more people were at the

morning Mass at St John's. I was also particularly pleased and heartened by the number of people, particularly those who are not regular attenders, who came to our Christmas carol service. More informal services can never replace Mass, which is always the high point of our Church's life. However, it does reach out to and meet people where they are and encourage them in faith. I'm looking forward to

planning further more informal services to draw people into our churches during Lent. If you have an idea about what sort of thing would be attractive, I'd love to hear from you.

Today, we are beginning a new Alpha series at St Joseph's. I cannot encourage you strongly enough to take part in Alpha if you haven't done so already. It has the power to really bring anyone to a new relationship with the Lord.

Over the course of this year, we will also be looking at how we can all grow closer to the Lord in prayer. St John Paul II invited us, at the beginning of the new millennium, for parishes to be renewed in prayer. It is prayer which transforms us from Mass centres into real parishes. Again: ideas please!

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

Youth Pastor

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

St Arnold Janssen 1837-1909



The Society of the Divine Word, or Divine Word Missionaries, were founded by St Arnold Janssen. He was a priest of Munster Diocese in Germany, and was devoted to the Sacred Heart. He realised the need for the Church in Germany to become more missionary. He lived in

difficult times for the Church, as it was oppressed by Bismarck's regime. But, he wrote, "The Lord challenges us to do something new, precisely when things are collapsing in the Church." He also founded the Servants of the Holy Spirit, an order for women religious. His missionary order has reached 63 countries.

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 6pm	
			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	Julius & Iris Kaminskas
Sunday 14th Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)	9.00am 1.00pm	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Baptism Holy Mass	Michael Flatley Sarah & Arthur Holmes Tony Jervis
Monday 15th Feria		6.00pm	2.15pm		Holy Mass (in school) Holy Mass	People of the Parishes Constance Foden
Tuesday 16th Feria	8.30am 9.15am	6.00pm	9.30am	2.15pm	Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass Morning Prayer Holy Rosary Holy Mass	Mrs PM Whelan Fred Hewitt (SVP)
Wednesday 17th St Antony, Abbot			10.30am		Requiem Mass	Margaret Coates RIP
Thursday 18th Feria	6.00pm				Holy Mass	Bridget & Adrian Drew
Friday 19th Ss Oswald & Wulstan			9.30am	6.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Holy Souls Vincent & Veronica Farrell
Saturday 20th Our Lady	9.15am		6.30pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Thanksgiving (Ss Rita & Anthony) Maureen Boggins
Sunday 21st Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)	9.00am 3.00pm	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Vespers Holy Mass	Frederick & Margaret Painter Frank Smithson Barbara Heath

Parish Priest's Open House

The next Parish Priest's Open House, when Fr Julian can be seen, is available to be seen, is on Monday 15th January from **6.30 to 7.30pm** at St Joseph's Presbytery. There will be an open house most Mondays at the same time. Please call to confirm on the day to ensure that the open house is on.

Sanctuary Lamps

This week the lamps are dedicated for:

St John's: Yvonne Gately; Margaret Coates; Special Intention (JM)
St Joseph's: Kenneth Jones

If you would like to dedicate the sanctuary lamps at our churches for an intention, please see Fr Julian. Minimum donation £5.

Baptisms

Baptisms can no longer be booked simply by turning up to the Open House. The first approach to Fr Julian must be at Sunday Mass. The level of openness to following Christ actively has to be the basis on which a decision is made concerning the baptism of children, and this includes participation in the life of the Church



UNITED in PRAYER

Tues 23rd & 24th of Jan

Starting with a United Prayer meeting on the 23rd – then on the 24th
St Lawrence's Church will be open for the people of Biddulph to come together
to pray together through special events and open space.

Tues the 23rd: 7.30-9pm

– United prayer meeting (with worship)

Wed the 24th:

8-9am – Prayer for the workplace

(Bacon butties provided for commuters)

9– 10am - Open prayer

10-11.30 am – Prayer retreat

(an Act of worship soaked with prayer)

11:30am -9.00pm – Open prayer

“Each of the Churches has prepared a prayer station to help lead you in praying for Gods Kingdom to come in ourselves, in our community, in our nation and in our world.”

“So please come along... come to the ‘Open’ prayer times to join with others to pray and intercede and come to the special events that we might be united as Jesus himself prayed we would be!”

Welcome Ministry at St John's

Our Welcome Ministry team will be meeting with Fr Julian on Wednesday evening this week at St John's. The meeting will be one hour and begins at 7pm. Everyone involved is warmly invited to come. Any new helpers—please come along too.

Parish Mission We had our first meeting to prepare for the Parish Mission last week. It is really exciting that we will be having a parish mission at St Joseph's, led by the Franciscans of the Renewal, 19th to 24th May 2018. The first meeting was simply about setting the scene, and encouraging those who came to get ideas about how we can reach people to invite them. We need everyone on board with prayer and with work to make the Mission a success. So please come to the next meeting which will be on Wednesday 14th February at 7.30pm.

Men's disciple group Our men's group are currently doing a short course of the Eucharist and the Bible. More men are always welcome to come along and be part of the group. Our next session is on Friday 16th February at 7pm at St Joseph's.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity This year we welcome Rev Lindsay Clowes to preach at Vespers at 3pm on Sunday 21st January at English Martyrs'. After Vespers we

will have afternoon tea in the meeting room, so please come and bring goodies for the tea.

Biddulph United in Prayer

Please see the advert above for an outline of Biddulph Churches Together's united prayer event. We have been asked to provide a 'prayer station', that is a display which draws attention to a certain aspect of prayer or church life to pray for. We need a volunteers to take on designing and setting up the prayer station. Please see Fr Julian today if you are willing to help with this.

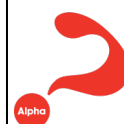
Donation of Toiletries Thank you to all the parishioners for their generous donation of toiletries to the foodbank. We are continually supplying these items to people in need, so please, keep them coming!

North Staffs deanery Vocations

Friendship Club The next Friendship Club for older people will be on Tuesday 30th January, at the usual time of 2pm at Kidsgrove town Hall. If you need transport please contact Matt Ford on 07587034299.

Care Home Prayer Service The prayer service this month will be at Ravenswood, The Avenue, Kidsgrove on Tuesday 23rd January at 11am. Any parishioner wishing to join the residents for the service will be most welcome.

ALPHA



This Sunday we are beginning our new Alpha series. We want to invite all regular parishioners, as well as everyone else around our parishes, to take this opportunity to come to Alpha. Our sessions start on Sunday afternoon at 3pm, and finish at 4.45pm. Afternoon tea, video presentation and discussion are what are involved. Friendship and welcome are included too. We look forward to seeing you!

Youth Alpha We are also going to be offering Youth Alpha at St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy on Monday afternoons in the New Year, beginning on 22nd January at 4pm. It is aimed at sixth form and the upper end of the school. If you are willing to be a helper on this then please let Jonny Leybourne or Fr Julian know.

Please pray for our Alpha initiative and for those who take part.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Welcome to the family of the Church to Aaron James Hickman who is being baptised today at English Martyrs' Church.

Deaths

Of your charity please pray for the soul of Margaret Coates. Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul will be offered at St John's on Wednesday 17th January at 10.30am followed by committal at Tunstall cemetery.

Also for the soul of Doreen Wickstead. Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul will be offered at English Martyrs' on Tuesday 23rd January at 11.15am followed by cremation at Bradwell.

Requiescant in Pace.

FUNDRAISING

Collections

17/12/17: Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £401.00, Non Gift Aid £191.29. Total £592.29. **Gold-**

enhill Gift Aid £286.00, Non Gift Aid £183.11. Total £469.11.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £228.00, Non Gift Aid £147.14. Total £375.14.

24/12/17: Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £415.00, Non Gift Aid £195.70. Total £610.70. **Gold-**

enhill Gift Aid £210.00, Non Gift Aid £134.87. Total £344.87. **Kidsgrove** Gift Aid £213.00, Non Gift Aid £158.40. Total £371.40.

31/12/17: Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £354.00, Non Gift Aid £202.59. Total £556.59. **Gold-**

enhill Gift Aid £294.00, Non Gift Aid £223.70. Total £517.70. **Kidsgrove** Gift Aid £205.00, Non Gift Aid £154.35. Total £359.35.

07/01/18: Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £360.00, Non Gift Aid £185.02. Total £545.02. **Gold-**

enhill Gift Aid £198.00, Non Gift Aid £256.58. Total £454.58.

Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200 Club Draw 07/01/18: 1st Prize £20, No.170 J Marks; 2nd Prize £10, No.181 T Phillips; 3rd Prize £5, No.40 B McGough. **14/01/18** 1st Prize £20, No.10 R Bennison; 2nd Prize £10, No.129 S Hill; 3rd Prize £5, No.131 E Bettany.

St Joseph's SVP There are still some unclaimed prizes from the SVP raffle. The numbers are 161-165 (Blue), 21-25 (Green), 56-60 (Blue). Please check your tickets.

DEANERY & BEYOND

Vocations Mass Everyone is invited to come to the annual Deanery Vocations Mass. It is going to be at St Giles' church in Cheadle on Tuesday 6th February at 7pm. The celebrant and preacher is Fr Michael Dolman, the Diocesan Vocations Director.

Deputy Head Teacher St Thomas More Catholic Academy in Longton are seeking to appoint a Deputy Head Teacher for September 2018. Applications close on Friday 26th January. Please see the school website for more info www.stmca.org.uk

Parish Mission in Clayton We have all been invited to be part of the Parish Mission which is going to be happening in Our Lady & St Wer-

APF Red Boxes Thanks from the APF to all our box holders in our parishes. Over the year £1800 was raised for the missions in Biddulph & Packmoor and £977 in Goldenhill.

burgh's Parish in Clayton from 27th January to 11th February. The Sion Community are leading the Mission. The second week of the Mission is when the main mission services take place. Each evening the service will begin at 7.30pm. For more details please go to the parish website www.ourladyandstwerburgh.org.uk or call 01782 613023.

Chalice Programme The North Staffs Vocations Group are launching a two year programme focussing on prayer for vocations. Each parish will be assigned a month when we receive a wooden chalice as a focus of prayer. We will receive the chalice in Biddulph in May 2018, Goldenhill in February 2019 and in Kidsgrove in January 2020.

Our Lady of Grace Partnership Safeguarding Team

Each of our churches has a dedicated safeguarding representative, though all of our reps meet and work together alongside the Parish Priest. If you have a concern about the welfare or safety of a child or vulnerable adult during a parish event or activity, please contact one of the safeguarding reps, or alternatively contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Office on cpo@rc-birmingham.org or call 0121 230 6240. Our reps in each church are:

English Martyrs: Mary Lomas

St John's: Brenda McGough

St Joseph's: Suzanne Meakin

St Patrick's: Peter Whitehouse

Their contact details are available on the noticeboard. If you are ever concerned for the immediate safety of a child or vulnerable adult please call the police.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Mark 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him. Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

Preparing the Gospel

Next Sunday, we return to St Mark's Gospel. The mention of John the Baptist's arrest signals that the reign of God would not be established without sacrifice and that following Jesus could be dangerous. Then the gospel recounts two stories of calls to discipleship. First, Jesus calls Simon and his brother Andrew. A little later Jesus calls James and his brother John. All four immediately leave what they are doing to follow Jesus. Both stories were used in the early church to convey the radical and wholehearted response that is necessary in order to become a disciple of Jesus. Nothing on earth, not family ties or earning a living should be allowed to get in the way of one's relationship with Christ. The call of Jesus leads to a total conversion of one's heart and life. Then the gospel states that discipleship leads to mission: "Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." They were called to become disciples and make disciples. So it is with us: we are called to radical conversion to Christ and called to lead others to Christ.