

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

# SUNDAY BULLETIN

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 20TH JANUARY 2019

## A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



In today's Sunday liturgy, we hear the Gospel of the Wedding at Cana. This is the third of the three great Mysteries which is celebrated at Epiphany. So, although we are now in Ordinary Time, and the vestments are back to green, we are continuing the celebration of Epiphany, for it is in the ordinary and every-day that God reveals Jesus present to us.

It is significant that Jesus chose to work his first miracle, at his blessed Mother's

request, at a wedding. Jesus chose the place where man is given to woman in marriage as the place where he

wanted to be present with his grace. It is true of family life where that life is consecrated by the Sacrament of Marriage that Jesus comes to be present and works his graces. He takes what we have to offer (like water), and creates of it something more rich and beautiful (like good wine).

It is true also of our parish life. I believe that Jesus wants to come and be present with us and to work among us, bringing new graces. But it means we

have to have the faith enough to bring him what we have to offer, with generosity, and be prepared for him to transform it. It means being challenged not to be content with what we can do, but to welcome Him who can do all things, for each of us, for our parish, for our families.

I want to ask you all if you will help to welcome the young people who will come on a mission trip to our parish from the USA in March. We need hosts who will accommodate pairs of young people during the week 10th to 16th March. We also need people who will prepare an evening meal for them each evening. Please see me if you can help, or contact Teresa in the parish office, and let's welcome them with joy!

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



### Bl Cyprian Tansi 1903-1964

Bl Cyprian was baptised Michael at the age of 10 in the Igbo region of Nigeria, and educated at the Holy Ghost Fathers' school. He was an altar boy and became a catechist. To the disgust of his family, he entered seminary and was ordained priest, aged 34. In his parish he worked

especially with young couples, and sought to eradicate pagan rituals and was practical in his teaching. Fr Michael found an attraction to monastic life, and after the Holy Year in 1950, he went to Mt St Bernard's Abbey in Leicestershire. He entered and lived a life of great humility and prayer. He was beatified by St John Paul II in 1998.

## 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

## KEY CONTACTS

### Parish Priest

Rev Fr Julian C Green  
St Joseph's Presbytery  
715 High Street  
Stoke-on-Trent  
ST6 5RD  
Tel: (01782) 782121  
Email: pp.partnershipparishes@gmail.com

### 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.

## 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](mailto:safeguarding@rc-birmingham.org)

## Website

[www.partnershipparishes.org](http://www.partnershipparishes.org)

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

## MASSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Kidsgrove	Packmoor	The <b>Sacrament of Forgiveness</b> (Confessions) <b>Kidsgrove</b> Sat 6pm <b>Biddulph</b> Sun 8.30am <b>Goldenhill</b> Sun 10.30am <b>Packmoor</b> Sun 6pm	
<b>Saturday 19th</b>			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	Julius & Iris Kaminskas
<b>Sunday 20th</b> <b>Second Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Maryanne Phelan Frank Smithson Special Intention (VM)
<b>Monday 21st</b> St Agnes		6.00pm	9.30am 10.00am		Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass	Ellen & George McHugh  Holy Souls
<b>Tuesday 22nd</b> Feria Mass Christian Unity	9.15am  8.00pm	11.00am	9.30am	2.15pm	Holy Mass Morning Prayer Funeral Service Holy Rosary Prayer Group	Most abandoned souls in purgatory  Kathleen Cliff RIP
<b>Wednesday 23rd</b> Feria Mass Christian Unity		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Special Intention
<b>Thursday 24th</b> St Francis de Sales	6.00pm	9.30am			Holy Mass (in school) Holy Mass	Special Intention John A Lacey
<b>Friday 25th</b> <b>Conversion of S Paul</b>			9.30am	6.00pm	Holy Mass (in church) Holy Mass	People of the Parishes Sarah Baker
<b>Saturday 26th</b> Ss Timothy & Titus	9.15am		6.30pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Iris & Ken Thornton Maureen Biggins
<b>Sunday 27th</b> <b>Third Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	John Orme Int John Martin Sr Augustine

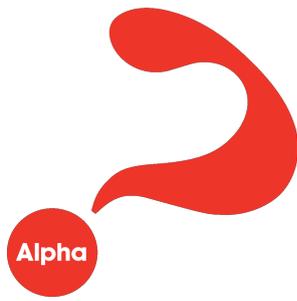


### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

**18th to 25th January**

Most people do not realise that the Week, or Octave, of Prayer for Christian Unity was, originally, a Catholic innovation. Fr Paul Wattson, founder of the Graymoor Franciscan Friars, came up with the idea of praying for the unity of all Christians in one visible Church by linking together the Feast of the Confession of St Peter (no longer in our calendar) on the 18th January with that of the Conversion of St Paul on 25th January. It came to be approved by the Popes, and eventually adopted by the World Council of Christian Churches, which includes Orthodox and Protestant churches too. It was spread through the work of

Fr Paul Couturier, a French priest from Lyon. It is the week in the year when we are called to ask God to bring about the unity of his followers such as Jesus prayed for at the Last Supper: 'That they may all be one.' It is a time to pray for the unity of our Catholic Church, made up of so many races, cultures and differences, that it may be at one. It is also a time to pray that we may not just work together, but find a true unity, with all other Christians.



Alpha is coming soon! We are starting a new series of Alpha meetings on Saturday mornings at 9am at St Joseph's Goldenhill beginning on 2nd February 2019. It will be 8 weeks long and we really look forward to seeing you there.

Alpha is for everyone—regular parishioners, not so regular parishioners, people who are simply interested in discussing the big life questions and hearing a message which is Good News. Each week we will have a good breakfast together, watch the video, and have a relaxed discussion about its contents. Is this your time for Alpha? Who are you going to bring?

**Alpha Helpers!**

We need a good group of people who have already done Alpha to come and be helpers. If you are willing to be a helper for this Alpha, please come to a meeting at St Joseph's on Friday 25th January at 7pm.

**Prayer Group**

The small group of people who met for our first prayer group loved it. The aim is to pray for the world, for our families, our parishes and all our needs. The prayer group is on Tuesday evenings, every other week so the next one will be on the 22nd January at 8pm and will take place at English Martyrs' in Biddulph. It is an hour long. Why not come along this week?

**Parish Priest's Open House**

If you need to see Fr Julian about anything, then come to the Open House session. The next Open House will be on Monday 4th February, 6.30pm to 7.30pm. There will be no Open House on 28th January.

**First Holy Communion**

First Holy Communion preparation is, from this year, going to be conducted in the parish, complemented by the work children do in school. *The only way for children to make their First Holy Communion is through taking part in the parish preparation.* All children should be in Year 4, and they should have made their First Confession in Year 3. If they have not yet made First Confession then parents will need to see Fr Julian to arrange for preparation for that Sacrament too.

Preparation has already begun at English Martyrs' Biddulph, and is on Sunday mornings after the Morning Mass. It is not too late to join—please see Fr Julian

Preparation for St Joseph's and St John's parishes will begin next month. Parents can sign up through school or by seeing Fr Julian. Preparation will be on Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm at St Joseph's.

**Men's Group**

Last year, a group of men from the parish followed a study on the Eucharist in the Bible, as a follow on to Alpha. We are inviting men from the partnership to come together this time doing a series called 'Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible' by Jeff Cavins. We had to cancel the first meeting of our Men's Group on Friday because of snow. So the first session will be Friday 1st February at 8pm at English Martyrs'. We will be meeting once every two or three weeks. All men, young and older, are welcome!

**Sanctuary Lamps**

*This week the lamps are dedicated for:*

- St John's: Margaret Boben (BC); Enid Carr (Friends at St John's); Winnie Maughan & Family
- St Joseph's: Mary Heath

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

**Care Home Prayer Services**



**Kidsgrove** The next prayer service will be at Ravenswood, The Avenue at 11am on Tuesday 22nd January.

**Biddulph** The prayer service for our Biddulph Churches Together group is on Sunday 10th February at Park Lane Care Home at 3pm.

*We welcome everyone to come and join us.*

**¡Camino!**

Following the great success of our October Camino to Santiago, we are planning TWO Caminos for the coming year. Are you going to come and make the pilgrim way?

**The English Camino**

For young men aged 18+, we will walk the Camino Inglés from Ferrol to Santiago. Wednesday 3rd to Wednesday 10th July 2019. Cost will be about £400. To book see Fr Julian with a £100 deposit.

**The Portuguese Camino**

For all parishioners, we take the pilgrim route from just inside Portugal, and walk to Santiago, Saturday 31st August to Saturday 7th September 2019. The distance is 118 km. Return flights from Manchester to Porto. Cost will be about £500. To secure a place, please let Fr Julian have £200 non-returnable deposit for the flights. **Just a few places left!**

**PARISH REGISTERS**

**Deaths**

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Kathleen Cliff. The funeral will be at St Joseph's on Tuesday 22nd January at 11.00am followed by committal at Bradwell crematorium.

And also for the soul of Mary (Enid) Carr. Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul will be offered at St John's on Friday 1st February at 10.15am followed by burial at Tunstall Cemetery.

*Requiescant in Pace*

## FUNDRAISING

### Collections

**Biddulph/Packmoor** Gift Aid £353.50, Non Gift Aid £184.00, Total £537.50. **Goldenhill** Gift Aid £228.00, Non Gift Aid £212.86, Total £440.86. **Kidsgrove** Gift Aid £199.00, Non Gift Aid £118.26, Total £317.26.

**Goldenhill and Kidsgrove 200 Club This weeks Draw:** 1st Prize £20, No.85 W Walley; 2nd Prize £10, No.143 L Wakefield; 3rd Prize £5, No.31 A Sproston.

### Biddulph & Packmoor 125 Club

The yearly (£51) and half yearly (£26) subs for the 125 club will be due on the 10th February. Please make cheques payable to 'English Martyrs' Church, Biddulph'. If you would like to subscribe to the 125 Club, for a chance to win a monthly or weekly prize, please contact Mary on 514829 or speak to Gloria or Vincent after Mass.

*Very many thanks to all our parishioners who have given a donation to our Christmas Crib Appel for Mary's Meals. We raised an amazing*

*£6,137 in cash donations (£30,633 since 2012)*

*To Mary's Meals, with Gift Aid and Matched Funding, that is worth £13,463 (£46,028 since 2012)*

## DEANERY & BEYOND

**Vocations Mass** St Teresa's parish, Trent Vale invites everyone to join them at a Mass to pray for vocations on Thursday 28th February at 7pm. Celebrant will be Fr Michael Glover.

### Celebrating Marriage Week

**2019** As part of the marriage week, 7th to 14th February, a Thanksgiving Mass will be held at St Chad's Cathedral on Sunday 3rd February at 11am. If you are celebrating a milestone marriage or are preparing for marriage and would like to attend the Thanksgiving Mass please contact Teresa in the parish office who will let the organisers know.

**Sharing Hope in Crisis** There will be a day for those who work to apply Catholic Social Teaching in crisis situations, and who serve the suffering. It will be taking place at Maryvale Institute on Saturday 16th March. No charge, donation only. Contact Paul Northam on 0121360 8118.

## DR 19

The Divine Renovation  
Conference 2019  
comes to Birmingham!

7th to 8th February  
Bethel Convention Centre  
Birmingham

*We have a group of parishioners attending this important conference. Are you going to come too, so as to help equip our Partnership of Parishes to meet the challenge to move from maintenance to mission.*

Fr James Mallon, together with priests and lay leaders from parishes using the Divine Renovation model, will share their stories, experience and wisdom through a range of keynotes, seminars and interviews, interspersed with prayer and worship.

Cost is £199 (£175 for early bookers). Enquiries and bookings to Fr Julian as soon as possible.

## NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

**Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21**

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received. Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him. He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

**KEY VERSE:** "This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen".

**TO KNOW:** Luke began the account of Jesus' public ministry with his proclamation in the synagogue in Nazareth. As Jesus' fame spread throughout the land, he was often called upon to read and comment on the scriptures. Any well instructed male member of the assembly could be called upon to read and interpret the scriptures. On one occasion, Jesus was given the scroll of the prophet Isaiah to read. The passage spoke of the restoration of Israel through the work of God's anointed one (the Messiah in Hebrew or Christos in Greek). Jesus announced that Isaiah's words applied to his own mission. He had been anointed by God's Spirit to announce a Jubilee year of God's favour, and to bring good news to the poor, the oppressed and afflicted. God had anointed him to bring liberation and salvation to all who believed the good news. The people were amazed by his teaching.

**TO LOVE:** Lord Jesus, anoint me with your Spirit to proclaim hope to the distressed.

**TO SERVE:** In what ways does my parish care for the poor and suffering?