

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

# SUNDAY BULLETIN

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 14TH MAY 2023

## A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



This week we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension on Thursday. The forty days since Easter remind us of the period of time when Jesus was very present to his disciples, as he appeared to them in bodily form. The Ascension has a very consoling dimension as we see the Lord glorified and enthroned at the right hand of the Father. However, for the disciples of Jesus, it was a moment of trial. Once again they were left without the physical presence of the Lord.

But this time, Jesus had given them the immense task of completing his mission by bringing the news of the Kingdom of God to all the world. They felt completely unprepared to fulfil this task, and so retired to the seclusion of the Upper Room once again.

We also, in our own day, have been given the same mission. We too, confronted with a world which seems to have turned against God, and does not want to hear about Him,

may feel completely helpless too. Even confronted with the reality of the loss of faith in our own families we often feel powerless to do anything other than by continuing our quiet example of faith in our own lives. And yet, we must have faith that the Holy Spirit is still as powerful today as ever He was.

We need to take note of what the apostles did, and copy them. It is to return to the intimacy of the Upper Room, accompanied as they were by Our Lady, and pray for the Holy Spirit to come to us in new and fresh ways. If we are faithful, God can still do wonderful things with us today, and bring his Church to new life, as He has in so many different ways throughout the history of the Church.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



**St Maria Dominic  
Mozzarello  
1837-1881**

St Maria Dominic was a religious sister who was a co-founder of the Daughters of Our Lady Help of Christians. She was born near Genoa, Italy, and joined a pious association of Mary Immaculate. She came under the influence of St John Bosco, who

then helped her to form the religious congregation. A bout of typhoid made this a difficult time for St Maria but she became the first superior general of the Salesian sisters, dedicated to the education of poor girls and supporting the educational work of St John Bosco. By 1900, there were almost 800 foundations of the sisters.

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

### Website

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

### Diocesan Website

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

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

	<b>Biddulph</b>	<b>Goldenhill</b>	<b>Kidsgrove</b>	<b>Packmoor</b>	<b>Confessions</b> <b>St Joseph's</b> Sat 6pm; Sun 10.30am <b>English Martyrs'</b> Sun 8.30am <b>St Patrick's</b> Sun before Mass on request	
<b>Saturday 13th</b>		6.30pm			Holy Mass of Sunday	Winefride & Leonard Atherton
<b>Sunday 14th</b> <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	John, Mary & Lynne Hunter Michael, Elizabeth & Deceased of the Murphy family Bishop David McGough
<b>Monday 15th</b> Feria of Easter						
<b>Tuesday 16th</b> Feria of Easter				2.15pm	Holy Rosary	
<b>Wednesday 17th</b> Feria of Easter ( <b>Vigil of the Ascension</b> )			2.15pm	6.30pm	Holy Mass of the Feast (In School) Holy Mass of the Feast	Private Intention Winifred Maughan
<b>Thursday 18th</b> <b>ASCENSION OF OUR LORD</b> <i>Holyday of Obligation</i>	11.00am	9.30am			Holy Mass Holy Mass	Bernard Cunningham Dec of Child family
<b>Friday 19th</b> Feria of Easter						
<b>Saturday 20th</b> Feria of Easter		6.30pm			Holy Mass of Sunday	Kath & Brian Wakefield
<b>Sunday 21st</b> <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mary Nixon Terry & Patricia Chappell People of the Parishes
<b>Monday 22nd</b> St Rita of Cascia		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Bernard Cunningham
<b>Tuesday 23rd</b> Feria of Easter	9.15am				Holy Mass of Our Lady of Grace	Nino Valgamigli
<b>Wednesday 24th</b> Feria of Easter						
<b>Thursday 25th</b> St Bede the Venerable	12noon	6.00pm			Holy Mass Heart to Heart	Holy Souls (HC)
<b>Friday 26th</b> St Philip Neri		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Holy Souls
<b>Saturday 27th</b> <b>St Augustine of Canterbury</b>			6.30pm		Vigil Mass of the Feast	Bishop David McGough
<b>Sunday 28th</b> <b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	McQuade family Kevin Potts People of the Parishes

## MAY, MONTH OF OUR LADY: PRAYING FOR MARY'S MEALS

For over ten years, our Partnership of Parishes has promoted the wonderful charity, Mary's Meals, and we have supported the charity with our Christmas crib offerings, sending thousands of pounds each year to help to feed children in a place of education in the developing world.

Money is good, but prayers are better! And so, Mary's Meals are asking that we dedicate Our Lady's month of May to praying for the work of the charity. So this is our time to be generous in time for prayer for Mary's Meals.

In our Partnership of Parishes we will:

Pray the Rosary for the intentions of Mary's Meals before each of the Saturday evening/Sunday Masses in each of our churches. (13th/14th May Luminous Mysteries; 20th/21st May Sorrowful Mysteries; 27th/28th May Glorious Mysteries.

Please remember to pray the Rosary on the day you have promised, so that we can create a chain of prayer throughout the month. If you did not commit yourself to a particular date, then please choose any day this month to offer a Rosary for Mary's Meals.

**Ascension Day** This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, and is a holy day of obligation. The Masses which fulfil the obligation in our partnership of parishes are: Wednesday 2.15pm Vigil Mass at St John's School, Gloucester Road; 6.30pm Vigil Mass at St Patrick's Church, Packmoor; Thursday 9.30am at St Joseph's Church, Goldenhill; 11am at English Martyrs' Church, Biddulph. Thanks to Fr Marco and Fr Kevin for coming to celebrate these Masses for us.

**St John's Church** The water supply saga goes on. We are hoping that the water supply will be restored to St John's next week, and we are antici-

pating we will be able to reopen the church for Saturday evening Mass on 27th May. There were plans in place to clean before the original reopening date, but we'll hopefully be able to give a time and day for cleaning at next week's Mass.

### Welcoming Places Goldenhill

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

**English Martyrs' Mini Fayre** On Saturday 17th June, 10am to 12noon, we are going to have a mini Summer Fayre in the meeting room at English Martyrs' church. There will be a cake stall, toy stall, raffle and tombola, and refreshments will be served. We need volunteers to help out on the day. All donations for the raffle would be gratefully received. Please see Paula Paskin or Jackie Menzies if you can help in any way. All proceeds to church funds.

**North Staffs Vocations Promotions Group** The group continues to work in the North Staffs Deanery in the promotion of vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and Religious Life. Their next meeting will be held at St Teresa's Trent Vale on Tuesday May 23rd starting at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome to come along and support this vital work. Date for your diary: The group will also be hosting an Evening of Prayer & Reflection at St Mary's, Leek on Thursday June 15th. The evening will be led by Fr Martin Pratt.

**Deanery Guild of Catechists** The Guild will be meeting on Friday 26th May at 7pm at Coolock in Newcastle. The theme of the evening will be adult catechesis and RCIA. Existing catechists and all who are interested in handing on the faith or who would like to become catechists are welcome.

**Stella Maris** (Apostleship of the Sea) are looking for volunteers to help promote Sea Sunday and the work of the charity. Sea Sunday is on 9 July this year and they need volun-

## 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 remaining two sessions:

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.

teers in the Diocese. Whether it is volunteering to speak at your church or working to encourage the Sea Sunday preparation, you'll be helping to raise vital support for the people of the sea. All the materials you need, from an appeal script, to gift aid envelopes and posters will be provided. If you, or a friend or family member, would like to find out more about how you can help this Sea Sunday, please contact Roland at [roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org](mailto:roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org) or call me on 07887 893763.

### World Communications Sunday

Next Sunday, 21st May is Catholic World Communications Day. On this day, we take up the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. Vital to this is good communication – through our websites, publications and social media channels. The Bishops' Conference works hard to forge positive relationships with media outlets to communicate news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church and her people. The Pope's message for the 57th World Communications Day follows the theme speaking with the heart. "The truth in love" (Eph 4:15). There will be a second collection on this Sunday to support the work of Catholic Communications on the national level.

## PARISH REGISTERS

### Baptisms

Welcome to the family of the Church to Bobby Scott Meakin and Betsy Iyla Meakin, baptised at St Joseph's on Sunday 7th May.

Also to Skye Elizabeth Milburn and Benjamin Alan Milburn who will be baptised at St Joseph's on Sunday 14th May.

### Deaths

Of your charity please pray for the soul of Paul McGough. Requiem Mass at Sacred Heart, Tunstall on Monday 22nd May at 11am. Reception into church on Sunday at 5.30pm.

#### 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** is when Fr Julian is available to be seen for consultations about baptisms, weddings, or for any other reason. The next Open House is on Monday 22nd May at 6.30pm, and then again on Monday 5th June.

**Retrouvaille** is a lifeline for Married Couples. Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Has your marriage become cold, stressed or unloving? Do you argue often? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced or are thinking about it? Do you want to try again? The Retrouvaille programme may be just what you need. The next programme begins with a virtual weekend on 6th to 9th July. For more information phone or text: 07887 296983 or 07973 380443. Alternatively, email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) Website: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### Vocations Weekend for Women

The FCJ sisters (Faithful Companions of Jesus) are organising a weekend for women (20s and 30s) who are discerning a vocation from 26th to 28th May in Liverpool. If you are interested, please contact Sr Lynne [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit the website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

### Become a welcoming church

The third evening online workshop hosted by Father Hudson's aims to help Parishes develop new ideas and opportunities to support all of their

### Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

#### Week beginning 14th May:

St Joseph's: Winifred Maughan and family

St John's: John Martin

St Patrick's: Valerie Holland

#### Week beginning 21st May:

St John's: Crotty, Howle & Davenport families

*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.

Parishioners living with a disability and to share the good work already being done in parishes. This will be held on Monday 22 May 7.30 to 8.30pm. To register for the workshop please go to <https://tinyurl.com/5n8hn2fi>

## THE PENTECOST NOVENA

When the Lord Jesus had ascended into heaven, he promised that the Holy Spirit would come to give the Apostles courage so that they could fulfil the commandment that he gave them, to go out to the whole world to make disciples of all nations. The Apostles met from then until Pentecost, together with Mary, the Mother of God, and others, in the Upper Room, praying for the Holy Spirit to come. Each year, we keep the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost as the Novena of Pentecost, praying that the Holy Spirit will come upon the Church in this our day. Indeed, these nine days are why we make novenas of prayer. Please join in praying the Novena of the Holy Spirit this year with us. Pray these prayers each day from Friday this week until Saturday, the vigil of Pentecost:

*O Lord Jesus Christ, Who, before ascending into heaven, did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul, the work of Your grace and Your love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal, the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the light of Your divine truth, the Spirit of Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining heaven, the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with You and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation, the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints, the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable, and the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of Your true disciples and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen.*

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, renew Your wonders in this our day, as by a new Pentecost. Grant to Your Church that, being of one mind and steadfast in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and following the lead of blessed Peter, it may advance the reign of our Divine Saviour, the reign of truth and justice, the reign of love and peace. Amen.*