

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 21ST JANUARY 2018

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

On Thursday, I got together with the other priests from our Diocese who went on the Divine Renovation conference in London back in October. It was interesting to hear their experiences in their parishes, as well as their reflection on the conference and the Divine Renovation book. We all agreed that it was a very positive experience to hear the people from Canada who came over with Fr James Mallon to speak about how their parish had been transformed. However, we all agreed that the one thing that seems to be missing is the spiritual dimension. It is very easy to allow the idea that all we have to do is change our vision and our strategy to achieve success to blind us to the reality: without ongoing conversion to Jesus, with

prayer and penance, everything in our parishes will fail.

I want us to start thinking about Lent seriously now. You will see on page 2 that next week you will have the opportunity to get one of the books called *Rediscover Jesus*. I would like to invite you all to get together with others to talk and pray about what you find there. There will also be the usual *Walk With Me* booklets and calendars. After the success of our invitation to come and pray together as a community in the Advent Holy Hours, Jonny and I will be leading a weekly Holy Hour on Thursday evenings through Lent. I would also like to offer an early morning Mass on a Friday for people who work to have the opportunity to start the

day on Fridays of Lent with the sacrifice of the Mass. We can also offer breakfast afterwards—but let me know what time the Mass would have to be for you to get to work on time afterwards. I am also thinking of putting on a Mass and soup lunch on a midday, for those who are home during the day. Let me know which day and where this could happen. Maybe you would like to take responsibility for the soup lunch?

Let's make this coming Lent the best Lent ever. A real time of conversion of heart to God through Jesus. Any other ideas you have, let me know!

And finally, please do try to take part in the Biddulph United in Prayer this week, as well as today's Vespers.

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
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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

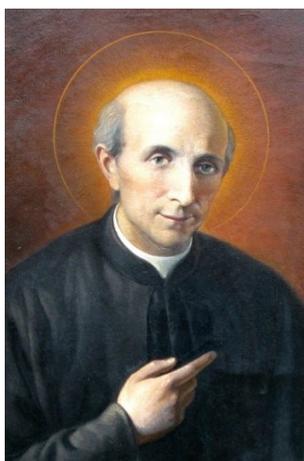
Teresa Harding
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9am to 3.30pm. Weds, Thurs
9am to 1pm.

Website

www.partnershipparishes.org

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK



St Vincent Pallotti 1795-1850

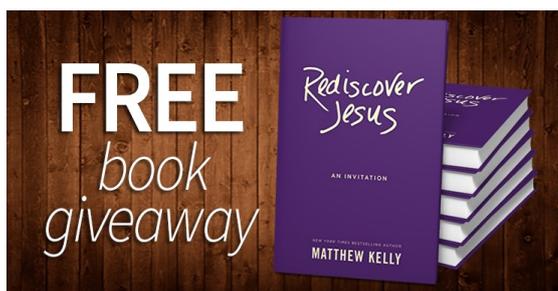
Vincent was a priest from Rome, who dedicated himself to pastoral work and the service of the poor. He organised schools for shoemakers, tailors, coachmen, carpenters, and gardeners, as well as evening classes for young farmers and unskilled workers. He said that the apostolate of the

lay person is "to do all that one must and can do for the greater glory of God and for one's own salvation, and for one's neighbours." He built great bridges with the eastern rite Catholics in Rome. He brought together priests in a society now known as the Pallottine Fathers. The motto of the order is "the love of Christ impels us".

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	
Saturday 20th			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	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
Monday 22nd Feria	9.15am	6.00pm			Holy Mass Holy Mass	Hurley Family Roy Marsh
Tuesday 23rd Feria	11.15am 7.30pm	6.00pm	9.30am	2.15pm	Morning Prayer Requiem Mass Holy Rosary Holy Mass Biddulph United in Prayer at St Lawrence's, Biddulph	Doreen Wickstead RIP Holy Souls
Wednesday 24th St Francis de Sales			12noon		Holy Mass	Holy Souls
Thursday 25th The Conversion of St Paul	6.00pm	9.30am			Holy Mass (in school) Holy Mass	People of the Parishes Thanksgiving (Ss Anthony & Rita)
Friday 26th Ss Timothy & Titus			9.30am	6.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Sima Murphy Int Rosa Myatt
Saturday 27th Our Lady	9.15am		6.30pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls Jill Tatton
Sunday 28th Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mary Nixon Dec'd of Culshaw & Fryer Families Lilian, Thomas & Joan Doyle

Your Invitation to...Rediscover Jesus!



Next Sunday, we will be giving away—yes, that's right, giving away free of charge—copies of the book *Rediscover Jesus* by Catholic author Matthew Kelly. We have 240 copies to give away to our parishioners. The book is part of the 'Best Lent Ever' programme. It is a book which invites you to come to know Jesus better through forty Bible short bible studies, one for each of the days of Lent. The best way to use *Rediscover Jesus* is to read and pray through the pages day by day, but then to get together in groups to look at what you have learned each week. Lent is still a few weeks away, but now is the time to start planning to connect with others. So, please email, phone or contact Fr Julian

if you are willing to host a group—at home or at church—to get together for the few weeks of Lent and share the contents of this book each week. There is also a website and you can sign up to further Lent stuff at www.DynamicCatholic.com/BestLentEver



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!”

Vespers for Christian Unity
Once again this year we are having the celebration of Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church) for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We welcome Rev Lindsay Clowes from St Lawrence’s to preach. It’s at 3pm today (Sunday) at English Martyrs’. After Vespers we will have afternoon tea in the meeting room, so please come and bring goodies for the tea.

Welcome Ministry at St John’s
Apologies for the cancellation of the meeting on Wednesday. A new date will be made shortly for the catch up meeting.

On Fire! On Fire! is the name of our Mission week which we have already started preparing for. It is really exciting that we will welcome the Franciscans of the Renewal, 19th to 24th May 2018, for this event, which will be based at St Joseph’s. 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.

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!

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.

Eucharistic Adoration Day The Adoration Day for Vocations at St Joseph’s, scheduled on the Diocesan poster for 5th February, will now take place on Monday 12th February. Adoration will begin at 10am, and end with Benediction at 5.45pm. Mass will follow at 6pm, as normal. A sign up list will be available nearer the date.

The Friendship Club is our monthly meeting for older people. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 30th January, at the usual time of 2pm at Kidsgrove Town Hall. We always welcome new people, so come and give it a try. If you need transport please contact Matt Ford on 07587034299.

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.

Care Home Prayer Service

This month our prayer service outreach to the elderly will be at Ravenswood, The Avenue, Kidsgrove on Tuesday 23rd January at 11am. We would love to see more parishioners coming along and bringing the light of faith to those in the home. Just turn up and meet us there.

WOMEN’S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2018

You are warmly invited to a service at Biddulph Methodist Church, Station Road at 1.30pm on Friday 2nd March. The theme is ‘All God’s creation is Good’. The prayers will be for Suriname and the environment. The service will be led by women from all the Biddulph churches. Refreshments will be served and there will be a play area for pre-school children.

FUNDRAISING

Collections

Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £329.00, Non Gift Aid £227.74. Total £556.74.

Goldenhill Gift Aid £208.00, Non Gift Aid £183.73. Total £391.73.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £229.00, Non Gift Aid £166.76. Total £395.76.

Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200 Club Draw Weekly: 1st Prize £20, No.155 P Convey; 2nd Prize £10, No.120 J Gibson; 3rd Prize £5, No.123 G Hussey.

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 Priest's Open House

The next Parish Priest's Open House, when Fr Julian can be seen, is on Monday 22nd 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. There will be no Open House on 29th January nor on 5th February.

Sanctuary Lamps

This week the lamps are dedicated for:

St John's: Crotty, Howle & Davenport Families; Tom Smithson; Blood Family; 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.

BBC RADIO STOKE

94.6 FM | 104.1 FM | Digital | bbc.co.uk/radiostoke

And

In Praise of God

celebrate 50 years of broadcasting in 2018.

To mark the anniversary we'd love you to join us for a special recording of 'In Praise of God' on

Wednesday March 7th 2018

At

*Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Hanley
6.30pm for 7pm recording*

*The programme will be broadcast on
Sunday March 18th 2018*



RSVP: reception.stoke@bbc.co.uk



PARISH REGISTERS

Deaths

Of your charity please pray 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.

Requiescat in Pace.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Preparing the Gospel

Having called a handful of disciples, Jesus begins his teaching and healing ministry. Mark notes how impressed the people are with Jesus. They are spellbound by him. He teaches with authority unlike their own religious leaders. What is this authority? It is the authority of God. Like the prophets of old, Jesus is anointed with God's Spirit, which enables him to touch people's hearts. His teaching is accompanied by signs and wonders. When Jesus teaches, things happen: the sick are healed, the crippled walk, and the oppressed are liberated. All of this leaves the people in awe. Also in today's gospel, Jesus begins his battle with the "powers of darkness"—which will be a central part of his mission. Here Jesus defeats Satan. He bids him to leave the man. In so doing, Jesus not only shows compassion for the troubled person, but he also announces the beginning of the messianic era and the Reign of God. If our lives are firmly rooted in Christ, we will be able to withstand any evil forces we feel are attacking us.