

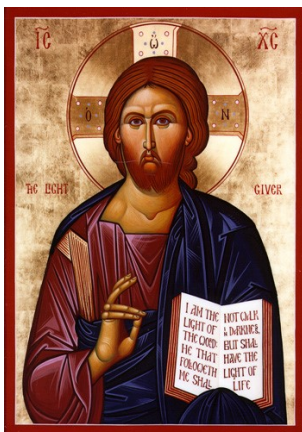
THE CATHOLIC PASTORAL PARTNERSHIP OF
BIDDULPH, GOLDENHILL, KIDSGROVE & PACKMOOR
UNDER THE PATRONAGE AND PROTECTION OF OUR LADY OF GRACE

SUNDAY BULLETIN

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 27TH JANUARY 2019

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



This icon is one of the best known Orthodox images of Jesus: Christ the Teacher. Jesus is pictured with the Word of God in his hand, and giving a blessing with his other hand. On it there is another little detail—that Jesus is pointing to his Heart, and that the way his vestment hangs shows that this Word and Blessing come from the Heart of Jesus. Jesus wants to communicate the love from his Heart to us.

The mission of the Church in every age is to make known the love of the Heart of Jesus. Jesus is really present in his Church and it is the task of priests and people to allow this presence to be known and shared.

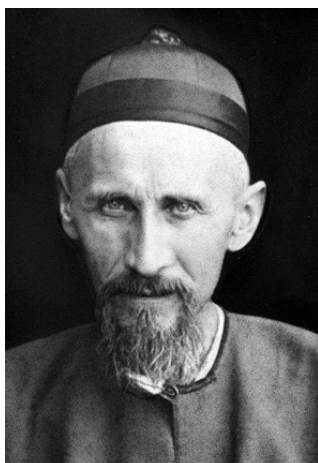
However, we live in a time when the continuity of the living of faith has broken down. And so we live in a time when we have to make a conscious effort to allow the presence of Christ in his Church to impact our lives. ALPHA is a tool to help us to do this. And so I want to renew my call to you to come to ALPHA, as it begins next Saturday, and to invite others to come with you.

I am disappointed with the response, so far, to the FOCUS young people coming in March. I need to

hear from people who can accommodate and feed the group. They are raising their own funds to come and work with our young people and give a retreat in our parish. We have the duty to welcome them and give them hospitality, as they represent the presence of Jesus coming among us. So we need to welcome them. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can help.

This week, I will be in Ars for three days with the other priests of the SJMV on a conference. My friend Fr Richard Aladics will be making his full commitment to the Society on Wednesday, so please remember him in your prayers. I will be praying for you all, and for our parishes before the altar of Curé of Ars, St John Vianney.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



St Joseph Freindemetz 1852-1908

As a seminarian, Joseph heard the verse, on Good Friday: “The babes cry out for food, but there is no one to give it to them,” he thought of the many pagan children with no one to give them the bread of the Gospel. He was ordained priest, and worked in a parish, but then joined the

Divine Word Missionaries and went to serve as a missionary in China. He said, “Kneeling before the tabernacle, we offered ourselves entirely to God. Then God in the tabernacle cried out to us: “I have chosen you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. He was in China 29 years sustained by Eucharistic Adoration and devotion to Our Lady.

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
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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

Website

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 Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions) Kidsgrove Sat 6pm Biddulph Sun 8.30am Goldenhill Sun 10.30am Packmoor Sun 6pm	
Saturday 26th			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	Maureen Biggins
Sunday 27th Third Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	John Orme Int John Martin Sr Augustine
Monday 28th St Thomas Aquinas		7.30am			Holy Mass	Special Intention
Tuesday 29th Feria			9.30am	2.15pm	Morning Prayer Holy Rosary	
Thursday 31st St John Bosco			5.00pm		Reception of Body	Enid Carr RIP
Friday 1st Feria <i>First Friday</i>			10.15am	6.00pm	Requiem Mass Holy Mass	Enid Carr RIP Protection of the Unborn
Saturday 2nd Presentation of the Lord	10.30am	9.00am	6.30pm		ALPHA Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Alice & John Edwards Mark Foden
Sunday 3rd Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Tom Longshaw & Andrew Sturgess Michael Meaney Donald Green
Monday 4th Feria		6.00pm	9.30am 10.00am		Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass	Margaret Coates People of the Parishes
Tuesday 5th St Agatha	9.15am 8.00pm		9.30am	2.15pm	Holy Mass Morning Prayer Holy Rosary Prayer Group	Fr O'Connor & Fr Davenport
Friday 8th Feria		12noon			Requiem Mass	John McNicholas RIP
Saturday 2nd Our Lady	10.30am	9.00am	6.30pm		ALPHA Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Johnny Lacey Elsie Walker
Sunday 3rd Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mary Nixon Margaret & Jim Fallon People of the Parishes



Alpha starts this week! 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? Who are you going to invite?

Alpha Helpers!

If you have been to an Alpha and feel called to be a helper, then please let Fr Julian or one of the Alpha team know or just turn up at Alpha, and offer your help. There'll always be a job for you to do!

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 5th February at 8pm and will take place at English Martyrs' in Biddulph. It is an hour long. Why not come along?

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 either 28th January or 11th February.

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.

PARISH LENT RETREAT

We are pleased to have the inspirational missionaries and students from the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) over from the USA. They will be leading us on a three night Retreat for Lent.

Tuesday 12th to Thursday
14th March

Each evening we will have:

5.30pm Eucharistic Adoration

6.30pm Holy Mass

7.30pm Retreat Holy Hour

Keep these dates free!

Sanctuary Lamps

This week the lamps are dedicated for:

St John's: Agnes Coates; The Burns Family; Winnie Maughan & Family
St Joseph's: Michael Goulding

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 Maple Tree Court, Gloucester Rd on 19th February at 10.30am.

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.

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!

Confirmation If any children or young people have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, and would like to, then please see Fr Julian as soon as possible. The normal minimum age is 10.

PARISH REGISTERS

Deaths

Of your charity, please pray 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. There will be a reception into church on Thursday at 5pm.

Also for John McNicholas. Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul will be offered on Friday 8th February at 12noon at St Joseph's, followed by burial at Tunstall Cemetery.

Requiescat in Pace

FUNDRAISING

Collections

Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £373.70, Non Gift Aid £174.45, Total £548.15. **Goldenhill** Gift Aid £392.00, Non Gift Aid £271.78, Total £663.78. **Kidsgrove** Gift Aid £224.50, Non Gift Aid £193.93, Total £418.43.

Second Collections On 3rd February there will be a second collection for the Pro-Life Charities.

Goldenhill and Kidsgrove 200 Club This weeks Draw: 1st Prize £20, No.154 C Foden; 2nd Prize £10, No.11 B Fryer; 3rd Prize £5, No.152 W Peacock. **Monthly Draw:** 1st Prize £75, No.57 J Sadler; 2nd Prize £50, No.44 M Wallace; 3rd Prize £25, No.59 S Clarke.

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.

APF Red Boxes If you have a red box from Biddulph or Packmoor, then please bring them to church during February to be emptied and counted. Thank you.

DEANERY & BEYOND

The Incarnation There will be a study day on The Incarnation with Fr Dominic Ryan OP at St Dominic's Convent Stone on Saturday February 9th and will cost £10, £5 for concessions. To book a place please contact Sr Valery on 01785 812091.

No One Beyond Reach CAFOD Trustee, John Guy, will be talking about his experience of their work in Sierra Leone on Wednesday 20th February at 6.30pm at the Coolock Pastoral Centre in Newcastle.

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.

Sharing Hope in Crisis There will be a day for those who work to apply Catholic Social Teaching in crisis situations, and serve the suffering at Maryvale Institute on Saturday 16th March. 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. Last chance to book this inspirational event. Please see Fr Julian for enquiries or bookings.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Luke 4:21-30

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. 'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.' When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

KEY VERSE: "No prophet is ever accepted in his own country"

TO KNOW: When Jesus preached in the synagogue at Nazareth, he quoted the prophet Isaiah who disclosed the signs which would show when the Messiah had come. Jesus announced "Today this passage is being fulfilled in your hearing." He was declaring that the Messianic times had begun in him. At first, the people marvelled at the gracious words spoken by Joseph's son, an ordinary carpenter. They were willing to accept Jesus for what he could do for them, for their personal advantage. Yet they wondered, since he performed miracles elsewhere, why had he not worked any in his own hometown? But when Jesus identified himself as a prophet, he was no longer accepted. Prophets called the people to accountability for their lack of faith in God, and their lack of justice and mercy toward others. Jesus compared his ministry to the prophets Elijah and Elisha who were rejected by their own, yet brought healing and hope to Gentiles. These "outsiders" had the wisdom to recognize the prophets in their midst. The people were outraged by Jesus' words, and they dragged him from the synagogue. When they attempted to throw him over a cliff; Jesus miraculously eluded them. **TO LOVE:** Pray for those who suffer persecution and martyrdom for the sake of the gospel.

TO SERVE: Lord Jesus, help me to listen to your voice.