

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2018

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

As you know, this week we kept the Ember Days by the first of our parish retreat days. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, we made St John's Church the centre of our Partnership of Parishes for prayer. Over these days people have come together, from earliest morning to the evening to be part of the retreat days. Those who came to either the early morning silent Adoration or the evening retreat services were particularly appreciative to be able to join in something 'a bit different' and to have time for silence as well as led prayer and meditation in the presence of the Lord. We will repeat this every quarter through the year. The next Ember Days will be in the week before Christmas, from Wednesday 19th to Friday 21st

December. Next time we will make St Patrick's Church our focus. It will be a marvellous opportunity to balance the preparations for the celebration of Christmas with the spiritual preparation we should all make.

The experience of silent prayer, and particularly in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, is something we can do every week. Don't forget that we have times of Eucharistic Adoration in our churches each week. Please see the schedule each week for when and where they take place. But, I would urge you, to take advantage of the opportunity for quiet and prayer that these times offer.

This week we are hosting the Feast Day Mass for the Walsingham Association. We have a lot of parishion-

ers who are members of the Association, dedicated to Our Lady of Walsingham, the patroness of England. While the Mass on Monday evening is the Association's feast day Mass, everyone is welcome to come along and celebrate the feast of our Patroness. If you don't know much about Walsingham, it might be a first opportunity to find out about this ancient shrine and devotion.

As you know, a group of us are preparing to do the English Camino walk to Santiago de Compostela in October. Please keep the group of men in your prayers. If you have any prayer requests for us to present in Santiago, at the shrine of St James, please let me have them by 19th October.

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

St Margaret Ward Chaplain

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

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK



St Finbar 550-620

Educated in Kilkenny, Finbar became a monk, and was given his name (which means white head) because of his fair hair. He made two pilgrimages to Rome. On the first he stopped in Wales to meet with St David on the way. On the second, the Pope called him to become a bishop.

He preached in Scotland and Ireland, and for a time lived as a hermit. He founded a monastery in Cork, of which he became the first bishop. His monastery in Cork became well known because of the many disciples he drew to monastic life. While there are many extravagant miracles attributed to him, he was certainly a great apostle.

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 22nd			6.30pm		Holy Mass of Sunday	Joan & Peter Jackson
Sunday 23rd Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Andrew Harker Lynn Dobson Special Int (VM)
Monday 24th Our Lady of Walsingham		7.00pm	10.00am 11.45am		Eucharistic Adoration Requiem Mass N Staffs Walsingham Association Mass	Bridget Holland RIP People of the Parishes
Tuesday 25th Feria	9.15am		9.30am		Holy Mass Morning Prayer	Holy Souls
Wednesday 26th Feria	5.00pm				Reception into church	Beatrice Kasperowicz RIP
Thursday 27th St Vincent de Paul	11.30am 5.00pm	9.30am			Holy Mass (in school) Requiem Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Holy Souls Beatrice Kasperowicz RIP
Friday 28th Ss Lawrence Ruiz & Companions			9.30am	6.00pm	Holy Mass (in school) Holy Mass	Holy Souls Holy Souls
Saturday 29th Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	9.15am		6.30pm		Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls Mary Steele & Ellen McHugh
Sunday 30th Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year	9.00am	11.00am		6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Marie-José Gannon Pat Holmes People of the Parishes



FEAST OF THE ARCHANGELS

The three Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are the only angels named in Sacred Scripture and all three have important roles in the history of salvation. **St Michael** is the "Prince of the Heavenly Host," the leader of all the angels. His name is Hebrew for "Who is like God?" and was the battle cry of the good angels against Lucifer and his followers when they rebelled against God. He is mentioned four times in the Bible, in Daniel, the letter of Jude, and in Revelation. Michael, whose forces cast down Lucifer and the evil spirits into Hell, is invoked for protection against Satan and all evil. **St Gabriel**, whose name means "God's strength," is mentioned four times in the Bible. Most significant are Gabriel's two mentions in the New Testament: to announce the birth of John the Baptist to his father Zacharias, and at Incarnation of the Word in the womb of Mary. **St Raphael**, whose name means "God has healed" because of his healing of Tobias' blindness in the Book of Tobit. Tobit is the only book in which he is mentioned. His office is generally accepted by tradition to be that of healing and acts of mercy.

AUTUMN CATECHESIS

Just after the Parish Mission in May, Fr Julian was visited by missionaries from the 'Neo-Catechumenate'. This is a lay organisation within the Church, started in Madrid in 1964. The aim was to reach out to the many who had been baptised but did not have an adult understanding of the Faith. It has been tremendously successful in bringing the faith alive for people throughout the world, and has produced many vocations. Today there are 40,000 neo-catechumenal communities around the world, and about a million Catholic members.

As a result, Fr Julian has invited them to send members who are catechists to offer catechesis in our partnership of parishes. They will come and invite parishioners to the catechesis which will be on Mondays and Thursdays at 7pm beginning on 8th October and continue till the end of November. It is a great opportunity for us, and you are urged to sacrifice the time to come.

The team of Neo-Catechumenate members who are coming to give the catechesis is made up of David & Leslie, Miguel & Bea, Tuloch, Kathy and Fr Carlos. Please keep them in your prayers. They will be speaking at the Masses on Saturday/Sunday 6th/7th October.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

The Walsingham Association invite you to come to the Mass in honour of Our Lady of Walsingham, patroness of England, on her feast day, Monday 24th September. The Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's at 7pm. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

All welcome!

Parish Priest's Open House

Fr Julian is available to be seen on most Monday evenings from 6.30pm to 7.30pm in the Presbytery at Goldenhill. There is no need to reserve a time, just turn up. **This week only** the Open House is from 6pm to 6.40pm. There will be no Open House on Monday 22nd October. Please call the parish office on any Monday to confirm that the Open House is happening.

Care Home Prayer Services



Kidsgrove The next prayer service will be at Ravenswood at 11am on the 25th September. We would love to see more parishioners coming and bringing the light of faith to residents. Come and meet us at the home.

Biddulph The next prayer service for our Biddulph Churches Together group is on Sunday 14th October, at 3pm at Springbank. We welcome everyone to come and join us. It would be great to have some new people come along!

PARISH REGISTERS

Deaths

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Bridget (Bridie) Holland. Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul will be offered on Monday 24th September at St John's at 11.45am.

Please pray also for the soul of Beatrix Kasperowicz. Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul will be offered on Thursday 27th September at English Martyrs at 11.30am.

Requiescant in pace

The Friendship Club

The Friendship Club is our monthly meeting for older people. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 25th September, 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 more details or would like to arrange transport please ring 01782 269990

ADORATION DAY FOR VOCATIONS



Come and pray for more vocations to the priesthood and the religious life!

The Day of Eucharistic Adoration and prayer for vocations at St John's Kidsgrove is on Friday 12th October 10.30am to 5.00pm

A sign up list for watching will be available nearer the day.

Our Lady of Grace Academy are hosting a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support on Friday, 28th September in the school hall. It starts at 9am. Suggested donation for a cake and drink is £2. All welcome.

St Joseph's Catholic Academy Goldenhill

The Directors of the Newman Catholic Collegiate are seeking to appoint a Vice Principal (LS 5 to 9) for St Joseph's, Goldenhill from January 2019. For further details of the position and an application pack please contact the Academy Manager, Mrs Laura Philps, on 01782 235393 or lphilps@sjnewman.co.uk. Closing date for applications Thursday 11th October at 12noon. Interviews will be on Wednesday 17th October. Candidates are encouraged to visit the school in advance.

FUNDRAISING

Collections

Biddulph/Packmoor Gift Aid £326.00, Non Gift Aid £159.85, Total £485.85. Catholic Evangelisation £35.24.

Goldenhill Gift Aid £273.00, Non Gift Aid £145.22, Total £418.22. Catholic Evangelisation £42.78.

Kidsgrove Gift Aid £241.20, Non Gift Aid £121.48, Total £362.68. Catholic Evangelisation £95.49.

Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200 Club Weekly Draw: 1st Prize £20, No.162 N Cook; 2nd Prize £10, No.156 J Convey; 3rd Prize £5, No.196 N Hoskins. There are quite a few spare numbers at the moment. If anyone would like to subscribe, please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

DEANERY & BEYOND

Family Prayer Campaign The Legion of Mary are organising a Family Prayer Campaign in memory of Fr Paton. The launch event for the prayer campaign will be held at St Thomas More, Sheldon, Birmingham on Saturday 6th October at 2pm. Everyone is welcome!

Diocesan Celebration Day The Archbishop invites you to a Celebration Day, celebrating our involvement in the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, the National Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool, and the canonisations of Pope Paul VI and Oscar Romero. It is at St Thomas More Catholic School in Nuneaton on Sunday 14th October from 10am to 4pm. Free entry, but booking is essential. Book online at www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/diocesan-celebration-day or call 0121 230 6286.

October Devotions The devotions in honour of Our Lady of Walsingham for the month of the Rosary will take place at English Martyrs' Biddulph on Tuesday 30th October at 7.00pm.

The Prayer of Pope Leo XIII

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust down to hell Satan, and all evil spirits, who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

How Can We Keep From Singing?
AN EVENING WITH
JO BOYCE & FRIENDS

SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER, 6:30pm
St Gregory's Catholic Church
Heathcote Road // Longton // ST3 2JU
STOKE-ON-TRENT
Local Ticketline: 01782 319706

advance tickets: £6.00 (£7.00 on the door)
tel: 01675 466254 www.cjmmusic.com/tickets

If anyone is interested in going to the Jo Boyce concert in Longton, but have no transport to get there, or if you are planning on going and can offer someone a lift, please contact Janet Convey on 782410.

Sanctuary Lamps

This week the lamps are dedicated for:

English Martyrs: Nellie Windle

St John's: Kath Wakefield; Winnie Maughan & Family

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. 'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward. 'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

Preparing the Gospel

KEY VERSE: "For whoever is not against us is for us." (v 40)

TO KNOW: Jesus' disciples had seen a man using the all-powerful name of Jesus to defeat the demons. They tried to stop him because he did not belong to their community. But Jesus challenged the closed-mindedness of his disciples, and encouraged them to imitate God's tolerance toward all people of good will. No one could do a work in Jesus' name and be his enemy. The work of the kingdom of God was not restricted to the disciples alone; they must affirm the good in others wherever they found it. Jesus warned them to do nothing that would scandalise his "little ones", the poor and lowly in the Christian community. Jesus said that it would be better to enter God's kingdom crippled and maimed than to be cast into the fires of "Gehenna (a rubbish dump where refuse and dead animals were cast into the smoldering fire to be consumed). Gehenna and its never-ending fires became synonymous with a place of total destruction and everlasting judgment of the wicked, which we call hell.

TO LOVE: Do I try to eradicate anything in my life that would keep me from the kingdom of God?

TO SERVE: Lord Jesus, help me to see all people through your eyes.