

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 9TH MAY 2021

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



On Thursday, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. It is a beautiful feast day in the Church's calendar, reminding us of the majesty of the glorified Lord. It is also a day when, together with the apostles, who had just got used to having Jesus back with them, we may stand somewhat forlorn looking up into heaven. The reality is that, when Jesus ascended, he left his disciples without the comfort of his bodily presence. Nonetheless, he had told them that he would still be with them,

and indeed he would come to be with them in a new way, by the power of the Holy Spirit. The wonderful news is that the promise holds true. By the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is still with his Church now. He accompanies us and does not abandon us ever.

It is because we believe the promises that Jesus made to his apostles, and we believe that we are the same Church that was founded by Christ through them two thousand years ago, that we can pray for the same Holy Spirit to

come and transform us, and the Church, even today. This is why we are urged to join in prayer for the Holy Spirit on the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost. These nine days are what we call a 'novena', and has become a traditional way for Catholics to pray for the things which are important to them. There are all sorts of novenas (to Our Lady, the saints, the Sacred Heart...), but it is this Novena of the Holy Spirit which was the first and the one which shaped the devotion. It is so important because we need the Holy Spirit more now than ever, to rouse the Church from sleep and to give us courage to bear witness to Jesus in this present age. Why not join in the novena starting on Friday this week? See page 3 for how to do this.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Bl Mary Theresa Gerhardinger 1797-1879

As a young woman, Catherine was urged to become a teacher by her Parish Priest. She trained as a lay teacher, obtained a teaching certificate, and got a job teaching in Regensburg, Bavaria. After a period when it was not allowed, religious orders

were allowed to teach again, and so, taking the name Mary Theresa, she founded her own order, the Poor Teacher Sisters of Notre Dame. She went with 5 companions to the USA to help German migrants. Her mission to the poor and to migrants continued to grow in England and other countries of Europe as well as the USA.

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
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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 Shufflebotham & Lorraine Connell
Goldenhill: Suzanne Meakin
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

Website

www.partnershipparishes.org

YouTube Channel

<https://tinyurl.com/wqtqx76>

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) St Joseph's Sat 6pm; Sun 10.30am (<i>Main porch</i>) English Martyrs' Sun 8.30am (<i>Side chapel</i>)	
Saturday 8th		6.30pm			Holy Mass for Sunday	Kath & Brian Wakefield
Sunday 9th Sixth Sunday of Easter	9.00am 10.00am	 11.00am			Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	George & Barbara Connell, Karol Grolik People of the Parishes John Martin
Monday 10th Feria		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Malcolm Grandfield
Tuesday 11th Feria	9.15am				Holy Mass	Dec of Child family
Wednesday 12th Feria		11.00am			Requiem Mass	Daniel Killeen RIP
Thursday 13th ASCENSION OF THE LORD	9.15am	 6.30pm			Holy Mass Holy Mass	People of the Parishes Andrew & Margaret Aylward
Friday 14th St Matthias <i>HS Novena</i>		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Most forgotten souls in purgatory
Saturday 15th Feria <i>HS Novena</i>	9.15am	 6.30pm			Holy Mass Holy Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls Winefride & Leonard Atherton
Sunday 16th Seventh Sunday of Easter <i>HS Novena</i>	9.00am 10.00am	 11.00am			Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Sheila Barker (SVP) People of the Parishes Anthony Stephen Barretto
Monday 17th Feria <i>HS Novena</i>		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Winifred Maughan
Tuesday 18th Feria <i>HS Novena</i>	9.15am				Holy Mass	Int Dee Gregory
Wednesday 19th Feria <i>HS Novena</i>		6.00pm			Holy Mass	Betty Smithson
Thursday 20th <i>HS Novena</i> St Bernardine of Siena	6.00pm				Holy Mass	Mary & Patrick Boyle
Friday 21st St Christopher Magallanes & Comps <i>HS Novena</i>		6.00pm 6.30pm			Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Ken Holmes
Saturday 22nd St Rita of Cascia <i>HS Novena</i>	9.15am	 6.30pm			Holy Mass Vigil Mass of Pentecost	Dec of Thompson family Maurice Culhane
Sunday 23rd PENTECOST SUNDAY	9.00am 10.00am	 11.00am			Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Julia Biggane Mary Nixon John Martin

PENTECOST NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

The days between the Feast of the Ascension and the Feast of Pentecost are kept as a Novena of the Holy Spirit. These are the days when the apostle joined with Our Lady in the Upper Room to pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. We join with Our Lady and the apostles to pray for the Holy Spirit to come upon the Church in our day too.

Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven.

Lift us up with you, Lord Jesus Christ, from the sickness, suffering, fear and grief of these last months. Bless all that your body, the Church, has achieved through her worship of God and her care of God's children.

Renew the Holy Spirit among us, that, sent like your apostles, to the people of our diocese, all may contribute to the proclamation of God's word and to the growth of God's kingdom.
Amen

Each day of the Novena there is an intention of prayer, a reflection, the prayer of St John XXIII and the Pentecost Sequence to pray. The prayers for each day are in an a booklet which you can access online at the parish website: www.partnershipparishes.com and follow the link on the main banner

MAY DEVOTION

We are hosting the May Devotion on behalf of the Walsingham Association on Tuesday 25th May, at 7pm.

Sermon, Rosary, Devotions and Benediction

All welcome

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament returns this week on Friday evenings at St Joseph's after the evening Mass until 7pm.

FR JULIAN'S SILVER JUBILEE

This year is Fr Julian's Silver Jubilee of Ordination, on 13th July. It is traditional to celebrate this milestone.

Fr Julian will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving on Tuesday 13th July, with invited priests, family and friends. There will be some places for parishioners too.

The main parish celebration will be on Sunday 25th July. Fr Julian will celebrate each Mass that weekend as a thanksgiving Mass. You are then invited to a BBQ for all our Partnership of Parishes. It will take place at St Joseph's Academy, Goldenhill starting at 12.30pm.

Volunteers are needed to help with the BBQ, refreshments, and organisation. Please contact Teresa in the Parish office if you are willing to help. (There will be an online meeting to make arrangements.)

BAPTISMS, CONFIRMATIONS & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We are now able to go ahead and celebrate the Confirmations and First Holy Communion of the children who have been prepared for these Sacraments, but have not received them. We can now also arrange baptisms also. It is easiest if parents contact Fr Julian to arrange dates. The administration of Confirmation and First Holy Communion will take place during Saturday evening/Sunday Masses. Baptisms will take place by arrangement with Fr Julian.

Please come to the Open House session in church on Saturday mornings from 10.30am to 11.30am from 13th May. If you cannot make this time, then please email fr.julian.green@rcaob.org.uk

Hospital If you know someone in hospital, ask the nurses to call the Chaplain on call. Otherwise, please call the chaplaincy on 01782 676400. It is important to specify that it is the Catholic chaplain you want.

Parish Office & Parish Priest's Open House

Teresa is back in the Parish Office for her usual hours, so you will be able to contact her for any enquiries during those hours (see front of bulletin for hours).

Open House returns next Saturday 15th May from 10.30am to 11.30am. Fr Julian will be available in St Joseph's church to see anyone who wishes to arrange baptisms, weddings, First Holy Communion or Confirmations. No need to phone in advance.

REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE CHANGES

From 4th May, a change has taken place in the way marriages are registered civilly in England. All the former manuscript registers will be closed and taken out of use, and churches no longer register marriages or issue certificates. All registration of marriage and issuing of certificates will be carried out by the Registry Office. The notification to the Registry Office, and the celebration of marriage in church, is not changing. However, instead of the two blue forms presently given to the couple, a single white 'schedule' will be given after the 28 day notice period. It is this form which will now be signed at the wedding, rather than the registers. We will then send the signed form in to the registry office, who will then be able to issue the certificates of marriage. Anyone requiring a marriage certificate should, from now on, obtain this from the Register office. Please note, **we can no longer issue marriage certificates.**

PARISH GIVING

To avoid waste and to simplify the system many envelope numbers have changed. Please throw away any old envelopes that you have from before April 2021, to avoid confusion in the parish office. Please read the notice below to understand the changes to the system...

Offertory Gift Aid Envelopes

From April 2021 parishioners who pay their offertory by standing order will no longer receive a box of numbered envelopes. There may be an occasion when you would like to make a donation over and above your standing order amount so there will be gift aid envelopes available in each church to enable you to do this. Boxes of numbered envelopes will still be available for tax payers who Gift Aid but do not pay by standing order.

Non-Gift Aid Envelopes

We will not be ordering numbered envelopes for parishioners who are not able to Gift Aid their donation. Your donation can be made loose or you can have a box of unnumbered envelopes. These are available, if you want them, so please just ask!

If you have a box of envelopes with a new number or no number, this isn't a mistake. There is no need to try to change it back! Please dispose of any old envelopes.

Goldenhill & Kidsgrove 200 Club Weekly Draws: 2/5/2021: £20 123 G Hussey; £10 41 S Grandfield. 9/5/2021: £20 79 H Brown; £10 20 P Pender. Monthly and quarterly payments are now due.

CAFOD

CAFOD are asking parishioners to sign a petition asking the Prime Minister to urge other wealthy nations to abide by their promises to help reduce the increase in world temperature below 1.5 degrees. For more information and to sign the petition please go to

www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home

ROSARY AGAINST COVID

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, is calling on us all to pray the Rosary during Mary's month of May, to bring an end to the COVID 19 pandemic which is having such devastating effects across the world. Please pray the Rosary, or at least a decade each day during May. The Holy Father has also asked us to call on the intercession of Our Lady under titles from around the world. See weekly Mass sheet for the day's title.

PARISH REGISTERS

Death

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Daniel Killeen. Requiem Mass will be offered for the repose of his soul on Wednesday 12th May at 11am at St Joseph's, followed by committal at Bradwell Crematorium.

And also for the soul of Rose Doherty (arrangements later)

And also for the soul of Thomas Crompton (arrangements later).

Requiescant in pace

Numbers permitted to attend are strictly limited to 30 at a funeral in church. Please do not come to a funeral without asking the family. Those who turn up without their name being on the list will not be admitted. Thank you.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

Dedications for w/b 9th May:

St Joseph's: Grandfield family; Special Intention (PAP)

English Martyrs': Brian Wakefield

Dedications for w/b 16th May:

St Joseph's: Edward & Muriel Bradley; Cooper family

Please put donation (£5 min) in an envelope. Write on 'Sanctuary lamp' and preferred church and intention.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Seventh Sunday of Easter: John 17:11-19

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'

Pentecost Sunday: John 15:26-27,16:12-15

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses, because you have been with me from the outset. I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come. He will glorify me, since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: *All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.*'