

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE KIDSGROVE, BIDDULPH & GOLDENHILL



PARISH BULLETIN

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 1ST JUNE 2025

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Today marks the 13th anniversary of the beginning of my pastoral ministry in the parish as Parish Priest. In many ways it has flown by, though it also seems like a long time. Thinking back, the parish has changed somewhat. For one thing, it is now one rather than three parishes. The community around us has also changed significantly, especially looking at the make-up of the congregation at St Joseph's. It is a much more diverse parish with many more people from other nations and ethnicities. There are also different challenges which emerge. Engaging the Catholic families who have been here for generations with the Faith is a particular difficulty, and many have practically given up the Catholic Faith, or are strangers to Mass and the Sacraments. But then

there are those who come into our community from far away, but whom we do not find it easy to engage in the life of the Parish beyond the Mass. In the middle of all the change we need the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and also the awareness of difficulties and the need to respond to the situation.

One thing that we have begun recently is the Parish Forum. We started in the winter, and then have our second meeting coming soon. Please come to the meeting whether you came before or not. It would be excellent to see more people from the different ethnicities we see in church on Sunday come and express what they see as their place in the parish.

Over the next few weeks there will be the First Holy Communion of children from our parish schools.

For many of them it will be a rare thing to be in church on a Sunday morning. It would be great if we could make them feel especially welcome and encourage them to find a regular place for the worship of God in the Mass. Many people say that they don't need to go to Mass, as they pray every day. It may well be the case that they do, but it is fundamentally un-Catholic to say this. We have the Eucharist, the very presence of Jesus Christ, among us. That is something which is essential to Catholic life. So, let us pray for a new awareness of the Eucharist, and pray for a Eucharistic renewal among Catholics.

Please also pray for the Deanery Eucharistic Congress which is happening next month, from 10th to 12th July, and please plan to be part of it!

SAINT OF THE WEEK



**St Hanibal Maria di
Francia
1851-1927**

Although born in a noble family, Hanibal was orphaned at the age of 2. This gave him a particular sensitivity towards orphans in his life. He was known, even as a boy, as very charitable. When he was a priest he saw his charity repaid by God's Provi-

dence many times over. He went to the poorest area of Messina to live with the poorest, and helped people materially and spiritually. People were suspicious of his motives, but he won through with faith. His motto was: "Double charity: evangelization and aid to the poor". He founded a women's community and orphanages.

CHURCHES

Biddulph English Martyrs' Church, Church Road, Biddulph, ST8 6NE

Goldenhill St Joseph's Church, High Street, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 5RD

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
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Parish Secretary

Teresa Harding
Tel: (01782) 782121
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Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Fri
9am to 3.30pm. Weds, Thurs
9am to 1pm.

Safeguarding

The Parish of Our Lady of Grace operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are:

Biddulph: Julie Shufflebotham
(sg.englishmartyrs.biddulph@rcaob.org.uk)

Goldenhill: Jo Kirkham
(sg.stjoseph.goldenhill@rcaob.org.uk)

Packmoor: Lorraine Connell
(sg.stpatricks.packmoor@rcaob.org.uk)

Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Parish Website

www.ourladyofgraceparish.org
The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity no. 234216

LITURGY & DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Packmoor	Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions) At each church Saturday/Sunday Confessions are available at each church 20 minutes before Mass. St Joseph's Friday 5pm (when there is a 6pm Mass)	
Saturday 31st			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	Tony Jervis
Sunday 1st Seventh Sunday of Easter	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Bailey & McQuade families Paul McGough
Monday 2nd Feria of Easter					
Tuesday 3rd St Charles Lwanga & Companions	8.55am 9.15am		2.15pm	Lauds Holy Mass Holy Rosary	Int Pat Gittins
Wednesday 4th Feria of Easter		5.45pm 6.00pm		Vespers Holy Mass	Michael & Maureen Meaney & family
Thursday 5th St Boniface	12noon	9.30am		Holy Mass (St Joseph's school) Holy Mass	People of the Parish Int Winnie & Vincent Farrell (65th Anniversary)
Friday 6th Feria of Easter First Friday		3.00pm 4.30pm 5.30pm 6.00pm		Eucharistic Adoration begins Confessions First Friday Devotions & Vespers Holy Mass	Paddy Maughan
Saturday 7th Vigil of Pentecost			5.30pm	Vigil Mass of the Solemnity	Thomas & Lilian Doyle
Sunday 8th PENTECOST SUNDAY	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	People of the Parish Margaret Crompton
Monday 9th Mary, Mother of the Church		6.15pm*		Holy Mass	Stan Grandfield
Tuesday 10th Feria <i>Votive of Holy Spirit</i>	8.55am 9.15am		2.15pm	Lauds Holy Mass Holy Rosary	Special Intention
Wednesday 11th St Barnabas		6.15pm*		Holy Mass	Bernard Cunningham
Thursday 12th Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest	12noon	9.30am		Holy Mass (St John's school) Holy Mass	Johnson Association Benefactors Int Eileen Ward
Friday 13th St Anthony of Padua		8.15am 6.15pm*		Holy Mass (St Margaret Ward) Holy Mass	People of the Parish Shirley Turner
Saturday 14th Our Lady			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	John Martin
Sunday 15th The Most Holy Trinity	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Julia Biggane Stan Grandfield

***Weekday Masses at St Joseph's** Please note that there will be no Vespers in the week beginning 8th June and Masses at St Joseph's will begin at 6.15pm to allow Fr Julian to take part in an online course on spiritual theology.

Parish Forum The Parish Forum meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th June at 7pm at English Martyrs'. Hopefully all parish groups will be represented and other individual parishioners will be able to come too. We will also be looking at the planning for forthcoming parish events.

Men's Prayer Circle The Circle is for men who have done the Prayer & Life Workshop or who are interested in fraternal meeting of a spiritual nature. The next meeting is on Saturday 24th May, 9am to 10.30am.

Our Lady of Grace Ladies Our Parish Ladies Group are meeting at English Martyrs' on Monday 9th June at 7pm. This meeting will be to do all the final preparations for the Fayre. All ladies welcome, especially new members!

Care Home Service The next service at Lawton Rise Care Home will be on Wednesday 18th June starting at 11am. Everyone welcome to come and join the residents. Please meet outside in good time.

Filipino Community Mass is today, 1st June, at 3pm at Holy Trinity Newcastle.

Pilgrims of Hope The team at Father Hudson's Caritas are putting on two web-based talks about supporting older people in our communities. The talks are on Monday 16th June, 12.30 to 1.30pm, and on Tuesday 17th June from 6 to 7pm. To register <https://www.fatherhudsons.org.uk/event-posts/pilgrims-of-hope-supporting-older-people/>

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 you want the Catholic chaplain (Fr Matthew). If you need a Chaplain at the Haywood, please contact Fr George at Tunstall. For other hospitals, care homes or hospices, please ask the staff. If you have any difficulties, contact the Parish Office.

The Parish of Our Lady of Grace,
Kidsgrove, Biddulph and Goldenhill

Summer Fayre
Saturday
14th June
10am - 12noon
Biddulph Town Hall



COFFEE CAKE TEA

**Free Admission, Many Stalls,
Raffle and Refreshments**

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Summer Fayre Thanks for all the donations of saleable items and raffle prizes received so far. We need home baking to be brought on the day! So, cakes, homemade scones and biscuits and bread need to be brought to the Town Hall on Saturday 14th June. Alternatively, they can be brought to St Joseph's at Mass on Friday 13th June if you can't make it over to Biddulph. And very importantly: Please come along and support the Fayre!

Come to His Eucharistic Heart is the name of our Deanery Eucharistic Congress taking place from 10th to 12th July. The programme will begin with a Deanery Jubilee Year Mass celebrated by His Grace, the Archbishop on Thursday 10th July at Sacred Heart Church, Tunstall at 7pm. This will be followed by the opening of the Congress with a talk, a Holy Hour, and all-night Eucharistic Adoration. The Friday will be a programme for schools in which all the Catholic Schools of North Staffordshire are invited to participate. This will take place in each school with parts of the day shared through live streaming. On Friday evening, we invite all parishioners to come for the opening of the conference part of the Congress. There will be Mass, a talk, and Holy Hour and once again all night Adoration. The Congress continues on Saturday with a full programme of talks, workshops and times of prayer, ending with Mass and a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament presided over by Bishop Timothy Menezes.

Visitation of the Pilgrimage Statue of Our Lady of Fatima The worldwide Apostolate of Fatima are organising a pilgrimage with the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of St Jacinta and St Francisco, the visionaries of Fatima. The statue will be at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, on Saturday 28th June from 10am to 5pm.

WeBelieve Festival 25th-28th July is a festival of Catholic Life celebrating the Jubilee Year of Hope, with parishes and families in mind. Four days of music, keynote talks, conversation & worship, in the beautiful surroundings of St Mary's College, Oscott, Sutton Coldfield. Featuring Dr Gianna Emanuela Molla (daughter of St Gianna Molla), Fr Paul Murray, Mgr Michael Nazir-Ali, AnMari, Fr Toby Lees & many more. Pilgrim attendees can choose to come for the whole weekend (camping, staying locally or coming from home) at an adult Early Bird rate of £70, or for a day for £40. Early Bird Tickets available now online on the website www.webelievefestival.com

HOSPITALITY



St Joseph's Welcoming Place meets on Tuesdays from 10am to 12noon at St Joseph's Academy (in the after school club building). Come and have a cuppa and a chat! Everyone welcome!

The Young at Heart Club, for senior citizens, is at Kidsgrove Town Hall on the last Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is on Tuesday 24th June from 1.30 to 3.30pm. Everyone welcome! £3 to attend.

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 you want the Catholic chaplain (Fr Matthew). If you need a Chaplain at the Haywood, please contact Fr George at Tunstall. For other hospitals, care homes or hospices, please ask the staff. If you have any difficulties, contact the Parish Office.

PENTECOST NOVENA

The Pentecost Novena was instituted to be prayed in every parish by Pope Leo XIII in 1897. At the beginning of the Pontificate of the new Pope, Leo XIV, we can pray for the Pope and for all the Church the Novena prayers from Friday after Ascension to the Vigil of Pentecost.

Our Father... Hail Mary...

Glory be... (seven times for the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit)

Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Christ Jesus, before ascending into heaven, you promised to send the Holy Spirit to your apostles and disciples. Grant that the same Spirit may perfect in our lives the work of your grace and love. Grant us the Spirit of fear of the Lord that we may be filled with loving reverence toward you; the Spirit of piety that we might find peace and fulfilment in the service of God while serving others; the Spirit of fortitude that we may bear our cross with you and, with courage overcome the obstacles that interfere with our salvation; the Spirit of knowledge that we may know you and know ourselves and grow in holiness; the Spirit of understanding to enlighten our minds with the light of your truth; the Spirit of counsel that we may choose the surest way of doing your will, seeking first the kingdom. Grant us the Spirit of wisdom that we may aspire to the things that last forever. Teach us to be your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with your Spirit. Amen.

Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit

On my knees I before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses I offer myself, soul and body to You, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Your purity, the unerring keenness of Your justice, and the might of Your love. You are the Strength and Light of my soul. In You I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve You by unfaithfulness to grace and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against You. Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for Your light, and listen to Your voice, and follow Your gracious inspirations. I cling to You and give myself to You and ask You, by Your compassion to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced Feet of Jesus and looking at His Five Wounds, and trusting in His Precious Blood and adoring His opened Side and stricken Heart, I implore You, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, to keep me in Your grace that I may never sin against You. Give me grace O Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and the Son to say to You always and everywhere, "Speak Lord for Your servant listens." Amen.

Pope St John XXIII's Prayer

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.

PARISH REGISTERS

Marriage

Congratulations to Hugo Lopes and Sarah Zoppi who were married at English Martyrs' church on Friday 30th May.

Deaths

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Barbara Yates. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's on Thursday 26th June at 2pm, followed by committal at Bradwell Crematorium.

And also for the soul of Sylvia Meehan. Funeral Service will be celebrated at English Martyrs' on Friday

20th June at 2pm, followed by burial at Biddulph cemetery.

Requiescant in Pace

Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

Week beginning 1st June

St Joseph's: Robert Johnson

St Patrick's:

English Martyrs': Mary Jervis

Week beginning 8th June

St Joseph's: John Martin

St Patrick's:

English Martyrs': Jean Close

You can dedicate a sanctuary lamp for a week for a minimum donation of £5

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGES

Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford For those who can't make it to Lourdes, you are invited to come to the Diocesan shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, on Sunday 6th July, from 1pm to 5.30pm. Celebrant: Bishop Timothy Menzies.

Harvington Hall Pilgrimage The annual pilgrimage to Harvington Hall in honour of the English Martyrs' will take place on Sunday 7th September. More details later.

Pilgrims of Hope Walking Pilgrimage

There is going to be a national walking pilgrimage following four different ways and converging at St Barnabas' Cathedral, Nottingham on 13th September 2025. For more details about the routes, and to take part: <https://www.pilgrimways.org.uk/national-pilgrims-of-hope-walking-pilgrimage>

If you do not have a standing order in place, it is by far the best way of being able to give to the parish, as it attracts the



lowest bank charges. You can set it up by contacting your bank or in online banking. The details of the parish bank account are as follows:

Account Name: Our Lady of Grace Parish

Account Sort Code: 010138

Account Number: 75282135

If you pay personal Income Tax, you can also Gift Aid your donations. Please contact Teresa in the Parish Office. You can also make a donation on your smartphone using this QR code. This can also be done on the parish website.

Parish Office & Parish Priest's Open House

The Parish Office is open at the normal times of opening (see front page) with the exception of Bank Holidays. It is recommended to phone before coming in person.

Open House is when Fr Julian is available to be seen for consultations about baptisms, weddings, or for any other reason. It takes place on Saturday mornings from 11am to 12noon. There will be no Open House on Saturday 14th June.