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

Parish Bulletin

Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time **Sunday 15th November 2026**

A Word from the Parish Priest

Today is Safeguarding Sunday, which is a day when we highlight the ways in which, in the Catholic Church today, we are committed to protecting children and the vulnerable. The theme of this year's Safeguarding Sunday is "Love Protects". It is a reminder that safeguarding is not an 'extra' that we do, but is key to our mission as Christian communities. The basic principle is to respect and protect the dignity of every person, and to ensure that all are safe from abuse within our Church. As you know, we have three Parish Safeguarding Representatives. Their contact details, together with those of the Diocesan Safeguarding Office, are printed on every bulletin. If you have any concerns about the way in which children and vulnerable adults are being protected in our Parish, or any suggestions how this could be done better, please contact the parish reps.

Today is also a day when we can seek to make reparation for the past abuses that happened within the Catholic Church, and to ensure that this does not happen again in the future. We pray for those who were victims of abuse in the context of the Catholic Church, praying that they will find some healing in their lives.

The focus next Sunday, the Feast of Christ the King, is on young people. The first couple of meetings of our Young Adults group have been good, and it is my intention that we might extend the work to younger ages in the near future. In celebration of Youth Sunday next week, we will actually administer the Sacraments of Initiation to young people at Mass at Packmoor and Goldenhill. It is a great sign of the new interest in faith, and specifically in the Catholic Church, that it is young people who are seeking to enter the Church or to come to a new commitment to the Faith. Please pray for them. We will also welcome a representative from the Kenelm Youth Trust, who will speak a little about the work of the Archdiocese with young people.

A final word: I would like to invite parishioners to take advantage of the opportunities to come to weekday Masses. The number coming has decreased since the summer. Next week I will be leading a group of 36 priests on retreat in Ars. Please pray for that side of my ministry, and for the priests.

Saint of the Week



St Francis Fasani
1681-1742

Francis was born in Foggia in central Italy and, after attending school at the friary in his home town, entered the community and was professed as a Franciscan. After studies in theology, at which he excelled, gaining a doctorate, he returned to his home town of Lucera and became master of novices, parish priest and guardian of the community of Franciscans. He was especially known as a compassionate confessor in the town, and devoted to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. He was considered to be a mystic, and showed great insight in his sermons. He was in great demand for retreats. He was canonised in 1986.

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
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Parish Secretary

Teresa Harding
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Office Hours: Mon, Tues 9am to 3.30pm. Weds, Thurs 9am to 1pm. **No office hours on Fri**.

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:
Bidduph: 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

Sunday Readings Year A Weekday Readings Year II	**Biddulph**	**Goldenhill**	**Packmoor**	**Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions)** **At each church Saturday/Sunday** 20 minutes before each Saturday evening/Sunday Mass. **St Joseph's:** Friday 5pm when there is evening Mass	
Saturday 14th			5.30pm	Vigil Mass of the Solemnity	John Martin
Sunday 15th **Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time**	9.00am	 11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Eileen Williamson & Dec of family November List
Monday 16th St Gertrude		*5.45pm* 6.00pm		*Vespers* Holy Mass	 November List
Tuesday 17th St Elizabeth of Hungary	10.30am 7.00pm	 12.30pm	 2.15pm	Liturgy of the Word (OLOG school) Wedding Service Holy Rosary N Staffs Walsingham Association Deceased Members Mass	 Kevin Cantor & Kieran Eardley November List
Wednesday 18th Dedication of Basilicas of St Peter & St Paul	 7.00pm	*5.00pm* 6.00pm		*Adoration & Vespers* Holy Mass Holy Rosary	 November List
Thursday 19th Feria (*Daily Requiem*)	 *11.15am* 12noon	9.30am		Holy Mass (St John's school) *Eucharistic Adoration* Holy Mass	November List Delaine & Chris Wood
Friday 20th Feria (*Daily Requiem*)		*9.15am* 9.30am		*Lauds* Holy Mass	 November List
Saturday 21st Presentation of Our Lady		1.00pm	 5.30pm	Holy Mass (PLW *Sending Forth* Mass) Holy Mass of Sunday	November List People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd **CHRIST THE KING**	9.00am	 11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	November List Michael Joseph Dymnicki
Monday 23rd St Clement I					*Fr Julian will say a Mass for the November List each day during his retreat*
Tuesday 24th St Andrew Dung Lac & Comp			2.15pm	Holy Rosary	
Wednesday 25th St Catherine of Alexandria	7.00pm			Holy Rosary	
Thursday 26th St Josaphat					
Friday 27th Feria					
The New Liturgical Year Begins					
Saturday 28th Our Lady			5.30pm	Vigil Mass of the Solemnity	November List
Sunday 29th **First Sunday of Advent**	9.00am	 11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Thomas Pham, Joseph (Sr) & Joseph (Jr) Nguyen November List

November Month of the Holy Souls There is still time to add names to the November list of the dead. The sheets of paper for the names to be added and the envelopes are available in each church. Please include, if you are able, an offering which goes to supply the stipends for the November Masses plus many other Masses throughout the year. We will also pray for the souls of those on the November List at the end of every Mass during the month of November.

Our Lady of Grace Ladies Our Parish Ladies' Group are meeting at on Monday 30th November at 7pm at St Joseph's Church. All ladies are welcome to come. The meeting will be geared towards the preparations for the parish Christmas fayre.

Bl Ivan Merz Young Adults group We have started regular meetings for young adults 18 to 30 every other Sunday afternoon from 5pm to 7pm. The dates are 15th & 29th November, 13th December. Don't be shy! Come along and join in. If you want to know more ask Carina (mcarinaaug@gmail.com) or Fr Julian.

Altar Servers If any child or young person wishes to become an altar server, please see Fr Julian. Any child should be in Year 4 at school or above. Children can serve at any of our churches with parental permission. Adults wishing to serve would be welcome, but must go through the normal safeguarding procedures before starting to serve.

Churches Together The local churches are present each year for the switching on of the Christmas lights in Biddulph which takes place on the last weekend of November. We are hoping to give out to children knitted angels. But we need knitters to knit them! We have the pattern—just ask Jackie Menzies at English Martyrs.

Walsingham Association The annual Mass for Deceased members of the North Staffs Walsingham Association will take place at English Martyrs' church on Tuesday 17th November at 7pm. The Mass will be followed by refreshments in the meeting room. All members, pilgrims and parishioners are welcome.

Prayer & Life Workshops Jo Kirkham from our parish is being commissioned, or 'sent forth' as a PLW guide on Saturday 21st November at a Mass at 11am at St Joseph's. All welcome.

Volunteers required We need some volunteers to take on roles:
Someone to set up and run social media presence of the parish.
People available to help count the collection money (usually Tuesday morning once every 2 months).
Two people or more prepared to take money to the bank or post office.
Someone with experience in health and safety to help with risk assessment.
Please see Fr Julian or contact the parish office.

Foodbank Appeal We are now collecting Christmas food and treats to make up goody bags for the people who come to the foodbank over Christmas. Items such as mince pies, Christmas puddings of various sizes, tins or cartons of custard and any Christmas chocolate, cakes and biscuits. Last year we gave out around 100 goody bags last year! So it brings a little joy to those who are going through tough times. Please bring items to church any time from now—but please mark your items 'foodbank' so as not to confuse it with fayre items.

Red Mission Boxes For box holders at Goldenhill, please bring boxes in to be counted. Thanks to all box holders from Biddulph and Packmoor, whose donations have raised £1800 this year.

Please bring an item each week to church during the time between now and the Fayre:
22nd Nov—Bric a Brac
Day of the Fayre—Cakes & bakes
You can bring tombola prizes and bottles or any item any week. Raffle tickets are on sale after Mass each Saturday and Sunday before the Fayre

HOSPITALITY



St Joseph's Welcome Space is our open house group for people to come and have a cuppa and a chat! At St Joseph's Academy (in the after school club) on Mobberley Road, 10am to 12noon.

Our Welcome Space at English Martyrs' is up and running again. Come and join us on Wednesdays from 11am to 2pm for light refreshments or lunch (soup, sandwiches, dessert). And of course, good company.

The Young at Heart Club, for senior citizens, is at Kidsgrove Town Hall on the last Tuesday of the month. Next meeting is on 24th November from 2pm to 4pm. £3 entry.

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

Christmas Fayre
Saturday
5th December
11am - 1pm

At St. Joseph's, Catholic Academy School, Mobberley Rd, Goldenhill, ST6 5RN

Free Admission, Many Stalls, Santa, Choir, Raffle and Refreshments

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216

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 for the parish. 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

Blessing of the Prayer Garden at Our Lady of Grace Academy



Mrs Rathbone, Principal, writes:

On Tuesday 3rd November, members of our school and parish community gathered together for the blessing of our Prayer Garden, a special occasion marking the completion of a project that has been lovingly developed over the past year by staff, pupils and parents.

The Prayer Garden has been created as a sacred space at the heart of our school, offering opportunities for prayer, reflection and peaceful contemplation. It is a place where members of our community can encounter God in the beauty of creation, give thanks for His many blessings, and find comfort and hope in times of joy and sorrow.

The prayer service held particular significance as we remembered those who have died, especially Jack, a much-loved child from our school community who very sadly passed away last year. In the month of November, when we remember and pray for the faithful departed, the garden will provide a lasting place where their memories can be cherished and entrusted to God's loving care.

We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed their time, talents and generosity towards the creation of this beautiful garden. Their dedication and commitment have provided a lasting legacy for our school community.

A special thank you is also extended to Father Julian for leading the prayer service and for blessing the Prayer Garden. We are grateful to all who joined us for this memorable celebration and pray that this special place will continue to be a source of faith, hope and comfort for many years to come.



"Let the little children come to me; do not stop them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Mark 10:14)

Parish Registers

Baptisms

Welcome to the family of the Church to Harvey James Eardley and Avra Rose Eardley, who will be baptized on Sunday 22nd November at St Joseph's.

Reception into Church

Welcome to full Communion with the Catholic Church to Matthew Ransley, who will be received and receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation at St Joseph's on Sunday 21st November.

Confirmation

Congratulations to Harley Davies and Hadley Davies who will be confirmed at St Patrick's on Saturday 20th November.

And to Levi Abbotts who will be confirmed at St Joseph's on Sunday 21st November

Marriage

Congratulations to Kevin Cantor and Kieran Eardley who will be married at St Joseph's on Tuesday 17th November.

And to Levi Abbotts and Hanna Kempe-Abbotts whose marriage was canonically convalidated on Saturday 7th November.

Deaths

Of your charity please pray for the soul of Margaret Grolik. Funeral arrangements later.

Requiescat in pace

Parish Priest's Open House

Open House is when Fr Julian is available to be seen for any pastoral reason. The next Open House will be on Saturday 28th November 11am to 12noon. There will be no Open House on Saturday 21st.

Mass Intentions & Offerings

Please realise that Masses for Sundays get booked up well in advance. If you want a specific date, please request the Mass three months in advance. Please expect that any general requests for Sunday Masses will join a queue and can sometimes take a number of weeks before they are allocated. Weekdays are much easier to allocate, and there are plenty of dates available. Mass bookings are on a first come, first served basis. Please note all Masses for Christmas Day have already been booked.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

Week beginning 15th November

St Joseph's: Michael & Maureen Meaney

St Patrick's:

English Martyrs: Mary Jervis

Week beginning 22nd November

St Joseph's:

St Patrick's:

English Martyrs:

You can arrange for the Sanctuary Lamp to the dedicated for your particular intention. Please put donation in an envelope and write the intention and preferred church on the envelope. Min donation £7