

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

## SUNDAY BULLETIN

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2024

### A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

In the past, August was the great holiday month, and 'back to school' meant that parishioners returned after being away too. It is very noticeable, these days, that while August is a month of holiday for families, many retired people go away on their holidays in September. It means that the holiday period stretches into the autumn. In fact, the number in church during August was very much like normal in the rest of the year. As soon as September arrived, the number in church went down. It means that we have to be aware, not to start parish events or initiatives in September!

And so October becomes the month for starting new things, and getting back into our activity. You'll see, in this bulletin, that there are quite a few things going on over the next few

weeks, as we get back into parish life.

It is exciting that, after a break of a few years, we have the Alpha course back on. It is taking place in St Margaret Ward Academy, and is available to teachers, parents, and parishioners alike. It is mainly aimed at people who are beginners with faith. That might not be you—but you might know people who fall into that category. Maybe you could invite them to go to the Alpha course, and go along with them?

We will soon be beginning our Parish preparation for Consecration to the Heart of Jesus, which will take place at the heart of the coming Jubilee Year. I hope that as many of you as possible will make the effort to observe the nine First Fridays (though in November it will be the second Friday so as not to

clash with All Saints' Day).

The First Fridays were revealed to St Margaret Mary as a wonderful way to get people to take the sacramental life of the Church seriously, and for renewal in faith.

In the coming weeks we also have a healing service and prayer for vocations. Biddulph will join Goldenhill for the 'welcome space' initiative, providing a place of welcome and company with others.

I am very pleased that the new heating system in the presbytery has been completed. It took seven weeks, on and off, and the process was a little tiresome. Part of the work was to link the former presbytery boiler to the church boiler, to give double power to the heating at St Joseph's. I'm sure it will be noticed during the cold winter months ahead.

### SAINT OF THE WEEK



#### St Francis Jaccard 1799-1838

Francis, from Savoy in eastern France, went to become a member of the French Foreign Missions, and was ordained priest. In 1824 he was sent to Vietnam on mission. He was very successful at bringing many people to the Faith. He was arrested a number of times, but his ability

with languages meant he was able to gain his release.

In 1838, however, the success of his mission led to him being arrested for a final time, and this time the authorities wanted to make an example of him. He was tortured, but refused to give up the Faith and his priesthood, and so was strangled to death. Canonised by John Paul II.

### 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  
[fr.julian.green@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.julian.green@rcaob.org.uk)

### Parish Secretary

Teresa Harding  
Tel: (01782) 782121  
[OLG.parishes@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:OLG.parishes@rcaob.org.uk)  
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 Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are:

**Biddulph:** Julie Shufflebotham  
([sg.englishmartyrs.biddulph@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.englishmartyrs.biddulph@rcaob.org.uk))

**Goldenhill:** Jo Kirkham  
([sg.stjoseph.goldenhill@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stjoseph.goldenhill@rcaob.org.uk))

**Packmoor:** Lorraine Connell  
([sg.stpatricks.packmoor@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stpatricks.packmoor@rcaob.org.uk))

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

### Parish Website

[www.partnershipparishes.org](http://www.partnershipparishes.org)

*The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity no.*

234216

## LITURGY &amp; DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Packmoor	Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions) St Joseph's Sun before Mass English Martyrs' Sun before Mass St Patrick's Sat before Mass <i>At other times on request</i>	
<b>Saturday 21st</b>			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	John Martin
<b>Sunday 22nd</b> <b>Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Dec of Child family Veronica Williams
<b>Monday 23rd</b> St Pio of Pietrelcina		5.45pm 6.00pm		<i>Vespers</i> Holy Mass	Stan Grandfield
<b>Tuesday 24th</b> <b>Our Lady of Walsingham</b>	8.55am 9.15am		2.15pm	<i>Lauds</i> Holy Mass Holy Rosary	Jean Green
<b>Wednesday 25th</b> Feria		5.45pm 6.00pm		<i>Vespers</i> Holy Mass	Jean Harding
<b>Thursday 26th</b> Feria	12noon	9.30am		Holy Mass (St Joseph's School) Holy Mass	Private Intention Dec of Child family
<b>Friday 27th</b> St Vincent de Paul		5.00pm 6.00pm		<i>Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Vespers</i> Holy Mass	Bernadette McGough
<b>Saturday 28th</b> Our Lady			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	Int Mary Welsh
<b>Sunday 29th</b> <b>Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Int Linda Whitehurst Thanksgiving
<b>Monday 30th</b> St Jerome		5.45pm 6.00pm		<i>Vespers</i> Holy Mass	Special Intention
<b>Tuesday 1st</b> St Teresa of Lisieux	8.55am 9.15am		2.15pm	<i>Lauds</i> Holy Mass Holy Rosary	Richard Moffatt
<b>Wednesday 2nd</b> Guardian Angels		<b>9.30am</b>		Holy Mass	Joan Sadler
<b>Thursday 3rd</b> Feria		9.30am		Holy Mass (St John's School)	Holy Souls
<b>Friday 4th</b> St Francis of Assisi <i>First Friday</i>		5.00pm 6.00pm		<i>Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Vespers</i> Holy Mass	Ann Fitzroy
<b>Saturday 5th</b> Our Lady			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	Pat Holmes & family
<b>Sunday 6th</b> <b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am	4.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Healing Service	People of the Parish Paddy Maughan

**October, Month of the Holy Rosary** During the month of October we will have the Rosary before each Saturday/Sunday Mass, as we usually do. 5th/6th—Joyful Mysteries; 12th/13th—Luminous Mysteries; 19th/20th—Sorrowful Mysteries; 26th/27th—Glorious Mysteries. Please volunteer to lead the Rosary before one of the Masses. The prayer of the Rosary begins 20 minutes before Mass. October is also our **Deanery Month of Prayer for Vocations**—so we will have a 'sign up' list for families or individuals to say a Rosary on one day of the month, privately at home, as a Vocations Rosary Bouquet.

**Fr Peter Blundell RIP** Please pray for the soul of Fr Peter, who was Parish Priest of St John's Kidsgrove from 1986 to 1988, who died on 28th August at 6pm. The funeral arrangements are as follows: Reception into St Chad's Cathedral on Monday 30th September. The Requiem Mass, celebrated by His Grace the Archbishop, will be on Tuesday 1st October at 12 noon, at St Chad's.

**Our Lady of Walsingham Feast** This year we will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham on 24th September as a full liturgical Feast day. The North Staffs Walsingham Association would like to invite you to come and celebrate the Feast Day. There will be Mass celebrated by the Association's chaplain, Fr Julian Green, at Sacred Heart, Tunstall, on Tuesday 24th September at 7pm. It is a good opportunity to find out more about the Association.

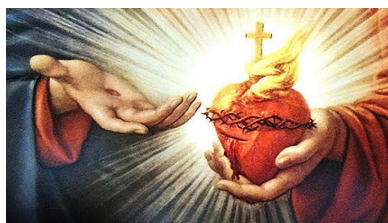
**Healing Service** Our next parish healing service will be on Sunday 6th October at 4.30pm. For those with diagnosed illnesses and the elderly there is the opportunity for the Sacrament of the Sick. For everyone there will be prayer for healing. If you know someone who is sick, please invite them to come and bring them along. Come and bring your intentions of prayer for the sick who cannot attend.

**Our Lady of Grace Ladies** Our Parish Ladies Group are meeting at St Joseph's on Monday, 14th October at English Martyrs' Church at 7pm. All ladies welcome!

**Men's Prayer Circle** The Circle is for men who have done the Prayer & Life Workshop. After a couple of cancelled meetings, it's time to get back up and running. The next meeting is on Saturday 5th October, 9am.

**Parish Forum** In October we are going to start laying the groundwork for our new Parish Pastoral Forum. The idea of the Pastoral Forum is to get people together from across the whole parish who are interested in advancing the mission of the parish, and to discuss new ways in which we can respond to God's call. It is essen-

## JUBILEE YEAR CONSECRATION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Fr Julian has proposed that we all make a consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the Feast Day in June next year, which is the Year of Jubilee.

To prepare for this, you are invited to come each month, for nine months, on the First Friday, the traditional day of devotion to the Sacred Heart. There will be Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions, Devotions and Mass on each of these days.

The first 'First Friday' will be on Friday 4th October at St Joseph's.

The programme is as follows:

2pm Adoration begins

5pm Confessions

5.30pm Vespers, First Friday devotions and Benediction

6pm Mass

If you have not been to confession for a long time, or have become infrequent, and if you feel that your life of faith or spiritual life is not what it should be, let's make the First Fridays a time of renewal!

tial that we have representation from all the present groups in our parish, as well as the involvement of all the willing! We will have a planning meeting, which will look at practicalities: how often it will meet, what it will deal with, representation, etc. If you are willing to help, please come to a meeting at St Patrick's on Monday 7th October at 7.30pm.

**New Lectionary Talk** Fr Paul Denney, who has been one of the Bible scholars responsible for preparing the new lectionary, which we start using in Advent, is presenting an online talk about the new lectionary.

## HOSPITALITY



St Joseph's Welcoming Place is up and running again this week. It is an opportunity for anyone from our community to come together for refreshments and a chat. We meet on Tuesdays from 10am to 12noon in the after school club at St Joseph's Catholic Academy on Moberley Road. Everyone welcome!

The Welcome Space initiative will be back up and running over the autumn and winter at English Martyrs' too. Starting on Wednesday 16th October, from 11am to 2pm, there will be tea and coffee, soup, sandwiches and dessert. Everyone welcome!

The Young at Heart Club, for senior citizens, takes place at Kidsgrove Town Hall on the last Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is on Tuesday 24th September from **1.30 to 3.30pm** (note change of time). Everyone welcome! £3 to attend.

It will be on Tuesday 1st October from 7 to 8pm, and is open to everyone. If you would like to be part of this interesting online meeting, then you will need the link to access it on MS Teams. Please email Fr Marco on [fr.marco.egawhary@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.marco.egawhary@rcaob.org.uk) for the link.

**Newman Talk** Fr Michael Miners will be giving a talk on the teaching of St John Henry Newman on Tuesday 15th October, 7pm to 8.30pm, at St Wulstan's School Hall. All welcome to attend.

**Care Home Service** The next service at Lawton Rise will be on Wednesday 16th October starting at 11am. Everyone welcome to come and join the residents.

**Holy Hour for Vocations** October is our Deanery month of prayer for Vocations. For Our Lady of Grace Parish, we will have a Holy Hour of Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday 20th October at 4.30pm at English Martyrs' Church. Let us join together in prayer for more vocations!

## CHANGES TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

His Grace, the Archbishop, has put forward a vision for the development of the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese. Most of the schools are, by now, Academies, organised into Multi-Academy Companies (MAC). These schools are independent from the local authority, and receive funding directly from the government. Each MAC is governed by a Board of Directors, under the auspices of the Trustees of the Archdiocese. In our area, the nine schools—St Margaret Ward and all its feeder primaries—are organised as the Newman Catholic Collegiate, as you are probably aware. It is now about 10 years since this was founded. The Archbishop, advised by the Diocesan Department for Education, has decided that now is the time for these Academies to be reorganised by making Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts much bigger, and merging the present MACs into them. This will be done gradually across the Diocese, beginning with our area—the north.

And so, the proposal is that, from 1st September 2025, all the schools in the whole of Staffordshire (including Stoke-on-Trent), Wolverhampton and the Black Country will merge into the first of these much larger Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts (it will have a proper name in due course, but at present is called CMAT1). This will make a Catholic Multi-Academy Trust with 63 schools (10 secondary and 53 primary), with over 21,500 pupils.

The Board of Directors, together with the present Senior Executive Leader of the Newman Catholic Collegiate, Ian Beardmore, have prepared a letter for all who are concerned with this change, including the people of the parishes covered by Collegiate. You can read the letter on the internet: <https://www.newmancc.co.uk/communication> It is the first item on the list. It is part of the consultation process, and the Archdiocese would like to hear any feedback concerning the new CMAT. If you wish to make a comment, then you can direct it to the Diocese by following the link on this page: <https://www.bdes.org.uk/cmat1-consultation.html> The consultation remains open until 12noon on 24th October 2024.



The **Alpha Course** is a basic course in Christianity, aimed at new enquirers, people with questions, as well as people who see themselves as Christian already. We are offering it this autumn as a 'twilight' session. They will be taking place at St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy on Thursdays from 4pm to 5.30pm, from 26th September to 5th December (except half term). Each session begins with refreshments, and the session includes a video talk, and discussion in groups. Everyone is welcome to attend, especially those not so sure of faith.

## PARISH GIVING

Thank you to everyone who responded positively to our appeal in the spring to move Standing Orders over to the new Parish Bank Account. Thanks especially to those who accepted the invitation to look again at the amount they give. There were some who were very generous in the revised amounts they now give.

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 REGISTERS

### Deaths

Of your charity please pray for the soul of Bernadette Mary McGough. Requiem Mass will be on Friday 25th October at St Joseph's followed by committal at Tunstall cemetery.

And also for the soul of Stephen Boulton. Funeral service on Thursday 3rd October at Bradwell Crematorium.

*Requiescant in Pace*

### Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

#### *Week beginning 22nd September*

English Martyrs': Thanksgiving

St Joseph's: Margaret Baker

St Patrick's: Morvyth Escombe

#### *Week beginning 29th September*

English Martyrs': Mary Jervis

St Joseph's: Michael & Maureen Meaney

St Patrick's:

*If you would like to dedicate a lamp in one of our churches for any intention, please place donation (min £5) in an envelope with the intention and preferred church*

### Parish Office & Parish Priest's Open House

The Parish Office is open at the times advertised on the front of the bulletin.

**Open House** is when Fr Julian is available to be seen for consultations about baptisms, weddings, or for any other reason. It now takes place on Saturday mornings from 11am to 12noon. No need to book, just turn up.