

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



SUNDAY BULLETIN

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY 30TH MARCH 2025

A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST



First of all, I would like to wish all mothers (and grandmothers) a Happy Mothering Sunday. We pray for you that God will bless your motherhood and reward you for all the good you do for your children and families!

We have had a busy couple of weeks. One of the highlights was the Confirmation Mass on Tuesday night when we welcomed Bishop Timothy Menezes for his first visit to the Parish. Children from Year 6 at St John's and St Joseph's were confirmed by the

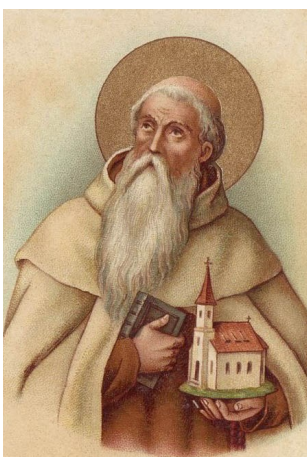
Bishop, and the whole evening was a beautiful celebration. You can see the marvellous children of Year 6 with the Bishop and me in the photo above. We also had Catholic children from our three parish schools and St Margaret Ward come for a penitential service on Thursday which went very well too.

Our parish celebrations for St Patrick and St Joseph's Days were well attended and good celebrations too. The number of people at St Patrick's church for their patronal feast was better

than for many years, and the bring and share buffet was plentiful. The school and parish came together for St Joseph's day and it too was a great celebration. With all these celebrations, it's hard to think that we are in Lent. However, today is a brief respite with Laetare Sunday, before we double down on Lent as we move towards Passiontide. It is a good opportunity to refresh our Lenten practices.

I would like to congratulate Ron Castillo on being accepted by the Archbishop to begin training for the priesthood this autumn. I know our prayers will be with him as he begins his formation. Welcome to Fr Emeric, the Moderator of the Society of St John Mary Vianney, who will be visiting us from Ars for the next couple of weeks. I am sure you will welcome him

SAINT OF THE WEEK



St Berthold of Calabria (d. 1195)

Considered by some authors as the founder of the Carmelite Order. He was a noble and, as a young man, went off to the Crusades. It was while he was in the Holy Land that he received a vision from the Lord denouncing the evil methods of the soldiers. He urged the inhabitants of Antioch

to turn to prayer and fasting, and the city was delivered. He came to Mount Carmel and built a small chapel there, gathering a community of hermits there, who wanted to imitate the prophet Elijah. He governed the community for forty-five years until his death. Some see in this community the origins of the Carmelite Order.

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
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 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) St Joseph's Sun before Mass; Friday evening at 5pm English Martyrs' Sun before Mass St Patrick's Sat before Mass <i>At other times on request</i>	
Saturday 29th			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	Frank Smithson
Sunday 30th Fourth Sunday of Lent <i>Laetare Sunday</i>	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Jean Green & all mothers of the parish, living and departed Winfred & Paddy Maughan
Monday 31st Lent Feria					
Tuesday 1st Lent Feria			2.15pm	Stations of the Cross	
Wednesday 2nd Lent Feria					
Thursday 3rd Lent Feria	11.30am	9.30am		Holy Mass (Church) Stations of the Cross	Special Intention
Friday 4th Lent Feria <i>Comm St Isidore of Seville</i> <i>First Friday</i>		3.00pm 4.30pm 5.30pm 6.00pm 6.30pm		<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Vespers</i> <i>Confessions</i> <i>Vespers & First Friday Devotions</i> Holy Mass Stations of the Cross	Special Intention (GH)
Saturday 5th Lent Feria			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	Bill & Mary Whitehouse
Sunday 6th Fifth Sunday of Lent	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mandy Buxton Paddy Maughan
Monday 7th Lent Feria <i>Comm St John B de la Salle</i>		5.45pm 6.00pm		<i>Vespers</i> Holy Mass	Stan Grandfield
Tuesday 8th Lent Feria	8.55am 9.15am		2.15pm	<i>Lauds</i> Holy Mass Stations of the Cross	David Woodhouse
Wednesday 9th Lent Feria		9.30am 11.30am 5.45pm 6.00pm		Mass (St John's School) Stations of the Cross <i>Vespers</i> Holy Mass	People of the Parish Margaret Walker
Thursday 10th Lent Feria	11.30am 12noon	9.30am		Holy Mass (in Church) Stations of the Cross Holy Mass	People of the Parish Int Gabrielle Child
Friday 11th Lent Feria <i>Comm St Stanislaus</i>		8.15am 9.30am 6.00pm		Holy Mass (St Margaret Ward) Holy Mass <i>Mass & Penitential Service</i>	People of the Parish Holy Souls <i>At Sacred Heart Tunstall</i>
Saturday 12th Lent Feria			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	John Martin
Sunday 13th Palm Sunday of the Passion	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Sharon Wallace Catherine & John Reynolds

Lenten Alms As we do every year, we will have a nominated charity for Lenten Alms each Sunday of Lent:
4th Sunday: Aid to Church in Need
5th Sunday: Number 11
Palm Sunday: Holy Places

First Fridays You are invited to participate in our Parish preparation for Consecration to the Sacred Heart by completing the First Friday Devotion for nine months programme is:
3pm Eucharistic Adoration in silence
4.30pm Confessions
5.30pm First Friday Devotions, Vespers and Benediction
6.00pm Holy Mass

Easter Choir As every year, we invite singers to come together for our Holy Week liturgies. Practice this Wednesday and each Wednesday after the evening Mass at St Joseph's.

Our Lady of Grace Ladies Our Parish Ladies Group are meeting at English Martyrs' on Monday, 7th April at 7pm (please note the change of date). All ladies welcome, especially new members!

Care Home Service The next service at Lawton Rise Care Home will be on Wednesday 16th April starting at 11am. Everyone welcome to come and join the residents. Please meet outside in good time.

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 26th April, 9am to 10.30am.

Books Sunday missals are available from Fr Julian priced £20. ESV Catholic Bibles are also available—the reprint is slightly cheaper at £18.

Easter Monday Men's Mass The traditional Mass for Men on Easter Monday will be at Holy Trinity Church, Newcastle at 10am, celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes.

Penitential Service Our parish together with other local parishes will have a Penitential Mass and Service on Friday 11th April at 6pm at Sacred Heart Tunstall. There will be Mass followed by confessions with

local priests available to hear your confession.

Don't forget, the precepts of the Church remind Catholics of the obligation to confess sacramentally once a year during Lent or Eastertide (Easter duties).

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.

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



LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent our weekly Stations of the Cross will be:
At St Joseph's on Friday at 6.30pm after evening Mass
At English Martyrs' on Thursday at 11.30am before Mass

At St Patrick's on Tuesday at 2.15pm

HOSPITALITY



St Joseph's Welcoming Place meets on Tuesdays from 10am to 12noon in the after school club at St Joseph's Catholic Academy on Mobberley Road during termtime. Everyone welcome!

English Martyrs' Welcoming Space is now on holiday until the autumn.

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 29th April from 1.30 to 3.30pm. Everyone welcome! £3 to attend.

HOLY WEEK RETREAT

Once again this year you are invited to come to a three-night retreat during the first part of Holy Week from Monday to Wednesday. We will follow the Lord's pathway of suffering and death through which he saved us.

The evenings of the retreat will take place at St Patrick's Packmoor, at the geographical centre of the parish. It means it's easier for more people to get to it.

The evenings will be shaped like this:
5.00pm Confessions
5.45pm Vespers
6.00pm Holy Mass
6.30pm Stations of the Cross
7.00pm Retreat talk
7.30pm Holy Hour, Compline & Benediction

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

HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025

Come and join us for the celebration of the Great Week of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord: Holy Week. To help to plan, here is the programme of Masses and Devotions for the week:

Palm Sunday

Normal Sunday Masses: 5.30pm (Sat) St Patrick's; 9am English Martyrs'; 11am St Joseph's (with outdoor Procession)

Holy Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

5pm to 8.30pm Retreat Evening each evening at St Patrick's with Confessions; Stations; Mass; Talk and Holy Hour (see notice on page 3).

Maundy Thursday

11.30am Stations of the Cross in Biddulph Town Centre

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at English Martyrs' followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose until midnight

Good Friday

9am Vigils & Lauds at St Joseph's

10.30am Stations of the Cross at St Patrick's

12noon Family Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's

3pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at St Joseph's

6pm Liturgy of the Passion at English Martyrs'

Holy Saturday

9am Vigils & Lauds at St Joseph's

12noon Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows at St Patrick's

8.30pm The Solemn Easter Vigil at St Joseph's

Easter Sunday

6.30am Ecumenical Easter Dawn Service at Mow Cop

9am Mass at English Martyrs' Biddulph

11am Mass at St Joseph's Goldenhill

Easter Monday

10am Easter Monday Mass at St Patrick's

PARISH REGISTERS

Confirmation

The following children from St Joseph's and St John's Academies received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday 25th March from Bishop Timothy Menzies:

Riley Beardmore, Heidi Burgess, Ann Lorraine Cabalbal Agsalda, Emily Callan, Evan Dean, Neave Fletcher, Freddie Franklin, Frankie Lesti Johnson, Nicola Kumosz, Harry McKinlay, Kamsi Daniel Okeke, Alfie James Potts, Lucy Shaw, Harry Slade & Aiden Tramaloni.

First Holy Communion

At St Joseph's Church, on 25th March, at the Confirmation Mass, the following received First Holy Communion:

Harry McKinlay & Kamsi Daniel Okeke

Death

Of your charity please pray for the soul of Sheila Clarke. Requiem Mass at St Joseph's on Wednesday 16th April at 11.30am followed by committal at Bradwell Crematorium.

Requiescat in Pace

Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

Week beginning 30th March

St Joseph's: Winifred & Paddy Maughan

St Patrick's: Blood & Welsh families

English Martyrs': Jean Green

Week beginning 6th April

St Joseph's: John Martin

St Patrick's: Denise & family

English Martyrs': Mary Jervis

If you wish to dedicate one of the lamps for a particular intention, the minimum donation is £5. Place in an envelope and hand to a steward or place in the collection. Write intention on the envelope

**WE INVITE YOU TO
JOIN CHILDREN &
FAMILIES AT OUR
LADY OF GRACE**

**FOR
EASTER BINGO
WEDNESDAY 9TH
APRIL, 3.15PM**



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 again at the normal times of opening (see front page). 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 5th or 19th April. Fr Julian is available on 12th or 26th only.