

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



## PARISH BULLETIN

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2025

### A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

As I have often said in the past, although we keep May and October as the months dedicated to Our Lady, September is a remarkably Marian month. During the month we celebrate the Nativity, or Birthday, of Our Lady on 8th, the Holy Name of Mary on 12th, Our Lady of Sorrows on 15th, and, in England, we celebrate Our Lady of Walsingham (and also Our Lady of Ransom) on 24th.

Walsingham would, no doubt, have been a great international shrine had the Reformation never happened. As it is, our national shrine of Our Lady is far smaller than the great shrines of Lourdes, Fatima, Medjugorje... However, it is a very spiritual place, and should be at the heart



of our Catholic consciousness in this country. When I was there on retreat during August, it was a shame to see that very few casual English pilgrims turned up, compared to the huge number of day pilgrims from the Tamil immigrant population. If you do not know about Our Lady of Walsingham, or if the de-

votion does not mean a great deal to you, then I invite you to come on Wednesday to celebrate the feast day. There is Mass in the morning at St Joseph's and then a Deanery Mass in the evening at Our Lady & St Peter's Stoke. North Staffs is already notable for having one of the most active Walsingham Associations in the country, and our pilgrimage this August was one of the largest residential pilgrimages they have at the shrine. As Our Lady of Walsingham has been key in my vocation journey, so I invite you to celebrate the feast, and to consider coming on next year's pilgrimage, or to join the local Association and its activities throughout the year.

### SAINT OF THE WEEK



**St Thomas Thien**  
1820-1838

Thomas was one of the Vietnamese martyrs whose feast is celebrated together each year. Thomas' father died when he was 10, and the local priest took over his upbringing and education to get him ready to go to seminary. He entered the seminary in Di Loan when he reached 18. This

coincided with the persecution by the king. Thomas was arrested and brutally beaten, and threatened worse should he not give up the Faith. He just said that he preferred to be beheaded than to give up the true God. This 18 year old seminarian was further tortured and hanged. He was canonised by Pope St John Paul II in 1988.

### 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 Archdiocesan 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.ourladyofgraceparish.org](http://www.ourladyofgraceparish.org)  
The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity no. 234216

## LITURGY & DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK

	Biddulph	Goldenhill	Packmoor	<b>Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions)</b> <b>At each church Saturday/Sunday</b> Confessions are available at each church 20 minutes before Mass. <b>St Joseph's</b> Friday 5pm (when there is a 6pm Mass); after Saturday morning Mass	
<b>Saturday 20th</b>			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	John Martin
<b>Sunday 21st</b> <b>Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Annette McMullan Kevin Potts
<b>Monday 22nd</b> Feria					
<b>Tuesday 23rd</b> St Pio of Pietrelcina	8.55am 9.15am		2.15pm	Lauds Holy Mass Holy Rosary	Special Intention
<b>Wednesday 24th</b> <b>Our Lady of Walsingham</b>	7.00pm	9.15am 9.30am		Lauds Holy Mass Holy Rosary	Holy Souls
<b>Thursday 25th</b> Feria	12noon			Holy Mass	Int Gabrielle Child—healing
<b>Friday 26th</b> Feria		8.15am 5.00pm 6.00pm		Holy Mass (St Margaret Ward) <i>Adoration &amp; Vespers</i> Holy Mass	People of the Parish  Special Intention (LM)
<b>Saturday 27th</b> St Vincent de Paul		8.15am	5.30pm	Holy Mass (in Latin) Holy Mass of Sunday	People of the Parish Denis Culhane
<b>Sunday 28th</b> <b>Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Int Thomas & Agnes Scoda Jason Ferris
<b>Monday 29th</b> <b>St Michael &amp; Archangels</b>					
<b>Tuesday 30th</b> St Jerome			2.15pm	Holy Rosary	
<b>Wednesday 1st</b> St Therese of Lisieux					
<b>Thursday 2nd</b> The Guardian Angels					
<b>Friday 3rd</b> Feria <i>First Friday</i>					
<b>Saturday 4th</b> St Francis of Assisi			5.30pm	Holy Mass of Sunday	Special Int (Arabella)
<b>Sunday 5th</b> <b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	11.00am		Holy Mass Holy Mass	Michael Cullen Winifred & Paddy Maughan

**Parish Social Committee** As you will have read in Fr Julian's message on the front page, the Parish Forum will now become a Parish Social committee which will be a forum to plan and organise the events which bring us together as a Parish across our various communities, and to help with the fundraising for the parish. The first meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd September at 7pm at St Joseph's. Everyone is welcome to come and participate.

**Stations of the Cross** The restored Stations of the Cross which were in St John's Kidsgrove and now installed in English Martyrs' Church. They are worth going to see. The colours are particularly vibrant. The cost was £7,000. Any donations towards this cost are gratefully received. They can also be gift aided.

**Rosary in October** As well as the weekday Rosary groups, we will be praying the Rosary each Sunday in October before each Saturday evening and Sunday morning Mass. 4th/5th Joyful Mysteries 11th/12th Luminous Mysteries 18th/19th Sorrowful Mysteries 25th/26th Glorious Mysteries The Rosary begins 20 minutes before Mass. We need volunteers to lead, please.

**Our Lady of Grace Ladies** Our Parish Ladies Group are meeting at English Martyrs' on Monday 13th October at 7pm. There will be a talk given by Sue Millard from Biddulph Methodist church about their trips to the refugee camps at Calais, and the work they do there. All ladies welcome.

**Men's Prayer Circle** The next meeting of our Men's prayer circle is on Saturday 27th September, 9am to 10.30am at the presbytery.

**Monthly Care Home Service** The monthly service at Lawton Rise will begin again on Wednesday 15th October at 11am. Once again we invite parishioners to come and take part. Please arrive in good time.

**Our Lady of Walsingham** This Wednesday is the Feast of Our Lady

of Walsingham. You are invited to a Mass in honour of Our Lady of Walsingham which will take place at Our Lady & St Peter's Church, Stoke at 6pm. The Mass is jointly organised by the Walsingham Association and the Area Pastoral Council. The celebrant and preacher is Fr Julian, who is the North Staffs Walsingham Association chaplain.

**PLW Prayer Circle** We have a new prayer circle for all those who have participated in a Prayer & Life Workshop. It is an hour similar to one of the workshops, with prayers, sharing, Gospel and practising one of the prayer methods used in the workshops. The next meeting is on Tuesday 28th October at 7pm in the meeting room at St Joseph's.

**Our Lady & Vatican II** Fr Julian will be giving a talk about the place of Mary in the Second Vatican Council's document *Lumen Genrium* in the Catherine Room at Our Lady & St Peter's church, Stoke, on Friday 10th October at 7pm. The event is organised by the Area Pastoral Council and everyone is welcome!

**Clayton Parish Mission** The parish of Our Lady & St Werburgh are having a Parish Mission, given by the Sion community, from Friday 17th to Sunday 19th October. You are invited to come and take part in the Mission. The programme on Saturday may be particularly of interest to all: 9.30am Morning Prayer, followed by a talk and a prayer workshop; 12.15pm Mass followed by a bring & share lunch; 2pm Talk and service of reconciliation and healing.

**Marriage support** Does your relationship need some TLC? Or do you need help with deeper issues. Retrouvaille can help. The next programme begins on 17th October. For more information on what it entails, go to [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) or phone 07887 296983

**Cursillo in Christianity** There will also be a full Cursillo weekend on 13th to 16th November at Shallowford House, Staffs. If you are interested please email [nation.al@cursillouk.org](mailto:nation.al@cursillouk.org) or call 07947

## HOSPITALITY



St Joseph's Welcoming Space meets on Tuesdays from 10am to 12noon at St Joseph's Academy (in the after school club building). We begin again this Tuesday 9th September.

The Young at Heart Club, for senior citizens, is at Kidsgrove Town Hall on the last Tuesday of the month. This month there is no normal meeting but the group are holding a Fayre at the Town Hall on Tuesday 30th September from 1.30 to 3.30pm. All welcome. Entrance £3.

English Martyrs' Welcoming Space will be starting again this autumn. It will be on Wednesdays, starting 1st October from 11am to 2pm in the meeting room at church. Light refreshments and lunches available. Make it a date!

271037 For more information about Cursillo go to [cursillouk.org](http://cursillouk.org)

**Oscott Lecture** Our Diocesan Seminary, St Mary's College, Oscott, are hosting a lecture to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Catholic Hierarchy in England & Wales. The lecture is taking place at Oscott on Monday 29th September at 7pm and will be given by Dr Ken Carleton. If you cannot make the lecture in person, you can also watch it online. Go to [www.oscott.org](http://www.oscott.org)



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

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) are undertaking a thematic inspection of survivor engagement and support, and the Archdiocese of Birmingham has been chosen as one of the Dioceses to be involved in this project. As such, all Dioceses and Religious Life Groups have been asked by the CSSA to share a public survey inviting survivors to contribute their experiences. The purpose of this public call is to gather information from anyone who has had recent contact with the Archdiocese of Birmingham, or any other Diocese or RLG. This includes experiences that are new or ongoing, as well as those connected to non-recent abuse, both in a faith context and outside of faith. While the primary focus is the period from July 2024 onwards, the CSSA do not wish to limit what survivors choose to share. Information regarding this survey can be found at [tinyurl.com/mth89bx2](https://tinyurl.com/mth89bx2). The direct link to the survey is: [tinyurl.com/3pwmm4bz](https://tinyurl.com/3pwmm4bz). If you haven't previously engaged with the Archdiocese of Birmingham Safeguarding team but feel that it would be helpful to do so, please don't hesitate to contact the Safeguarding office on 0121-230-6240, or by emailing [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk). The survey is an important step in ensuring that survivor voices are heard, valued, and used to shape future safeguarding practice. We are committed to supporting survivors with compassion and sensitivity.

## PARISH REGISTERS

### Baptisms

Welcome to the family of the Church to Emilia Charlotte Porter, who was baptized at St Joseph's on Sunday 14th September.

### Reception into the Church

Welcome into communion with the Catholic Church to Sophia Renee Porter, who was received on 14th September (previously baptized in the Church of England).



# Harvest appeal

### Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three months leading up to Harvest, the food bank gratefully received 18 tonnes in donations but distributed 27 tonnes in emergency supplies to support local individuals and families facing hardship.



**Donate food**

Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.



**Donate money**

Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

### Shopping list

- Tinned soup
- Tinned dessert
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned fish
- Tinned meat
- UHT milk
- Pasta sauces
- Mash
- Teabags 40s
- Biscuits

## Stoke-on-Trent Foodbank

[stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk](https://stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk)

Registered Charity in England & Wales 1159820



### 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 an Open House on Saturday 27th September, but not on 4th or 11th October. There will be Open House then on 18th and 25th October.

**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.

### Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

#### *Week beginning 21st September*

St Joseph's: The Cooke family

St Patrick's: John Martin

English Martyrs: Keith & Betty Bailey

#### *Week beginning 28th September*

St Joseph's:

St Patrick's:

English Martyrs: Mary Jervis

*You can dedicate a sanctuary lamp for a week for a minimum donation of £7*