

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

## PARISH BULLETIN

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2026

### A WORD FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Today is World Mission Sunday, and is, in fact, the 100th World Mission Sunday. Our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV asks us to pray especially for the missions today, and to support them also with our financial contributions, as we do throughout the year. The Holy Father has given this World Mission Sunday a motto: "One in Christ, United in Mission", remembering that, although we are not able to go on mission to other countries, we are members of One Church with those who do, and they go in our name. So we need to support them, and know that, in our way, we are participating in the missionary endeavour of the Church.

As we think of our Holy Father today, we can join in prayer for his health. Last Sunday he announced that he was going into hos-



pital for surgery, and it was announced during the week that he has Lung Cancer. Although it was found early, and the tumour is well contained, we need to pray for Our Holy Father. This, together with praying for the missions, is a good reason to take up the Rosary this month!

Last Saturday was a wonderful experience as we celebrated the National Eucharistic Congress

'Adoremus 2026' in London. You can read on the back page a report about the Congress, which included an auspicious Procession of the Blessed Sacrament through central London between the two Cathedrals. While we were there we heard the news of the appointment, by Pope Leo, of our area Bishop, Timothy Menezes, as the Diocesan Bishop of Brentwood, which covers Essex and the East End. He will be taking up his new appointment at the beginning of December. Many will remember him preaching at my 30th Anniversary Mass in July. We wish him well with his new ministry.

I will be away on holiday this week, just on the weekdays, and then I will be in Valladolid for a couple of days the following week for the Martyrs feast.

### SAINT OF THE WEEK



#### St Peter of Alcantara 1499-1562

Peter came from a noble family, but after studying at the University of Salamanca, he joined the Franciscans. As a young friar, he founded a new community and was ordained priest. He founded a stricter Franciscan order, but then gave up the role of leading, in order to go and preach to

the poor, focussing his preaching on God's compassion. He also spent long periods of time in solitude and prayer. Along the way he founded new and strict friaries, with the Pope's permission, where his proposed reforms bore great fruit throughout Spain. He was a great mystic and often had ecstasies. He died while at prayer.

### 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  
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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:

**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

| Sunday Readings Year A<br>Weekday Readings Year II                | Biddulph         | Goldenhill       | Packmoor | <b>Sacrament of Forgiveness (Confessions)</b><br>At each church <b>Saturday/Sunday</b> 20 minutes before each Saturday evening/Sunday Mass. <b>St Joseph's:</b> Friday 5pm when there is evening Mass |                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 17th</b>                                              |                  |                  | 5.30pm   | Holy Mass of Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                   | Blood family                                                          |
| <b>Sunday 18th</b><br><b>Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> | 9.00am           | 11.00am          |          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass                                                                                                                                                                                | Bill Adams<br>Stephen Holmes & family                                 |
| <b>Monday 19th</b><br>St Paul of the Cross                        |                  |                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                       |
| <b>Tuesday 20th</b><br>Feria                                      |                  |                  | 2.15pm   | Holy Rosary                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| <b>Wednesday 21st</b><br>Feria                                    | 7.00pm           |                  |          | Holy Rosary                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| <b>Thursday 22nd</b><br>St John Paul II                           |                  |                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                       |
| <b>Friday 23rd</b><br>St John of Capistrano                       |                  |                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                       |
| <b>Saturday 24th</b><br>Our Lady                                  |                  |                  | 5.30pm   | Holy Mass of Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                   | Dec members of Child family                                           |
| <b>Sunday 25th</b><br><b>Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>    | 9.00am           | 11.00am          |          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass                                                                                                                                                                                | George & Barbara Connell,<br>Karol Grolik<br>Bailey & Plant families  |
| <b>Monday 26th</b><br>Feria                                       |                  |                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                       |
| <b>Tuesday 27th</b><br>Feria                                      |                  |                  | 2.15pm   | Holy Rosary                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| <b>Wednesday 28th</b><br><b>St Simon &amp; St Jude</b>            | 7.00pm           |                  |          | Holy Rosary                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| <b>Thursday 29th</b><br>Feria                                     |                  |                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                       |
| <b>Friday 30th</b><br>Feria                                       |                  |                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                       |
| <b>Saturday 31st</b><br>Our Lady                                  |                  | 8.15am           | 5.30pm   | Holy Mass (in Latin)<br>Vigil Mass of the Solemnity                                                                                                                                                   | People of the Parish<br>Int Farrell family                            |
| <b>Sunday 1st</b><br><b>ALL SAINTS' DAY</b>                       | 9.00am           | 11.00am          |          | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass                                                                                                                                                                                | November List<br>Int Tom & Sheila Moran (60th<br>Wedding anniversary) |
| <b>Monday 2nd</b><br><b>ALL SOULS' DAY</b>                        | 9.00am<br>9.15am | 5.45pm<br>6.00pm |          | Lauds<br>Holy Mass<br>Vespers<br>Holy Mass                                                                                                                                                            | November List & All Holy Souls<br>Dec of Maughan family               |

**Rosary** During October, the month of the Holy Rosary, we will have the prayer of the Rosary before each Saturday evening and Sunday Mass. We need volunteers to lead the Rosary! Please see Fr Julian to volunteer. The mysteries will be prayed like this: 18th/19th—Sorrowful; 25th/26th—Glorious. Don't forget that we also have the Rosary on Tuesday at 2.15pm on Tuesdays at St Patrick's and on Wednesday at 7pm at English Martyrs' (except first Weds of the month).

**November Month of the Holy Souls** Once again this year we will be offering 30 consecutive days of Masses (known as a Gregorian Mass) for the souls of those included in our November List of the Dead across our three churches. The sheets of paper for the names to be added and the envelopes will be available next weekend. Please include, if you are able, an offering which goes to supply the stipends for the 30 Masses plus many other Masses for all our parish dearly departed 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.

**Parish Christmas Fayre** The Parish's Fayre will take place on Saturday 5th December at St Joseph's Academy from 11am to 1pm. Please bring an item each week to church during the time between now and the Fayre:

- 25th Oct—Bottles
- 1st Nov—Tombola prizes
- 8th Nov—Soft toys
- 15th—Craft items
- 22nd Nov—Bric a Brac
- Day of the Fayre—Cakes & bakes
- You can bring any item any week.

**Sacramental Preparation** The preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation begins for any children starting on the first week of November. Children must be in Y3 at school at least. Please enquire with Fr Julian if your child is ready for this sacrament but is not in a Catholic school.

**Our Lady of Grace Ladies** Our Parish Ladies' Group are meeting at

on Monday 9th November at 7pm at St Joseph's Church. All ladies are welcome to come.

**Men's Prayer Circle** The next meeting of the PLW men's prayer circle is on Saturday 14th November at 9am in the presbytery.

**Bl Ivan Merz Young Adults group** We had an excellent pilot meeting at which a good small group of young people came together for Bible study, food, fellowship and prayer. We will begin regular meetings for young adults every other Sunday afternoon from 5pm to 7pm in November. The dates are 1st November, 15th November, 29th November, 13th December. Don't be shy! Come along and join in. If you want to know more ask Carina ([mcarinaaug@gmail.com](mailto:mcarinaaug@gmail.com)) or Fr Julian.

**Visit of the relics of St Gerard** This week the relics of St Gerard Majella, will be visiting St Wulstan's Catholic Church, Wolstanton on Tuesday 20th October. This is part of a pilgrimage of the relics around England in celebration of 300 years of the saint's birth. There will be Holy Mass at 6pm preceded by an hour of prayer, and followed by veneration of the relics. St Gerard is the patron saint of women trying to conceive, those looking for work and for those who need to make a good confession.

**Rosary for Vocations** As a great focus for our Deanery vocations month, you are invited to join Rosary for Vocations each day during the month. This was an initiative begun by Will Simpson RIP last year, and is being continued in his memory. There will be a video each day which will focus on one of the Mysteries of the Rosary, beginning today. You can access the daily videos (Monday to Friday) on the Facebook page or YouTube page of St Gregory's and St Maria Goretti's parishes which can be found at [www.youtube.com/@StGregorysandStMariaGoretti-p7s](http://www.youtube.com/@StGregorysandStMariaGoretti-p7s) or [tinyurl.com/StGregsfacebookpage](http://tinyurl.com/StGregsfacebookpage)

**Churches Together** The local churches are present each year for the switching on of the Christmas lights

## 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. Not open on 27th!

Our Welcome Space at English Martyrs' will begin again from Wednesday 7th October. 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 27th October from 2pm to 4pm. £3 entry.

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.

**Many thanks** to everyone who supported the sponsored walk for the Foodbank. This raised a final total of £2000.

**CAFOD** Our Harvest Family Fast Day collection raised £1068.05. Many thanks for your generosity.

**Fr Hudson's** The second collection for Fr Hudson's raised £384.25.



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

# ADOREMUS 2026 NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

On Saturday, 10 October, Fr Julian and three parishioners from Our Lady of Grace Parish set off from Goldenhill at 6am to represent the North Staffs Deanery at Adoremus 2026, the National Eucharistic Congress in London.

Our small group joined with hundreds of Catholics from across England and Wales for a joyful, deeply moving day. We were blessed with fine weather, which was especially welcome in view of the procession which accompanied the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of London.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols was unable to be with us in person as he was in Rome, but he recorded a touching video message shown before Mass. Referencing St John Henry Newman, he reminded us that within the Blessed Sacrament, “Heart speaks to Heart.” He told the faithful: “You don’t have to bring anything, just yourself. Place yourself before Jesus and stay focused on the person of Jesus.”

We also received a message from Pope Leo XIV, read by the Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía. The Holy Father assured us of his spiritual closeness, encouraging us to deepen our faith and renew our enthusiasm as missionary disciples. Referring to the upcoming procession, he reminded us that our Lord is a God who is close to us and “walks with his people.”

The Mass itself was exceptionally beautiful. Archbishop John Wilson of Southwark presided alongside bishops and priests from across England and Wales. The liturgy was enriched by magnificent music: the setting was the Missa De Angelis with stunning choral renditions of the Kyrie and Agnus Dei from Mozart’s Coronation Mass. It was deeply moving to hear the music fill the Cathedral and to add our own voices in praise.



In his homily, Archbishop Wilson asked us to consider, “How deeply do we believe in the converting power of the Eucharist?” He reminded us that in the Blessed Sacrament we encounter not an object, but a living person—Jesus Christ himself.

After Mass, Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP gave his keynote address, ‘The Eucharist: Our Sacrament of Hope in Dark Times’. His words reflected beautifully on the hope we find in Christ, even amid the

difficulties and uncertainties of our world.

After lunch, it was wonderful to take part in the Eucharistic Procession from St George’s Cathedral, over the River Thames, through Parliament Square and on to Westminster Cathedral. Walking through the heart of London with hundreds of fellow Catholics—voices raised in prayers and hymns—we accompanied Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. It was a powerful, public witness to our faith. The procession concluded at Westminster Cathedral with Solemn Benediction given by Bishop James Curry.

While prayer continued through the night, it was time for our small group to head home. It had been a long day since our early start, but what a wonderful day it was! We returned to North Staffs tired but immensely grateful, uplifted, and renewed in faith.

Above all, Adoremus reminded us that, whether gathered in our own local parish or standing with hundreds of fellow Catholics in London, we are one Church. Our voices are forever joined in adoration of the same Lord Jesus Christ, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, which we are ALL called to venerate during Eucharistic Adoration.

*Reflection by Patricia Pranauskas, with thanks!*

## Parish Office & Parish Priest’s Open House

The Parish Office is open at the normal times of opening (see front page). **Please note that Teresa, the Parish Secretary, no longer works on Fridays.** It is recommended to phone before coming in person.

**Open House** is when Fr Julian is available to be seen about baptisms, weddings, or for any other pastoral reason. The next Open House will be on Saturday 7th November and again on Saturday 14th. No Open House

on 24th or 31st October.

## 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.

## Sanctuary Lamp Dedications

### *Week beginning 18th October*

St Joseph’s: Michael & Maureen Meaney

St Patrick’s: John Martin

English Martyrs:

### *Week beginning 25th October*

St Joseph’s: Kevin Potts & family

St Patrick’s: Mary Jervis

English Martyrs:

*You can arrange for the Sanctuary Lamp to be dedicated for your particular intention. Please take a plain envelope (not a Mass envelope) and write the name of the intention and Church. Min donation £7*

**Hospital ministry** 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. 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.