



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Jasper Street, Hanley, ST1 3DA, Tel 01782 215217
(Birmingham Diocesan Trust: Reg Charity No. 234216)

Sunday 7th April 2024

2nd Sunday of Easter



The Spiritans

British Province
Congregation of the Holy Spirit

*One Heart
One Spirit*

Serving the parish cluster of Sacred Heart Hanley, Our Lady of the Angels and St Peter in Chains, and Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Fenton.

Parish Office 01782 215217
The Presbytery
1 Eastwood Place
Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 3DB
sacredheart.hanley@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Website:

facebook.com/sacredheart

Sacred Heart Parish Centre
To enquire about availability please call 01782 215217 or email sacredheart.hanley@rcaob.org.uk

Facebook.com/sacredheartcentre

Parish Priest: Fr Kwaghtaver, Matthew C.S.Sp
Email: fr.matthew.kwaghtaver@rcaob.org.uk
Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Eamonn Mulcahy C.S.Sp
Parish Sister: Sr Dominic Marie Anoshiri IHM

WELCOME EVERYONE to Mass at Sacred Heart Parish, Hanley. Welcome especially if you are a visitor or if you are worshipping with us for the first time. Please introduce yourself to one of the Priests or other members of the Parish. Please take home with you this weekly Bulletin and accept it as an invitation to join in any of our Parish activities.

Please turn off your mobile phone during Private Prayer / Mass

Mass, Intentions & Services		
Sat 6 th April <i>Easter Saturday</i>	10.30- 11.30am 12.05pm	Exposition, Confessions & Solemn Benediction <i>Colin Calvert RIP & the intention of Betty</i>
Sun 7 th April <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> Divine Mercy	11.00am	<i>In thanksgiving – Lourdes Bates</i>
Mon 8 th April <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	11.55am 12.05pm Presbytery Chapel	Novena <i>The sick and housebound</i>
Tues 9 th April <i>Easter Tuesday</i>	6.30pm Presbytery Chapel	<i>Julia Sadula RIP</i>
Wed 10 th April <i>Easter Wednesday</i>	11.00am 12.05pm Presbytery Chapel	Exposition and Simple Benediction <i>People of the Parish</i>
Thurs 11 th April <i>Easter Thursday</i>	11.00am 12.05pm Presbytery Chapel	Exposition and Simple Benediction <i>The youth of the parish</i>
Fri 12 th April <i>Easter Friday</i>	12- 1pm 1.05pm	Exposition, Confessions & Simple Benediction <i>The Dykes family</i>
Sat 13 th April <i>Easter Saturday</i>	10.30- 11.30am 12.05pm	Exposition, Confessions & Solemn Benediction <i>William (Bill) Barlow (anniversary)</i>
Sun 14 th April <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>	11.00am	<i>Joyce & Clive Coffied RIP</i>

Santuary Candle 7th April: Dawson family
The 2nd Collection this week: For the Parish

Parish Finances Your attendance at Mass, and financial support of the Parish are greatly appreciated.

1st Collection 31st March : £1279.00 (GA)

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new tax year gift aid envelopes are available at the back of the church. If you are a tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your offertory to allow the Church to claim an additional 25% please see Madelaine (Sat) or Barry Ford (Sun) after Mass. Alternatively email ga.sacredheart.hanley@rcaob.org.uk

Marriage & Baptism Enquiries

Please see the Spiritan Fathers after Mass or call 01782 215217.

Royal Stoke Hospital Chaplaincy 01782 676400

Parish Office 01782 215217
Office open Friday 29th Dec 9am-2pm

IHM Compassion Kitchen
07438366242
Sr Dominic Marie Anoshiri IHM

Diocesan Safeguarding Team
0121 230 6240
safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk
Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency
www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk
NSPCC 0808 800 5000
Childline 0800 1111

Safeguarding The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. We are currently without a Safeguarding Representative so please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 or email them on safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Holy Father's prayer intentions for April

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognised in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

... the intentions in our prayer intentions book
...the schools which serve our parish: St George & St Martin, St Margaret Ward
...the needy in our own communities, in particular those who use the foodbank, and/or the Compassion Kitchen

JUSTICE IN THE WORLD

...for those suffering for their faith, wherever they may be
...for the victims of terrorism, both at home and abroad
... the people of Ukraine, Nigeria, Russia and of the Middle East – Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine and Israel
...all migrants fleeing persecution and oppression.
...the people of China and Hong Kong
...the people of Haiti

THE SICK AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

David Leese, Ken Holmes, Graham Alcock, Barry Delves, Emmanuel Wright, Vic Maidment, Jennie Hart, Josie Coates, Mary Jane SV, Margaret Bernsford, Alan Hurst, Melanie, Liz B, Simon, David, Adam and all those at the Royal Stoke & County Hospitals, those who receive Communion at home and those in residential care.

THE HOLY SOULS

For those who died recently including Dorothy Lowndes, Edward Finn, Myros Sadula, Ida Ruane and all whose anniversaries fall at this time.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please use envelopes at the back of the church or see Fr Matthew/Fr Eamonn, Paul Barlow or call the parish office on 215217

Parish Notices for w/c 7th April 2024

A Sunday of Mercy, Mission, Peace, and Joy

Today's Gospel takes place on the evening of Easter Sunday behind closed doors. The disciples are afraid. They are in the upper room, terrified, hiding behind locked doors. They were in lock-down, scared that what had happened to their master on Friday afternoon might become their fate too. But locked doors can't keep the risen Jesus out. Jesus broke through locked doors and appeared to his friends in the midst of their fear.

Don't forget - the last time Jesus had seen his disciples was in the Garden of Gethsemane on Holy Thursday night - the night when every single one of them had ran away and abandoned him, leaving him alone to face his torturers; the night Judas betrayed him; the night Peter denied him. This is the first time he is seeing them again since his passion began. And what is his first word to them? It is not - as could be legitimately expected - one of anger or sadness or reproof or revenge. His first word to them is *Peace!* In fact, he says it twice: «Peace be with you». Peace is not just the absence of war. Peace, or *Shalom* in Hebrew, means right relationship, harmony with self, with others, with creation, and with God. The first word on the risen Jesus' lips is «*Peace*». How beautiful. It is a word of forgiveness. And as soon as the disciples see Jesus and hear this word from him they are filled with Joy.

And what is the first gift of the Risen Jesus? It is the Spirit! «Jesus breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit"». How significant is that? That the first gift of the Risen Jesus to the disciples, and to you and I, is the Holy Spirit. It is the *Risen* Jesus who confers the Holy Spirit upon the Church. And in giving the Spirit, Jesus amazingly says: «As the Father sent me - so am I sending you!» Wow!

Just stop and think about what that means. It means that you and I have exactly the same vocation, the same job description as Jesus himself! Jesus is sending you and me the way the Father sent him! Ask yourself: why did the Father send Jesus to earth? The answer is: to share the Good News of God's unconditional love. And now Jesus missions us with the very same vocation he received from his Father. «As the Father sent me - so am I sending you!» He gives us his own mission. Gifting us with the Spirit of Peace and Joy, the risen Jesus sends you and me out on mission to spread the Good News of God's love. How are we going to do this? I suggest by showing *mercy*.

Since the year 2000 this Second Sunday of Easter has also been known as «*Divine Mercy Sunday*». It was first instituted by St Pope John Paul II out of his personal devotion to the Polish St Faustina. Concretely and practically, the best way that we can carry out the mission Jesus has entrusted to us of spreading the Good News of God's love is to be merciful. But what is mercy? I will share with you the definition an American Jesuit priest friend once gave to me. He said «**I believe mercy is the willingness to enter into the chaos of the life of another human being and do something about it**». Stop and reflect about that. How many lives do you know that are in chaos?

Look at the people who line up each Sunday at the side of Sacred Heart Church, Hanley, for the Compassion Kitchen; look at the people who sleep rough in Stoke town centre; look at the people we know who are addicted to alcohol or drugs or gambling - look at the chaos they are all going through. Am I willing to enter that chaos and do something about it? Can my heart move out to them in compassion. *Miseri-cordia, having a heart for the poor* - That is mercy and that is the best way to share the Good News of God's unconditional love!

Our first Reading today says that the whole group of believers was united in heart and soul. In Latin that reads «*Cor Unum et Anima Una*» which just happens to be since 1703 the motto of the Spiritan Congregation. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we as one community of Hanley-Stoke-Fenton were of «one heart and one soul» in our commitment over these 50 days of Easter to enter into the chaos of our brothers and sisters in need and bring them the Joy and the Peace of the Risen Jesus?

Fr Eamonn Mulcahy CSSP

APPRECIATION/GRATITUDE

On behalf of the Spiritan Community in Hanley, Stoke and Fenton. I wish to thank all the parishioners for the Easter gifts and Easter offerings. May God replenish all your resources and bless you immensely. Fr Matthew Kwaghtaver C.S.Sp.

Events at Sacred Heart

Every Sunday – Tea & Coffee and a chat in the Presbytery after 11am Mass.

Tues 9th April: Legion of Mary, meeting in the Presbytery at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Wed 10th April: SPUC Prayer Group in the Presbytery Chapel at 10am.

Sat 20th & Sun 21st April: Medical Outreach - Some good-spirited, medically trained, parishioners have volunteered to check the vital signs (BP etc) of our parishioners in the Presbytery after Mass.

Sun 21st April: World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 9.40am – 10.40am. Come along and spend some quality time with the Lord.

Sun 21st April: African Community Mass at 1pm. All welcome to attend.

Confirmation Preparation Course starts on Sunday 5th May at 3pm in the Presbytery. Forms available at the back of the church. See Sr Dominic for further details.

Multicultural Pentecost Celebration

Pentecost Sunday will be celebrated on the **19th of May, 2024**. As a multicultural parish, we will be celebrating the Mass in different languages, and at the end of Mass, we will have an international buffet spread from different nationalities and a Pentecost feast of meals. So, to organize this better, we need to **start practising our hymns for 30 minutes after 11 am Mass from the 14th of April, 2024**. Sr. Felita will speak about this during Mass on the 7th of April. Also, we will need volunteers to help during the Pentecost celebration.

Where we need your support / assistance:

Church Big Clean – Tues 14th May 10am-12.30pm. Please come along and help out – many hands make light work! After the **International Pentecost Mass we will be continuing the celebrations in the Parish Centre** with a Share Meal. You are asked to bring along your national/favourite food to share with our parish.

Helpers required to:

- Prepare the Hall on Sat 18th May after Mass
- Accept food contributions from 10am Sun 19th
- Prepare and serve tea and coffee etc Sun 19th

Please let us know how you can help out by complete the relevant section of the list at the back of the church. Thank you.

Archbishop Bernard's Easter Message 2024 You can view the Easter message here:

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/News/archbishop-bernards-message-for-easter-sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday 7th April 2024

St Augustine's, Meir

Programme

14.00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Confession

15.00 – Divine Mercy Chaplet (sung)
Benediction

Refreshments (Presbytery Garden)

15.30 – Holy Mass

The Regina Caeli

V. Oh Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For he, whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has been pleased to fill the world with joy, grant we beseech you, that by the Virgin Mary his mother, we may receive the joys of eternal happiness. Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.