

Franciscan of the Week: St Bernardino of Siena

Bernadino (1380-1444) was a dynamic missionary. He is sometimes referred to as 'the Apostle of Italy' and was compared to St Paul by the Pope, on account of his missionary zeal and success. He spent a year running a hospital for plague victims, after which he was ill for several months. At 22 he became a Franciscan friar, and spent almost twelve years in solitude and prayer before



being sent to preach the Gospel. He devised the symbol 'IHS', which is sometimes seen in churches. Taken from the first three letters of the word Jesus in Greek, it represents the Holy Name, to which Bernardino had a great devotion. This outstanding friar was canonised in 1450.

FOCUS ON... Devotion to Our Lady

May is a month of special devotion to Our Lady. We honour her because God chose her to be the mother of His Son, and because He kept her free from all sin from the moment of her conception. We also show our gratitude to her, because without her faith and generosity, we could not have received Jesus as our Saviour. There are many ways to show our love for Mary: we could



say a decade of the Rosary, light a candle by her statue, say one of the many great prayers to her (e.g. Hail Mary, Hail Holy Queen, Memorare). It's an important part of our devotional lives to ask Mary's intercession, trusting that she watches over us as a mother, and always leads us to her Son. Let's make sure we do something this month to honour Our Lady, and thank her for the love and care she shows us.

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 271

Office: Psalter week 1; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Week 5 of Easter

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 18 th May	6pm	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Mary & Eddie Sinnott RIP
	7pm		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 19 th May	9:30am		Peter Hampson RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am		George Oldcorn RIP
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm	Mary Berry RIP	
Wednesday	10am	Requiem	Les Burns RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Jack Burton RIP
Friday	12noon		Sr Emma Bechold O.P. – 60 years as a nun
Saturday 25 th May	10am	St Bede	Holy Souls
	6pm (vigil)	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Hilda & Peter McNeela RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 26 th May	9:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Les Burns RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Les Burns**, whose Requiem will take place on Wednesday at 10am, and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon;

During Eastertide: Sunday 4-5pm, ending with Benediction.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon, and on request.

SUNG VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: Sundays 4:30pm during Eastertide.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass. These prayers are offered for the protection of human life from conception to natural end.

ST ANTHONY: May wall box donations will go to local people in need of help.

ANNIVERSARIES: Florence Swift, Martin Elliott, Mary Bernie, Mark Hutchinson, Kathleen Painter, Andrew Keating, Constance McCann, Margaret Cowley, Thomas Thompson, Maureen Middlemiss.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY: That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of her members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent.

MASSES THIS WEEK: Please note, Mass on Wednesday will be at 10am, a Requiem Mass for Les Burns. No 9:15am Mass. Please keep Les and his family in your prayers.

ASSISI PILGRIMAGE: Those who are travelling should have received all relevant information. If you're not coming, take part from home – see back page.

PETITIONS FOR ASSISI: Please return these by next Sunday at the latest. We will take them to the tombs of St Francis and St Clare, and pray for your intentions.

FLOWER FESTIVAL: 14th-16th June 2019. In aid of ACN Iraq appeal. Please submit sponsor money and inscriptions as soon as possible. Sign up sheets for anyone able to help over the weekend are now in the narthex. Thank you.

FLOWER FESTIVAL PROMOTION: A flyer is enclosed with this newsletter. More available in the narthex. Please pass them on to anyone who may be interested.

SUNG VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: Don't forget, on Sundays during Lent we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 4pm, then sung Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Benediction, beginning at 4:30pm. Come and pray with the risen Lord.

NCW CATECHESIS: Continues Monday and Thursday, 7:30pm in the side chapel. A great opportunity to hear anew the Gospel and discover new ways to live it.

CTS BOOK CLUB: next meeting on Sunday 9th June, 7pm. The booklet for this month is *Symbols of the Holy Spirit*. Copies available from Fr Andrew.

IRAQ TALK: Caroline Hull, ACN's North West Manager, recently visited Iraq. She will give an update on the situation there on Tuesday 4th June, 7:30pm in the hall.

SUMMER FAIR: Friday 7th June, 5pm. Donations of cash, bottles of wine or spirits, etc. for raffle prizes are welcome. School will collect toys, sweets and bottles.

SUMMER DRAW: Please do your best to sell raffle tickets to help our school and parish. More are available if needed! Thanks for your support.

FOOD BANK: this Sunday 18th/19th May. Please leave items in house porchway.

EASTER RAFFLE: Winners' list in narthex. Please collect prizes from the sacristy. This raised £329.08 for the Youth Lourdes Fund. Thank you for your support.

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE: 7th-9th June at Liverpool Hope University. All welcome. More information in the narthex.

OLSE LADIES' GROUP: Meeting this Thursday, 8pm in OLSE parish centre. "A Demonstration on Cheese Making" by Faye Kitching of Leagram Dairy. Cost £2.

FARMER'S MARKET with Fairtrade: Saturday 25th May, 9:30am-1pm at Fulwood Methodist Church. Drinks and snacks available. All Welcome.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 495; Collection: £1,005.52; EEF: £413.28. Thank you.

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank Collection	House porch
Sunday 19 th	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	First Communion Preparation (6)	Parish Hall
	11am	First Communion Parents' Session	Chapel
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	4:30pm	Confirmation Preparation (8)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	7:30pm	NCW Catechesis (4)	Chapel
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Penitential	Chapel
Thursday	7:30pm	NCW Catechesis (5)	Chapel
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	Parish Hall
Sunday 26 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

Diary Dates

Thursday 30th May: Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday 9th June: Pentecost Sunday, end of the Easter season

Sunday 23rd June: First Holy Communions (Mass at 11am)

Sunday 30th June: Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul. Confirmation at 6pm Mass.

Assisi Pilgrimage – Take part even if you're not travelling...

- Take a petitions sheet from the narthex and hand it in, with your prayer intentions for the pilgrimage. We will take these to Assisi.
- Pilgrimage booklets will be available next weekend, for any parishioners who wish to follow the pilgrimage from home.
- There will be updates online, so you can follow us during the week.
- The parish will remember the pilgrimage prayer intentions each day at Mass.

You are invited to a **post-pilgrimage social in the parish hall on Tuesday 11th June at 7:30pm**. We will share some photos and stories of the pilgrimage. All welcome.