THANK YOU FROM ANN CHECKETTS: I just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone for their prayers, Masses and cards over the past few months. It has been a life changing experience for me, and one that I could not have got through without my faith and the support of so many people, which has been so strengthening and uplifting. There is some way to go yet as I have lost such a lot of weight and still feel quite weak. After being so active I feel very frustrated at times that I can't do the simplest of things that I did automatically. I must have patience and learn to enjoy the peace of God's days and his creation especially at this wonderful time of the year when everything is coming to life. All your prayers have been heard. Thanks be to God. *Ann Checketts*

BAPTISM To apply for Baptism, or for more information, please see Father Philip at the Presbytery.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES for candidates at St. Mary's and Sacred Heart Parishes. Please feel welcome to come with your children to their preparation classes, which are held on Saturdays at 5.00pm, in the Church Hall. We expect the candidates to attend Mass each week. Further details can be found on our notice board at the back of the church.

HOPE – Parents' and Carers' Support Group for anyone affected by someone else's addiction: Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month. This month's meeting will be at **7.00pm** in the Front room of the Presbytery on Wednesday, **26th March**. Confidential support also available on 07979 520805. Don't suffer alone...

NEXT ROSMINIAN ASCRIBED MEETING: will take place at the Convent on **Thursday 27th March** at 7.30pm

EVANGELII GAUDIUM: available for purchase from the repository at the back of the church: £4.95.

SON RISE SERVICE: **Easter Sunday,** 6.30am on Beacon Hill. See our noticeboard.

ANNUAL JUSTICE & PEACE CONFERENCE: 18th – 20th July. Booking forms now available on the website – www.justice-and-peace.org.uk. For more details please phone 020 7901 4864. We would encourage you to learn more about, and reflect upon, our responsibility for the world and all its people. More details on our noticeboard at the back of the church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR those whose anniversaries occur at this time: August Kuzniar, Beryl Flatley, John Kilyon, Dorothy Schepens, William Almond, Joan Hodgson, Anthony Askew, Barry Upton, Raymond Johnson and Maria Di Giirolao.

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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Served by the Rosminians:
Fr Philip Sainter, Fr Charles Sormany, Fr Simon Giles

Newsletter for Sunday, 23rd March 2014
3nd Sunday of Lent – Psalter Week 3

Come to the Source of Life – The Spring of Living Water

Jacob's Well, provides the backdrop for the great christological and indeed soteriological insight in today's gospel passage: the *ego eimi / the "I am"* of v. 26 and the realisation that Jesus is far greater than Jacob, because he is our Saviour and the source of life.

The well – dating back to Jacob's time, was right in the middle of Samaritan territory on the western side of the main route north from the Dead Sea to Galilee and the town of Cana. It was about 100ft deep and required a long rope and bucket to extract the water. Occasionally though, miraculously, the water would "bubble-up" and overflow the sides of the well. Lots of people knew of this "so-called miracle" and so it's of little surprise that Jesus should so readily adopt the phrase (in v 13) 'the water I will give will "well-up", "bubble-up" inside you', for the important truth he wants to impart. The truth he wants us to hear is this: He will give living, flowing, effervescent, life-giving water – the kind that purifies and revives (cf Jer. 2:13. 17; Ps 36:8) which is very different from the still, flat, life-less water that we normally associate with cisterns or wells which rely on rain water to fill them.

And there, at Jacob's well we hear Jesus offering the Samaritan woman "life-giving water" that will "well-up" and "bubble-up" inside her, satiating her thirst for ever. But it's important to remember that the woman Jesus is speaking with represents not only the person she is – a woman with a "reputation"! - but also the whole of humanity, as well as the great crowd who she'll soon entice to come running to the well to meet Jesus. She is a "sinner" in more ways than one and what Jesus offers her, He is also offering to you and me: **living-water** which will give us **new life and purification from our sins**. He is offering ***everyone*** living, flowing, effervescent, **life-giving water** – the kind that really and truly **purifies and revives** (cf Jer & Ps *op cit).*

So, come to these waters all who are thirsty. Come! Listen now my people, and come to me. Come to me, and you will have life! says the Lord. (Is 55:1-4)

Fr. Philip Sainter

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat	22nd	9.15am	Roy Guest RIP
	Vigil Mass for Third Sunday of Lent		
		5.30-6pm	*Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request*
		6.00pm	John Merwick RIP
Sun	**Third Sunday of Lent**		
	23rd	9.00am	Intentions of Katie & Geoff Mercer
			Welcome to Baby Freddie Thornton
		10.30am	*Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request*
		11.00am	All Parishioners
		12.45pm	Polish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
		6.00pm	Adoration and Benediction
Mon	24th	9.15am	Liz and Bernard Concannon RIP
Tues	**THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (SOLEMNITY) PATRONAL FEAST**		
	25th	9.15am	***Whole school Mass in Church.***
			Joyce Guest
Wed	26th	9.15am	Thanksgiving to St. Joseph
Thurs	27th	9.15am	Deceased members of the Lane Family
Fri	28th	6.00pm	The success of the Rosminian Assembly in May
		6.40pm	**Stations of the Cross**
Sat	29th	9.15am	Beryl Flatley RIP (Anniversary)
	Vigil Mass for Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday		
		6.00pm	All Parishioners

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Tues	25th	7.30pm	Scripture & Tradition Study Group - Library
		7.30pm	RCIA meeting - Front Room
Wed	26th	6-9.30pm	Scouts – Church Hall
		7.00pm	HOPE meeting - Front Room
		7.30pm	UCM - Library
Thurs	27th	7.00pm	Eucharistic Ministers' Meeting - Library
Sat	29th	10-4pm	Pre-Matrimonial Class – Church Hall
		5.00pm	Confirmation Class – Church Hall

PLEA**SE PRAY FOR those who are sick**: Mary Durning, Margaret Stanford, Alan and Judith Creighton, Peter Darlaston, David Allen, David Nevin, Freddy Hess, Ruby Campbell, Gerry O'Rourke, Stan Trojan, David Hart, Mark, Jane Moss, Ellen Wakefield, Cluchreur Caror, Marie Ward, Michael Smith, Stephanie Offiler, Aislinn Shaw, Andrew Clark, Pat Donnelly, Louise and Lee Raven, Holly Jones, Chris, Rosinah, Anne Wade, Dave Cudvil, Lena Borisevic, David Smith, Ann Checketts, Julie Priddy, Janice Riddle, June Camish, Mary Wain, Brian McMahon, Steven Coultas, Julie Devine and Sr. Mary Angela.

those who have recently died: Joan Hammond and Anne Ludlow. **May they rest in peace**

Second Collection today is for Easter flowers (gift aid applies)

READERS NEEDED for Palm Sunday & Easter Triduum. Please sign up in good time! Rehearsal on **6th April** at 10.15am

"CAFOD" LENT FAST DAY: Please place all remaining CAFOD envelopes into the Offertory baskets. Thank you.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL: If you have any good clothing which you would be willing to donate for destitute Jews fleeing persecution and for the people of Chernobyl, especially the children, many of whom are suffering serious illnesses due to radiation, would you please let me know and I will come round and pick it up. Many thanks, Arthur Clarke. Tel: 01509 769594.

THIS YEAR'S PRO-LIFE CHAIN will be take place on **Sat 26th April**, 10-12 noon for 2 hours on Trent Bridge. It involves participants standing silently and peacefully along the pavement along Trent Bridge, displaying signs with simple but effective messages about the harm of abortion. You are welcome to join in for all or part of the time. For more details email **David.Paton@nottingham.ac.uk**

YOUTH CONFERENCE: Thanks to your generosity in supporting the work of our local SPUC group here in Loughborough, through such things as the annual concert, we were able to sponsor 4 students from the University to attend the Youth Conference in March this year. The cost was £100 per student plus travelling expenses of £130. Thank you. *Arthur Clarke*

KWEDIBOMA TALENT CHALLENGE CAR WASH: There will be a fundraising car wash next Saturday **29th March** from 10am until 2pm. Please bring your dirty cars for a wash! Also any volunteer car washers welcome for as short or long a time as you wish. All proceeds are towards a 'Full Blood Analysis Machine' for the Kwediboma Health Centre. *Alan Leafe*

NEXT CHRISTIAN AID LUNCH: This will be at the United Reformed Church, Frederick Street, Loughborough LE11 3BH next Sunday, **30th March** at 12.30pm.

QUIZ NIGHT: The next Knights of St Columba's quiz is at 7.30pm on Saturday **5th April** 2014, and please note that for this one we will be back at St Mary's Church Hall. The price will be £6 (£3 for students), to include a wine and cheese supper. Teams can be formed on the night, so don't worry about coming on your own or as a couple. If you would like to come, please contact Will Holland on 07811 353248; this helps with the catering.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Please note the new time – this will now take place at **6.40pm** on **Fridays during Lent** ie straight after the 6pm Mass.

SAUSAGE & BACON COBS in the hall after 9 and 11am Masses, for school funds.

SALE OF CAKES & JAMS after all Masses this weekend, including Saturday following 6pm Mass. Proceeds to aid parish funds.

Attention Welcomers, Readers & Extraordinary Ministers! NEW ROTAS for the next four months are now available at the back of the church. Please collect yours!