

RITE OF ELECTION RCIA 2017: This will take place on **Friday 10th March** in St. Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham, at 3.00pm. This is an important stage in the journey of the catechumens and candidates. The final stage of the RCIA is called Mystagogy – understanding the mysteries – Our new Catholics will ponder the experience and meaning of the sacraments and participate with the faithful in the eucharistic life of the church and its mission for justice and peace. Please pray for our new Catholics and make them feel welcome in the community.

REMINDER: There are Confessions between 10am and 11am at St. Mary's **every Saturday morning** and at Mt. St. Bernard's Abbey from **2.30 – 3.00pm daily**.

PLEASE PRAY FOR those preparing for their first Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, and all those being baptised.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES beginning on Monday **6th March** will run from 5.45pm until 7pm. Candidates are asked to bring a Bible with them to each session. Everything else will be provided.

MARCH FOR LIFE, BIRMINGHAM, MAY 20TH 2017: This annual event draws thousands of supporters from across the land and attracts huge publicity for the pro-life movement. It is inspiring to be with so many people who are dedicated to this most important of causes. The SPUC group are hoping to get a group of supporters from Loughborough and will run a coach, on a contributions basis, if we can get enough people. Please put the date in your diary and further details will appear in a flier to be produced soon. There is a website too at marchforlife.co.uk. Please help us to save lives.

Michael Murphy

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: This devotion helps us to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditating upon the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. We try to perform this devotion in a spirit of **reparation** for the sufferings and insults that Jesus endured during His Passion, an act which was described by Pope John Paul II as "the unceasing effort to stand beside the endless crosses on which the Son of God continues to be crucified". St. Mary's is following this devotion every Friday throughout Lent at 6.25pm.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First collection:	£710	
Standing orders:	£611	<i>Thank you</i>

The Second Collection this weekend is for the **Rosminian Formation Fund**.



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Served by the Rosminians:

Fr Philip Sainter, Parish Priest; Fr Paul Gillham, Assistant Priest

In community: Fr Charles Sormany and Fr Simon Giles

Newsletter for Sunday 5th March 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Psalter Week 1

As we begin our Lenten journey we remind ourselves that not only is this an important time for prayer, fasting and good works, this season also provides us with the opportunity to reconsider the importance of listening to and meditating on the Word of God in Scripture.

Last Thursday we heard these words: *"I am offering you life or death, blessing or curse. Choose life, then so that you and your descendants may live ... obey [God's] voice and hold fast to him; for in this life consists."* (Gen 30:15-20)

"In this life consists": Listening to God's voice, his word (the words of scripture) and holding fast, holding onto Him !

So, if we wish to live – in the spiritual and physical sense – we have to listen to and receive and ponder God's Word – his voice – and we have to make it our own, welcoming God's word into our hearts and speaking of what we have come to know. Have we received that Word today?

The Word of God **MUST** be deeply rooted in our lives. It must be in our hearts and minds and on our lips.

May I suggest this thought: How about us prayerfully reading the scriptures each day of Lent, meditating on them, pondering them, savouring them, recalling a phrase or an image throughout the day.

Fr Philip Sainter

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS AT ST. MARY'S

Sat	4 th	1730-1755	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		1800	For the Parish
Sun	5 th	<u>First Sunday of Lent</u>	
		0900	Paulino Divinagracia and Joy Paulino Divinagracia RIP
		1030-1055	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		1100	Carmine Romano RIP
		1245	Polish Mass
		1400	<i>Baptism of Alex and Martine Khayat</i>
		1600	Italian Mass
Mon	6 th	0915	Donnie Kelly RIP
		1630	<i>Reception of Marie Richardson RIP</i>
Tues	7 th	0915	Deceased members of the Pagani family
		1030	<i>Requiem Mass for Marie Richardson RIP</i>
Weds	8 th	0915	Katie and Jack Smith RIP
Thurs	9 th	0915	Felix O'Donaghue RIP
Fri	10 th	0915	Guiseppe, Stanislavo and Giovanna Sparano RIP
		1825	Stations of the Cross
Sat	11 th	0915	Dennis Thurland RIP
		1800	John Saunders RIP
Sun	12 th	<u>Second Sunday of Lent</u>	
		0900	Youth Mass
		1100	Chris Dover RIP

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Mon	6 th	1845-1945	Confirmation Class – Church Hall
		1930	History Group – Library
Tues	7 th	1845	Rosary – Church
		1925	Scripture & Tradition – Library
Weds	8 th	1900-2000	Lenten Conversations – Church Hall
Thurs	9 th	1930	RCIA – Library
Sat	11 th	1000-1100	First Holy Communion Class – Church Hall

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: Marie Richardson - **may she rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ingeborg Cox, Nancy Hart, Antonio Giampalma, Ray Owens, Osyp Szczur, John Simpson, Maura Barton, Winifred Howard, Hugh Peters, Kathleen McEnery, Lucy Atkins, Mary Steele, Margot Trojan and Christina Rugman

LENT 2017: Would you like to learn more about Catholic Social Teaching and be part of a conversation to consider what more we can do as a parish? Join us on **Wednesday, 8th March, 7-8pm,** in the church hall.

CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARISH BREAKFAST: **Sunday 12th March** after the 9am and 11am Masses. All welcome. Proceeds to SPUC.

DEANERY LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE AND MASS: Sacred Heart, Loughborough, **Thursday, 30th March.** Starts at 6.00pm with the opportunity of Confession, including Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Mass at 7.00pm. Please put the date in your diary and make every effort to go along, joining with our wider family in the Church as part of Loughborough Deanery this Lent.

ROSMINI CENTRE: SATURDAY, 11TH MARCH: Scripture Study with Fr. Antonio Belsito IC: 'The Challenging Beauty of the Book of Revelation' 10.30/11.00 – 1.30 pm followed by a shared table. Tea/coffee provided. (Mass is at 10.00). All are welcome. Please phone 01509 813078 or email rosminicentreinfo@gmail.com.

OUR LADY'S CONVENT SCHOOL OPEN MORNING: **Wednesday 8th March,** arrive by 10am. Call 01509 638280 to book your visit. There will be another opportunity to visit the school on **Thursday 4th May.**

GRACE DIEU MANOR SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS: **31st March and 5th May.** Tour the nursery and school, meet teachers and pupils, and see how your child would be nurtured and thrive. Nursery 12 weeks-4 years and Prep School 4-11 years.

PLEASE PRAY for those who are sick: Carmella Giancola, Maria Sainter, Joan Pears, Clarissa Ryder, Barbara Finch, Frank Chatonda, Brian Smith, Rosinah, Janet Middleton, Justin Johns, Kevin and Olive Chapman, Malcolm Leafe, Phillip Dew, Roger Hubank, Rowena Orton, Ann Checketts, Vera Cunningham, Crispin Castillo, Holly Jones, Reuben Farrant, Jack Murray, Brenda Schuler, Vera Hurry, Andrew Spicer, Margaret Stanford, Christina Mortell, Clelia Paciolla, Freddie Hess, Margaret Woodhouse, Pauline Davey (nee Woodhouse), Lee and Louise Raven, Danilo Salvador, Christopher Browne, David and Claire Potter, Jamie, Mark, Stephen Coultas, Jane Moss, Jean Hooper, David Hart, Eddie Hamilton, Katie Mercer, Hannah Bechler, Willis Flack, Val Wells, Alan and Judith Creighton.