

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

- LEADER:** Please kneel for our prayer for vocations. Let us ask God to give worthy Priests to His Holy Church and Brothers and Sisters to Religious Orders.
- ALL:** O God, we earnestly beseech You to bless this diocese with many priests, brothers and sisters, who will gladly spend their entire lives serving Your Church and making You known and loved.
- LEADER:** Bless our families. Bless our children.
- ALL:** Choose from our homes those who are needed for Your work.
- LEADER:** Mary, Queen of the Clergy!
- ALL:** Pray for us. Pray for our priests and religious. Obtain for us many more. Amen.

FATHER PAUL will be away until 23rd November for his father's funeral which will take place at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Bexhill, at 1.30pm on Tuesday 21st November followed by burial at Bexhill Cemetery. Please pray for both Fr Paul and his father, Ken Gillham RIP.

FR. SIMON is in hospital for surgery on his hip, following which he will need time to convalesce. Please pray for his full and speedy recovery.

MASSES THIS WEEK: There will be no Mass on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday at St Mary's. Deacon David will celebrate a Service of Holy Communion on Monday only at 9.15am. Mass intentions will be honoured each day by Fr Paul, except that it won't be at St Mary's.

WORLD DAY FOR THE POOR 2017: This Sunday is the first 'World Day of the Poor'. Pope Francis has instituted this new day as a way of inviting us to understand that sharing with those living in poverty "enables us to understand the deepest truth of the Gospel". In his message for the World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis asks all of us, whatever our means, to unite in love and in acts of service to one another. He explains: "It is my wish that ... Christian communities will make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance." Please consider how you can create moments of encounter and friendship today. Please also take a Prayer Card away with you and keep all those experiencing poverty in your prayer.

CAROL SERVICE – Sunday 17th December: We need readers for the afternoon carol service. If you would like to take part in this way, please contact Catherine Brady.

LOURDES 35TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE FROM ST MARY'S: Saturday 26th May to Saturday 2nd June 2018. Cost: £499 includes coach and ferry travel, full board in Lourdes, full insurance and drivers' tips. A deposit of £132 secures your booking. Final payment due in March 2018. For further details and booking forms, please contact Vera Hurry on 01509 231282.

FROM THE SAINTS: As we enter Heaven, we will see them, so many of them, coming towards us and thanking us. We will ask who they are and they will say, "A poor soul you prayed for in Purgatory" (*Venerable Fulton Sheen, 1895-1979*).

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First Collection: **£ 689**

Standing Orders: **£ 622**

Thank you



St. Mary's Catholic Church

97 Ashby Road, Loughborough LE11 3AB

Tel: 01509 262123

Email: newsletter@stmarysloughborough.org.uk

office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk

Web: www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk

Served by the Rosminians: Fr Paul Gillham, Parish Priest;

Rev David Jones, Deacon. In community: Fr Simon Giles

Newsletter for Sunday 19th November 2017

THIRTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Psalter week 1

Purgatory is the Great Love of God

The existence of Purgatory is an article of our holy Faith and the Church has always taught it. It is where those who die in God's grace, who, if at the time of death are not yet *perfectly* purified, undergo purification so as to be holy and pure enough to be able to stand in God's presence (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1030*).

So Purgatory exists out of God's love, and it is His love that purifies and cleanses us. "*The Lord your God is a devouring fire*" (Deut 4:24). It is not so much a place of punishment. We, by our prayers and sacrifices, and above all the Masses we have said for the Holy Souls, hasten their purification. And of course, November is the month when we particularly step up our efforts in this regard. There is a story relating to this which rather struck me and which I would like to share with you.

The great St Padre Pio of Pietrelcina (1887-1968) encountered many souls from Purgatory whom God allowed to come and ask him for his prayers. In this particular story, a doctor who was a close friend of the Padre had been given a letter for him by a woman to pray for the recovery of her daughter who was seriously ill. Several days had passed before the doctor had the chance to give it to him. But Padre Pio on being handed the letter simply replied, "Let it be done!" The doctor was very mystified by his response since the girl had been at death's door for several days. But Padre Pio explained by giving this example. He said that even now he could pray for the happy death of his great-grandfather who had died years earlier. He continued that supposing when we die we have to spend 100 years in Purgatory. During this time nobody prays for us or has a Mass offered for us. Then after 100 years somebody suddenly thinks of us and has Masses said for us. Now with Our Lord there is no past or future. **He is outside of time** and everything is in the eternal present to Him. Those prayers had already been taken into account so Padre Pio could pray for the happy death of his great-grandfather!

So the point is we should always pray for the departed, even those who died many years ago, because with God there is no past or future – only the eternal present.

Fr Paul Gillham IC

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS AT ST. MARY'S

Sat	18 th	1730-1755 1800	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i> Roger Galvin RIP (1 st Anniversary) <i>Welcome to Luna Adriana Sobieraj and Emily Mary Russell</i>
Sun	19 th	0900 1030-1055 1100	For the Parish <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i> Paola and Luigi Bellofatto <i>Baptism of Luna Adriana Sobieraj</i>
		1245	Polish Mass
		1600	Italian Mass
Mon	20 th	0915	NO MASS - Service of Holy Communion John and Dorothy Ginns RIP
Tues	21 st	0915	NO MASS Emily Houston RIP
Weds	22 nd	0915	NO MASS Aislabie Harrison RIP (Anniversary)
Thurs	23 rd	0915	Holy Souls
Fri	24 th	0915	Michael Smith RIP
Sat	25 th	0915 1100	Geraldine Jackson RIP <i>Wedding of Sandrine and Daniel</i>

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Mon	20 th	1330	History Group – Hall
Tues	21 st	1845-1930 1930-2030	Rosary – Church NO Scripture & Tradition
Weds	22 nd	1400-1600 1930	Senior Citizens – Hall U.C.M. – Library
Thurs	23 rd	1830-2100 1930	CST/Outreach Group Meeting – Library Holy League – Church **please note the date**

PLEASE PRAY for those who are sick: Valentino Castillo Snr, Leonardo Lopez Wain, Teresa Frankow, Margaret Barson, Cyril Dale, Ethel Dale, Sam Putres, Margaret Jackson, Andrew Belton, Garry Clarke, Robert Onions, Tendai Mufute, David Allen, Arcenia Solohaga, Jim Moreland, Olga Maker, Hazel, Carmella Giancola, Barbara Finch, Frank Chatonda, Brian Smith, Rosinah, Justin Johns, Kevin and Olive Chapman, Rowena Orton, Vera Cunningham, Kerry Berry & family, Crispin Castillo, Reuben Farrant, Jack Murray, Margaret Stanford, Brenda Schuler, Andrew Spicer, Christina Mortell, Clelia Paciolla, Freddie Hess, Margaret Woodhouse, Pauline Davey, Danilo Salvador, Christopher Browne, David and Claire Potter, Jamie, Mark, Stephen Coultas, Jane Moss, Eddie Hamilton, Hannah Bechler, Val Wells, Dennis Nolan, James, Alan & Judith Creighton, the Tucker family and Geraldine Paul.

for those who have recently died: Ken Gillham, Eugie Scannel, and Angelina Brienza
May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Aislabie Harrison, James Ward, Philip Bowler, Linda Howkins, Jean Woodcock, Tina Cassella, Joyce Gilliver, Pat McLoughlin, Albert Barker, Alan Tinker, Roger Galvin, Martin Gallagher, Antony O'Malley

DATE CHANGE - MEN'S HOLY LEAGUE: The next meeting of St Mary's Holy League, open to all men of the parish, will **NOW** be held at 7.30pm on **THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER** for approximately an hour of prayer including Eucharistic Adoration. As always there will be an opportunity afterwards to meet for a drink and a chat. Please come and support this great tradition of prayer and friendship. For further details please contact Terry 0782 878 5771 or Greg 07921 587 901. *"Do not be afraid to be holy! Have the courage and humility to present yourselves to the world determined to be holy, since full, true freedom is born from holiness."* St John Paul II

THE PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH deposits have now been paid. Your choice of meal needs to be with the Radmoor Restaurant by **27th November**. I have a form for you to complete before then. Please ask me.
Catherine Brady

CHRISTMAS STAMPS are now on sale. Please remember to ask for the religious ones.

ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Saturday 2nd December, 11am - 2pm. We would be very grateful for tombola prizes, bottles for the bottle stall, toys in good condition, jewellery and scarves. Most important of all is your support on the day. Donations may be handed in to the office on Wednesday or Friday mornings, or left in the Library clearly labelled 'for the Christmas Fayre'. Thank you.
The Events Team

FOSTERING INFORMATION EVENING: for anyone in the Churches of Loughborough who is interested in fostering. **Wednesday 22nd November 7.30pm – 9.00 pm** at the Schofield Family Centre, Greenclose Lane, Loughborough LE11 5AS. For more information and to sign up, please visit bit.do/fosteringevening.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMISTRESS of St. Mary's School: I would be very grateful if parents would please ensure that when they park in the playground for weekend Masses, their children do not play on school equipment and that they do not leave any rubbish behind. This would be much appreciated. Thank you.

THE ANNUAL DEANERY QUIZ will be held at Sacred Heart Church Hall, Loughborough, at 8pm on **Saturday 2nd December**. Teams of 4 (one from each parish) take part and compete for the Deanery Trophy. Social teams will also be welcome, and there will be a separate prize for them. Tea, coffee, biscuits and sandwiches will be available for a small charge, and people can bring their own food and drinks if they wish. There will be no charge for entering, but there will be a raffle in aid of the Sick and Retired Priests Fund. **If you would like to join 'St Mary's parish' team, or enter your own 'social' team, please call the presbytery or email office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk by mid-day on Friday 24th November.**

'MOTHER MARY' CONCERT AT ST MARY'S: Do you like ABBA's music? Would you like to sing it in our church? You will have the chance to do so on **Friday 15th December** when a choir of 60 people will be presenting, once again, 'Mother Mary', a musical version of the Christmas story set to the words of 'Mamma Mia'. It was presented here in 2013 and went down a storm! The cast has specially requested to come back as they were so well received! Tickets will be available shortly at £5 for adults and £3 concessions, and all the proceeds will be donated to local charities. More details available from hinckleypriory@gmail.com or 01455 634443. The production is also being presented in St Peter's Church, Hinckley on Thursday and Tuesday 14th and 19th December and St Joseph's Church, Leicester on Monday 18th December - all at 7.30pm.

CONCERTO DI NATALE (Christmas Concert) will take place in St. Mary's Church on **Friday 1st December** at 7pm. Details to follow.

PLEASE RECLAIM LOST PROPERTY and any other items from the back of church as the area will be cleared on **28th November**.
Catherine Brady and Geoff Mercer