

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.

CHILDREN MAKING THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION should remain in church for the whole of Mass and not join the Children's Liturgy group. Thank you. *Fr Paul*

ITALIAN MASS – SUNDAY 11th MARCH – Please note the change of time. This will be celebrated at 3.00pm instead of the usual 4.00pm.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA: The annual enactment of the events of Holy Week by young adults of the two Loughborough parishes, as their contribution to the ceremonies of Holy Week, is at 6.00pm in St. Mary's, Ashby Road, on Palm Sunday evening, **25th March**. We hope that as part of your Holy Week activities you will once again support their efforts with your attendance and participation. Undergraduates and students in Years 6 to 13 willing to participate, please contact Richard Mitchell (07812 997847) **before Sunday 18th March**.

MARIST LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: **Saturday 26th May to Saturday 2nd June**. Cost £499 includes full insurance and full board in Lourdes. Further details and booking forms from Vera Hurry: 01509 231282

NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: **Sunday 22nd April 2018**, 10.30am-5.30pm. The first, annual pilgrimage for Catholic men. Meet, talk and share the faith with other men; listen to speakers, celebrate confession and Mass, pray for families and for the country; process to the old Abbey grounds for Benediction. All welcome. For more information visit www.catholicman.co.uk.

MANY THANKS to the Filipino community who, from the sale of Filipino goods, have raised £300 for church funds. It is much appreciated. *Fr Paul*

WITHDRAWAL OF OLD £10 NOTES FROM CIRCULATION: The old 'Darwin' £10 notes ceased to be legal tender on **1st March**. With over £2 billion worth still in circulation we will be happy to receive them (all!) in future collections! Banks will continue to receive them for the foreseeable future. *Geoff Mercer*

The second collection next weekend will be for the Carpenter's Arms

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

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|-------------------------------|---|
| First Collection: £814 | CAFOD: £ 758 of which £504 was Gift Aided |
| Standing Orders: £642 | Bishop's Collection: £151 |
| <i>Thank you</i> | |



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

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

Newsletter for Sunday 4th March 2018

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Psalter week 3

Jesus is busy with a whip and indignation in our Gospel this Sunday, clearing out and cleansing. Clearing out is a very good theme for us to contemplate during this Holy Season of Lent. Those of you who over the years have had to clear out a relative's home, or have yourselves moved house, will understand what a task that can be. We all seem to keep so much and the longer we are in one place the more that seems to accumulate! As I well know after spending nearly 20 years abroad. But clearing out and sorting out is good for us both practically and spiritually for it challenges our priorities: - what is really necessary and what is important?

The Temple in Jerusalem was to be the supreme place for the Hebrew people to encounter the presence of God. A place of Holiness, peace and prayer but as Jesus discovered it had gradually become a noisy cacophony of animal sales and market traders, and He reacted with passion!

At our baptism we Christians receive the gift of God's Holy Spirit to dwell in our souls, the 'Light of Christ' to be nurtured and shine out in us as we grow as disciples of Jesus. St Paul reminded the Christians in Corinth (1 Cor 6:19) that we are temples of the Holy Spirit, He who lives in us by Grace. Lent is our time to do a bit of cleansing, clearing out of that temple within, getting rid of the clutter of old habits, past sins, neglected virtues. It's a reminder that the 'work' of conversion, our conversion, is always a work in progress and contrition. But examining our lives is often something we run from, put off, leave for another day or time, a bit like sorting out the attic, the spare room or our wardrobe. Examining our lives is never easy: it requires courage to reflect on our behaviour. This is the great beauty which the '**Health check**' that coming to confession gives us. Forgiveness and Reconciliation is the '**medicine**' we all need, as in the secrecy of the confessional we admit our faults and failings, clear out the temple of the Holy Spirit within us of its clutter: harsh words, bad deeds and thoughts, failures etc which prevent the Light of Christ to shine from us and there to receive the **healing of Christ** in the words of absolution.

Cleansed, Renewed, Restored, 'Temples of God's love'

Let's get the 'brushes' out and the 'black bags' and have a good clear out of our souls, praying that the Holy Spirit will bless us with passion in our task.

Shine brighter for Christ.

Deacon David OLW

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

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|--------------|------------------|--|--|
| Sat | 3 rd | 5.30-5.55pm | Sacrament of Reconciliation (+ on request) |
| | | 6.00pm | Anna Corbinzolu RIP |
| Sun | 4 th | Third Sunday of Lent | |
| | | 9.00am | For the Parish |
| | | 10.30-10.55am | Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request |
| | | 11.00am | Mary Power - Intention |
| | | 12.45pm | Polish Mass |
| | | 4.00pm | Italian Mass |
| Mon | 5 th | 9.15am | Terence Foister RIP |
| | | 11.00am | Confessions – Year 6 St Mary's School |
| Tues | 6 th | 9.15am | Kathleen Walsh RIP |
| Weds | 7 th | 9.15am | Deceased members of the Pagani family |
| Thurs | 8 th | 9.15am | George Senior Houston RIP |
| Fri | 9 th | 9.15am | Michael Walsh RIP |
| | | 6.00pm | Samuel Reid RIP |
| | | 6.30pm | Stations of the Cross (following 6.00pm Mass) |
| Sat | 10 th | 9.15am | Matthew Galvin RIP |
| | | 10.00-11.00am | Sacrament of Reconciliation (+ on request) and Eucharistic Adoration |
| | | 6.00pm | John Saunders RIP (Anniversary) |
| Sun | 11 th | Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare) | |
| | | 9.00am | For the Parish |
| | | 10.30-10.55am | Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request |
| | | 11.00am | Sheila McFerran RIP |

The Requiem Mass for Christine O'Flynn will be at Sacred Heart Church on **Friday 9th March** at 11.00a.m.

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

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|-------------|------------------|-------------|--|
| Mon | 5 th | 1.30pm | History Group - Hall |
| Tues | 6 th | 6.45-7.15pm | Rosary – Church |
| | | 7.30-8.30pm | Scripture & Tradition – Library |
| Sat | 10 th | 10.00am | First Holy Communion Class (5) – Hall |

PLEASE PRAY for those who are sick: Stephen Bowmer, Valentino Castillo Snr, Leonardo Lopez Wain, Teresa Frankow, Margaret Barson, Ethel Dale, Sam Putres, Andrew Belton, Garry Clarke, Robert Onions, Tendai Mufute, Arcenia Solohaga, Jim Moreland, Olga Maker, Hazel, Barbara Finch, Frank Chatonda, Brian Smith, Rosinah, Lee and Louise Raven, Justin Johns, Kevin and Olive Chapman, Rowena Orton, Vera Cunningham, Kerry Berry & family, Crispin Castillo, Reuben Farrant, Jack Murray, 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, Alan & Judith Creighton, the Tucker family and Geraldine Paul.

MUSICIANS WANTED: Keyboard player wanted to join our St. Mary's music group - any ability from beginner / improver upwards. We play once a week in Loughborough on Wednesdays 7.00 – 8.30pm and there is a keyboard in house. The music we play is mainly traditional / country / folksy. Our group presently consists of guitars, ukuleles and violin but would happily welcome more players of any instrument. No stress - we play for fun! Free tuition if required. £1 per session. Contact John Clark: 01509 554337 or john.clark463@ntlworld.com.

SPRING CEILIDH: Saturday 10th March at Rosebery St Peter's Community Centre (see poster on noticeboard). From 7pm. Live band. Tickets - £8 adults, £6 under 10s, available after Masses this weekend. Or contact Rebecca Offiler-Russell: bec_offiler@msn.com / 07525 214333.
Friends of Sacred Heart Academy

FUNDRAISER FOR 'AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED': The next Knights of St Columba quiz will be at 7.30pm on **Saturday 10th March** at Sacred Heart church hall. The price will be £6 as usual (£3 for students), to include a wine and cheese supper, and all proceeds will go to 'Aid to the Church in Need', the charity that helps persecuted Christians around the world. 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 along, if possible please contact Will Holland on 07811 353 248; this helps with the catering.

DURING THE EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY the volunteers at Loughborough Town of Sanctuary give gifts to the children who often accompany their parents to the Centre in Loughborough. If you have any toys that are in good condition with which your children have finished playing (no soft toys, please) then I would be pleased to take them. You can leave them in the Carpenter's Arms box at the back of church. Many thanks. *Frank Fay*

DEEPENING OUR FAITH with Bishop Robert Barron DVD on 'Does God Exist?'. **Saturday 10th March** at the Rosmini Centre. Mass at 10am followed by DVD at 11am. Shared table lunch with soup and a roll. All are welcome.

LENTEN RETREAT at the Rosmini Centre on **Saturday 17th March** starting at 10am with Mass. Light lunch provided. All are welcome. Please book in advance for catering purposes.

SEE NOTICEBOARD for news of: head teacher vacancy at St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy, Leicester; Bach Mass in B Minor at Nottingham Cathedral (**10th March**); Spring Ceilidh at Rosebery St Peter's Community Centre (**10th March**).

FROM THE SAINTS: "Remain humble, remain simple; the more you are so, the more good you will do." *St John Vianney.*

PLEASE PRAY for those for who have recently died: Margaret Jackson and Gary Clarke. **May they rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Lillian Sweeney, Ingeborg Cox, Nancy Hart, Antonio Giampalma, Ray Owens, Osyp Szczur, John Simpson, Maura Barton, Winifred Howard and John Saunders