

**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.

FROM THE SAINTS: Suffering born in a Christian way is the condition that God, the author of all grace and of all the gifts that lead to salvation, has established for granting us glory. (*St Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, 1887-1968*)

MEN'S HOLY LEAGUE: This month's meeting will be on **Wednesday 26th September** at 7.30pm. We have decided to open this month's Holy League to the whole Parish in order to come together for an hour of prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament to pray for the Church in this time of crisis. Please come and join us if you can.

LOUGHBOROUGH AMHERST SCHOOL is Loughborough's only Catholic independent school. We welcome boys and girls aged 4-18. We have a teacher-pupil ratio of 1:8, outstanding pastoral care and excellent academic value-added. If you are interested in a place for your child, please visit our open day on **Saturday 29th September**, from 9.30am. Details can be found at www.olcs.leics.sch.uk.

INVITATION to join in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the blessing and official opening of the present St Joseph's church in Leicester. A full programme will be posted on their parish website www.stjoseph-leicester.btck.co.uk or search 'St Joseph's Leicester Live' on YouTube.

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE MAY 2019: Anne Murphy and Greg O'Connor are arranging another parish trip to Fatima. The dates are: Departure **Monday 27th May** / Return **Thursday 30th May**. If you are interested, please contact Anne or Greg for more details and to book a place. Anne: elizabethannemurphy@yahoo.co.uk or 07813 660517. Greg: greg@villiersforbes.co.uk or 07921 587901.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE	
First collection: £856	Home Missions: £204
Standing Orders: £669 @ 31.08	<i>Thank you</i>



St Mary's Catholic Church

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office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk

Web: www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk

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

On attachment: Fr David Jones OLW. In community: Fr Simon Giles

**Newsletter for Sunday 23rd September 2018
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Psalter Week 1**

“I have been Crucified with Christ”

Today (Sunday 23rd September), is the fiftieth anniversary of the death of one of the most popular saints in the Church today – **St Padre Pio of Pietrelcina**. We even have a statue of him in St Mary's and many candles are continuously lit in front of it which is a sign of the great devotion and trust many of you have in his intercession.

On 20th September 1918, Padre Pio was kneeling in front of a large crucifix in his Friary when he received the **stigmata** (the wounds of Christ) on his hands, feet and side. There was never any medical explanation for this and the wounds neither healed nor became infected, and he had them for fifty years. They would continually bleed and gave him great pain.

He had many other mystical gifts. Among these was his ability to **read souls** in the confessional. He would tell people exactly what their sins were before they even had time to confess them, and even sins they had forgotten! Soon huge numbers of penitents would flock to him and he would spend ten to twelve hours a day in the confessional. He also had the gift of **bilocation** – the ability to be in two places at once and there are many stories regarding this. From a very early age he saw his **Guardian Angel** and would converse with him and even send him on errands! He also suffered physical attacks from the devil. Souls suffering in **Purgatory** would appear to him and ask for his prayers for their release from Purgatory and for him to celebrate Mass for them – we should always remember that having Masses offered for the dead is the best help we can give our deceased loved ones.

Blessed Pope Paul VI said Padre Pio was a man of suffering and of prayer. So why did God allow Padre Pio to suffer so much and for so long? Padre Pio was a **victim soul** in that he suffered, like Our Lord did, for the salvation of souls. He himself said his sufferings give glory to God, and through them he made reparation for sin. With his conformity to Christ through the stigmata, like St Paul, he could say, *“I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I that live, but Christ who lives in me”* (Galatians 2:20).

Padre Pio's life was also a living out of the message of **Our Lady of Fatima** and he said the **Rosary** many times a day. Our Lady asked us to make sacrifices and to do penances for the conversion of sinners that they might be saved. Padre Pio really lived this. Let us be inspired by this great Saint to do the same.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

Sat	22 nd	6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	23 rd	<u>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (+ on request)
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		12.45am	Polish Mass
		4.00pm	NO Italian Mass
Mon	24 th	9.15am	Our Lady of Walsingham (Memorial)
Tues	25 th	9.15am	Feria
Weds	26 th	9.15am	Sts Cosmos and Damian, Martyrs (Memorial)
Thurs	27 th	9.15am	St Vincent de Paul, Priest (Memorial)
Fri	28 th	9.15am	St Wenceslaus, Martyr
Sat	29 th	9.15am	<u>Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels (Feast)</u>
		10.00-11.00am	Eucharistic Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation (+ on request)
		5.30-5.55pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	30 th	<u>Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		12.45am	Polish Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Tues	25 th	6.45-7.15pm	Rosary – Church
Weds	26 th	2.00-4.00pm	Senior Citizens – Hall
		7.30pm	UCM – Library
		7.30pm	Holy League (open to all parishioners) – Church
Thurs	27 th	7.00pm	RCIA – Library

PLEASE PRAY for those for who have recently died: May they rest in Peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Doris Couzens, John Mucklow, Margaret Warren, Joseph Sheen, Sarah James, Giuseppina di Cosmo, Margaret Kuzniar, Bridget Fay, Andrew Lenard, Norah Willems, Eileen Scott and Donald Folkes

HARVEST LUNCH: Sunday 7th October in the Parish Hall after 11am Mass (12.30pm). £10 adults, £5 children, £20 family. Tickets on sale after all Masses from this weekend. The proceeds will go to the Retired Priests' Fund and all offerings of non-perishable goods will be donated to Joseph's Storehouse.

PARISH VOICE: The next issue of the **Parish Voice** is now being prepared. Any items of interest you'd like to be included in the magazine would be very welcome. Articles, comments, letters, photos, autumn/winter recipes, reviews etc from any age group, can be emailed to office@stmaryloughborough.org.uk or handed in to the Parish Office marked '**Parish Voice**' on the envelope. **Deadline for item submission:** to be advised.

APPROVED MAY FINANCE MINUTES are now available at the back of church.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING: Saturday 29th September, 10am to 12noonish at home. Please come along and bring a friend. Contact Jean Lopez Lopez: 07837 283548.

EXAIREO: Our local homeless charity is looking for: people with basic carpentry or repainting furniture skills to help them get donated furniture ready for resale; anyone who can teach canoeing (paid work) as four canoes have been donated to them; anyone who could give a couple of hours week to office admin, basic Word skill needed. Please call 01509 266422, email info@exaireo.org. Or speak to Catherine Brady.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA QUIZ NIGHT: Saturday 6th October (7.30pm) at Sacred Heart church hall. Price £6 (£3students), to include a wine and cheese supper. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Nurses. Teams can be formed on the night. If you would like to come, please contact Will Holland on 07811 353 248; this helps with the catering.

ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT from end of September to end of February by 22-year old French student, who will be studying at Loughborough University on an exchange programme. If you are able to help, please call the presbytery and speak to Fr Paul.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS are an integral part of the leadership and management of our Catholic schools and make a substantial contribution to their success. Most people find being a governor to be highly rewarding. Across the Diocese of Nottingham, we have a number of vacancies that we need to fill. Bishop Patrick is inviting people to come forward who are willing to become Foundation Governors in our Catholic schools. If you have the commitment and desire to become a governor now or in the near future, we would be delighted to hear from you. More information about being a governor is available from the Diocesan Education Service Governor Support Team, (01332 293833) or from the Diocesan Education Service website: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/education where you will find a 'Self-Nomination' form which we would encourage you to complete and return to us.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST are seeking to appoint a Lead Lay Chaplain, working for three days per week in the first instance, increasing to full time in the first 1-2 years. The successful applicant will take on a crucial role in enhancing and developing the Catholic life of our schools in Leicester and Leicestershire. Salary: £30,153 to £34,538 (pro rata) depending on experience. For further information, please visit www.aquinas-cmat.org or contact Mrs J Banks: Jbanks@aquinas-cmat.org. Deadline for applications: **Friday 12th October 2018.**

PERSONAL DATA: Due to new rules from the government regarding personal data, it will no longer be possible to publish the names of the living for whom Mass is being offered or the names of the sick on the *electronic* version of the Parish Newsletter. However, we can continue to publish these names on the printed edition.

Fr Paul