

**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.

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**FROM THE SAINTS:** "Pleasure depends on external circumstances, such as money, food travel etc. Joy is independent of them, for it comes from a good conscience and love of God" (*Venerable Fulton Sheen, 1895-1979*).

**ADORATION THIS COMING WEEK**

*At the Convent: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 10.00-11.00am*

*At St Mary's: Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 10.00-11.00am (with confessions)*

**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL:** Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God thrust down to hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. *Amen*

**BAMBINELLI SUNDAY:** This Sunday after the 11am Mass I will bless figures of the Baby Jesus for your cribs at home. This is a long-standing tradition observed by the Pope.

**SINGING IN LATIN:** Sometimes we sing the Ordinary of the Mass (ie, Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei etc) in Latin, particularly at the 11am Mass. The Church has always encouraged this and it was even decreed by the Second Vatican Council. The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican II said "*the use of the Latin language is to be preserved in the Latin rites*" (#36) and "*steps should be taken so that the faithful may also be able to say or to sing together in Latin those parts of the Ordinary of the Mass which pertain to them*" (#54). So this is why at some Masses we sing a little in Latin. And there is also a great joy and continuity in knowing that we are saying and singing the same things as many of the saints and early Fathers of the Church. If people are interested, I would happily do a couple of classes in the basic Latin chants we use at Mass to familiarise people with them. Please let me know.  
*Fr Paul*

**The second collection this weekend is for poor and needy Parishes.**

**LAST WEEK'S FINANCE**

First collection: **£ 760**

Standing Orders: **£ 665 @ 25.11**

*Thank you*



**St Mary's Catholic Church**

97 Ashby Road, Loughborough LE11 3AB

Tel: 01509 262123

Email: [newsletter@stmarysloughborough.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@stmarysloughborough.org.uk)

[office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk)

Web: [www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk](http://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 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
GAUDETE SUNDAY (Third in Advent)**

Psalter week 3

**Rejoice in the Lord always!**

Advent is a **penitential** season albeit less so than Lent. Hence flowers are removed from the church, the Liturgy is more subdued, the Gloria is not said and purple vestments are worn as a sign of our repentance. Three of the candles on the Advent wreath are purple, and last Sunday we heard St John the Baptist calling us to repentance to prepare for the coming of the Lord.

But this Third Sunday of Advent, some flowers are restored and we lay aside the penitential purple, and use **rose coloured vestments** instead. A **rose coloured candle** is lit on the Advent wreath and we are told to **rejoice**, because being over half way through Advent, Christ is now very near. And so the Introit or Entrance Antiphon and the Second Reading for today's Mass are taken from St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-5; "*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.*" The Latin word for rejoice is *gaudete*, and hence this Sunday is also known as "**Gaudete Sunday.**"

Notice St Paul says rejoice in the Lord – that is in the **Christian life**. When we follow JESUS and try to give up sin we will find happiness. It doesn't mean we'll never face troubles in our lives, because pain and suffering are just part of the reality of life which we all have to face at some point. But we can have an **inner peace**. The saints had this, even in times of trial and suffering because they knew they were keeping God's Law and being pleasing to Him. And this is where true peace comes from – knowing we are doing the Will of God.

Recently canonised martyr St Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador was once asked by a reporter whether he knew people wanted to kill him. He replied, "*You can tell them they are wasting their time. They can kill a bishop but they cannot kill the people of God, the Church. If I am killed I will rise again in the people of El Salvador.*" An inspiring example I think of being joyful in the Lord in the face of trials and difficulties.

Inner peace and joy are the result of hard work and sacrifice and it will cost us to acquire them. It is only when we receive our heavenly reward that we shall enjoy *perfect* peace and joy as a reward of our faithfulness and perseverance on earth.

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

<b>Sat</b>	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	16 <sup>th</sup>	<b><u>Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)</u></b>	
		<b>9.00am</b>	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (+ on request)
		<b>11.00am</b>	For the Parish (Blessings on Baby Jesus from family nativities)
		12.45am	Polish Mass
		<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>Christingle Service. * Please note change of time*</b>
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
<b>Mon</b>	17 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Advent Feria
<b>Tues</b>	18 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Latin Mass (old rite)
		9.15am	Advent Feria
		4.30pm	Reception of Mario Sepede RIP
<b>Weds</b>	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Advent Feria
		11.00am	Requiem Mass for Mario Sepede RIP
<b>Thurs</b>	20 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Advent Feria
		6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight (St. Mary's School)
<b>Fri</b>	21 <sup>st</sup>	9.15am	Advent Feria
<b>Sat</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15am	Advent Feria
		10.00-11.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession
		5.30-5.55pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (+ on request)
<b>Sun</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass
		<b><u>Fourth Sunday of Advent</u></b>	
		<b>9.00am</b>	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (+ on request)
		<b>11.00am</b>	Parish Mass

## THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

<b>Sun</b>	16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>3.30pm-5.00pm</b>	<b>Party following the 3pm Christingle Service –</b> Hall. Please bring £1 donation towards a small gift from Santa plus a small plate of food to share
<b>Tues</b>	18 <sup>th</sup>	6.45-7.15pm	Rosary – Church
		7.30-8.30pm	NO Scripture & Tradition until Springtime
<b>Weds</b>	19 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner

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**NB: Due to the new government regulations regarding personal data (GDPR), we are only able to publicise the Mass intentions in the printed edition of the newsletter.**

**AFTER ALL MASSES NEXT WEEKEND**, children and families are invited to bring along a small gift to the crib which by then will be in place. The items collected will then be put into hampers for the Carpenter's Arms. After the final blessing, anyone who has a gift for the crib, please make your way up the centre aisle. The altar servers will leave the altar followed by the priest and by those bearing gifts for the crib. The gifts can then be placed in the containers provided. These will be distributed into the hampers. Thank you!  
*Fr Paul*

**FR DAVID JONES:** Welcome back to Fr David who is now back with us. We haven't seen him for a while at weekends due to his supplying elsewhere in the Deanery, although he has been celebrating Masses here in the week.

**NATIVITIES:** St Mary's School warmly invites you to the KS1 Nativity on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** at 9.30am or on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** at 2.30pm.

**ADORATION (Preparation for Christmas):** '*Adore, be silent and rejoice*' at the Convent, 19 Garton Road, **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December**, 10.00-11.00am.

**CTS BOOKS:** There are some Advent and Christmas booklets available for you to buy from the CTS rack at the back of the church. It could provide some good spiritual reading leading up to Christmas.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE** to be drawn after the Carol Service on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**. Tickets will be on sale at £1 per ticket after all Masses on the 15/16 & 22/23 December. Lots of lovely prizes. Please support. Thanks.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Volunteers needed to help clean the church for Christmas. Come any time after 10.00am (after the morning mass) on **Friday morning, 21<sup>st</sup> December**. Everyone welcome. Equipment provided.

**PARISH VOICE** will be available this weekend after all Masses. Suggested donation £1 to cover printing costs.

**FRATERNAL DAY:** Calling All Catholic Men! Catholic Man UK, a network building Catholic fraternity across the UK, invites men from the Diocese looking to grow in formation, fortitude, fraternity and faith to join the first regional Fraternal Day on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019** (9am-3.30pm) at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey. The day will include an introduction to Catholic Man UK, Mass, Holy Hour with Confession and Rosary, a talk by Dom Erik Varden OCSO: 'Lessons from Monastic Life for Men in the World', tour of the Abbey, beer tasting and fraternal time. The cost for the day is £15, including refreshments, light lunch and a bottle of the Abbey's Tynt Meadow beer. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment! For information or to book email [nottingham@catholicman.uk](mailto:nottingham@catholicman.uk).

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**PLEASE PRAY for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Vivincia Castillo, Giovanni Brunetti, Hryhori Westyn, Luisa De Blasio, Gertrude Tyler, Rita Message, Wilfred Styles, Elizabeth Jordan, Veronica Burton, Alojgy Panna, Carmel Berridge, Peter Robinson, Virginia Stocks, Brian Stack, baby Jethro Starbuck, Francis Boyne, Lily O'Neil, Anthony Field, Dorothy Ginns, Margaret Dawson, Rita Sivaguru, Edouardo Romaniello, Mary Black, Denise Carnell and Christopher Hubbard.

**and for those who have recently died:** John Kane, Mario Sepede, Eileen Gill, Freddie Hess  
**May they rest in Peace**