

## 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.

**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*

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**FROM THE SAINTS:** "Marriage is to help married people sanctify themselves and others. For this reason they receive a special grace in the sacrament which Jesus Christ instituted. Those who are called to the married state will, with the grace of God, find within their state everything they need to be holy" (*St Josemaria Escriva, 1902-1975*).

### SUNDAY VESPERS AND BENEDICTION:

Our monthly Sunday Vespers and Benediction before Easter will be on the following dates at **6pm: 24<sup>th</sup> February, 10<sup>th</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> April.**

**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. People have expressed some interest at my suggestion of doing a couple of classes to familiarise people with the basic chants. I'll organise this soon.

*Fr Paul*

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Today's **Second Collection** is for the NRC DT Sick/Retired Priests' Fund.

### LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First Collection: **£832**

Standing Orders: **£665 @ 30.12**

*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 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** - Psalter Week 2

## **Living out Your Divine Calling**

In today's Gospel we hear the account of the **Wedding at Cana** at which both JESUS and Mary were present as well as the Apostles. What a great list of guests! But this can be a reality too for Catholics who really desire it. At a **Nuptial Mass** Christ is truly present on the altar, just as He was at the Wedding at Cana. Although not sacramentally present, Mary and the Apostles are there too as the whole Court of Heaven is present at every Mass. The priest who has Apostolic powers stands before the altar and gives the kneeling couple a solemn blessing in the name of the Divine Master. Then a few moments later the couple partake of Holy Communion – the truly sacred banquet, far greater than any water changed into wine at Cana. Marriage is a natural union elevated by Our Lord to the dignity of a **sacrament** between the baptised (*Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC] #1601*). Scripture and the Church teach that marriage is between one man and one woman for life, ordered to the procreation of children and for the mutual love of the spouses (*CCC #1652*). The Church does not recognise divorce (*CCC #1614*) or 'same sex marriage' (*CCC #2359*) because that is not how God has determined things to be within the order of His Creation. Similarly the Church regards sex outside of marriage as sinful (*CCC #2353*). These rules are not invented by the Church. They are divinely revealed truths expressing the Will of God.

Like Our Lord, the Church is clear on these matters because of their importance to our lives, to holiness, especially within our relationships, and ultimately to our salvation, but She is also very merciful. Catholics in difficult situations are always welcome at Mass, and in the case of **divorce and remarriage** there is always the possibility of applying for an **annulment**, which if attained, enables those affected to receive Holy Communion again. The Church has great love for people in these situations. If you are affected by this, please talk to one of the priests about it.

As wonderful as marriage and family life are, they are certainly not easy. Neither is it always easy to be parents; to be single, to be a priest, a deacon or a religious brother or sister. Because of **Original Sin**, life can be hard and involve some suffering. But because of Christ's gift of salvation, everything we experience, whether easy or difficult, whether joyful or sorrowful, can be an occasion of grace and an opportunity to grow closer to God. God never asks the impossible from us. Whatever our God-given vocation is, be it married or single, priest or religious, God always gives the necessary grace to fulfil it. Pray for the grace to both discover your calling (if you haven't already) and for the grace to live it out.

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

<b>Sat</b>	19 <sup>th</sup>	5.30-5.55pm	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.00am</b>	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		<b>11.00am</b>	Parish Mass
		12.45pm	Polish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
<b>Mon</b>	21 <sup>st</sup>	8.00am	Latin Mass (old rite)
		9.15am	St Agnes
<b>Tues</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15am	St Vincent
<b>Weds</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15am	Feria
<b>Thurs</b>	24 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	St Francis de Sales
		2.30pm	<i>Requiem Mass for Carmen Nunes RIP</i>
<b>Fri</b>	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	The Conversion of St Paul (Feast)
<b>Sat</b>	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Sts Timothy & Titus
		10.00-11.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Confessions</i>
		5.30-5.55pm	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.00am</b>	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		<b>11.00am</b>	Parish Mass

## THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

<b>Mon</b>	21 <sup>st</sup>	1.30pm	History Group – Hall
<b>Tues</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.45-7.15pm	The Rosary – Church
<b>Weds</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	2.00-4.00pm	Senior Citizens: Dominoes – Hall
		7.30pm	UCM – Library
<b>Fri</b>	25 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm	Crochet – Hall

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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.**

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:** There are still prizes that have not yet been claimed. Please check your tickets against the numbers listed at the back of church to see if you are a winner.

**CHARWOOD FOOD POVERTY ACTION GROUP:** Representatives of St Mary's Catholic Social Action group have joined the Charnwood Food Poverty Action Group, a cross-section of communities within the borough trying to work together to relieve poverty. One of our activities is Grub Club. Look out for further initiatives.

**GRUB CLUB** will be open during half term, **18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February, in St Mary's School.** We will be providing lunch and activities for children whose parents are struggling to feed them during school holidays. Four schools are currently registered: St Mary's, Sacred Heart, Cobden Street and Loughborough C of E. A new school to join us is Rendell Street. The theme of the two days will be Carnival. Look out for more details or contact Catherine Brady, Grub Club Chair.

**THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA QUIZ** will be at 7.30pm on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February** 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 this time will go towards the training of new Priests and Deacons in the Diocese. 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, if possible please contact Will Holland on 07811 353 248; this helps with the catering.

**ANNUAL "VALENTINE" MARRIAGE MASS:** The Annual Diocesan Marriage Mass, where married couples are able to renew their vows before the Bishop and receive his blessing on their Marriages, will take place on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 3pm at St Barnabas Cathedral.** This Mass is open to all couples who have received the sacrament of marriage and their families, but is especially appropriate to those recently married, or celebrating a significant anniversary or those who simply wish to renew their vows. Please just turn up on the day, but if you want more information do not hesitate to contact Fr David Palmer, Chair of the Marriage and family Life Commission at: [catholicdavid@mac.com](mailto:catholicdavid@mac.com) or 0115 9786236

**THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** began last Friday and concludes this coming **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January**, the feast of the Conversion of St Paul. We pray that the divisions in Christianity will be healed and that there will be one flock and one shepherd.

**HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY:** A brief service of commemoration will take place on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January** at 1pm at the The Bandstand, Queen's Park, Loughborough to remember all those lost to genocide in the past and resolving that we will not let this happen in our time. All are welcome.

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**PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died:** Margaret Woodhouse and Carmen Nunes. **May they rest in peace**

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Michael Doyle, Velia Capasso, Joseph Hall, Wanda Souraty, Nicholas Robottom, Rita George, Thomas Hunt, John Allcock, Mary Oliver, Eddie Bak, Bob Harlow and Vittorio Festa