

## 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

**HAIL, HOLY QUEEN:** At the end of the bidding prayers during Lent, we will recite the Hail, Holy Queen instead of the Hail Mary. In case you don't know it, here is the text:

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs of mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, O most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement! O loving! O sweet Virgin Mary!

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**FROM THE SAINTS:** "To leave our prayer when we are called to do some act of charity for our neighbour, is not really a quitting of prayer, but leaving Christ for Christ, that is, depriving ourselves of spiritual sweetnesses in order to gain souls" (*St Philip Neri, 1515-1595*).

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**ST JOSEPH:** The month of March is dedicated to St Joseph, spouse of Our Lady and foster-father to Our Lord. He is Patron of the Universal Church. Just as he protected Our Lord here on Earth, he also protects His Mystical Body, the Church from Heaven. St Joseph is also Patron of a happy death since it has always been a tradition that he died in the arms of Jesus and Mary. A good prayer to cultivate saying is "*St Joseph, advocate of the dying and the sinner, pray for us who have recourse to thee.*"

**PATRONAL FEAST:** Our church is dedicated to St Mary of the Annunciation. Therefore, we will have an extra Sung Mass on the Solemnity of the Annunciation on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March** at 7pm. Please do your best to be present.

**ROSMINI CENTRE:** Healing Mass 7 to 9 pm on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**; Fr Denis Labartette.

### LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First Collection: <b>£731</b>	Kwediboma: <b>£850</b> of which <b>£458</b> was Gift Aided
Standing Orders: <b>£665 @ 31.01</b>	<b>Thank you</b>



## 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 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - Psalter Week 1**

## Being a Disciple

Bishop Patrick some months ago outlined three themes for the spiritual development of the diocese over the next three years. They are **Encounter, Discipleship** and **Missionary Discipleship**. We considered the first theme of Encounter (spending time with Christ) in Advent, and during Lent we take a look at Discipleship. Here are some extracts from his Pastoral Letter last weekend for us to ponder:

*"... it's as a consequence of time spent with Jesus in personal prayer, Eucharistic Adoration or reading the Scriptures, that we come to discover more and more, both who He is and what He is asking of each of us; how He invites us to follow in His footsteps, to be His disciples... St Teresa of Avila expressed this very simply and beautifully when she said: 'Christ has no body on earth now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which He looks with compassion on the world; yours are the feet with which He walks to do good; yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world.' So, a disciple is someone who wishes not only to grow in their relationship with Christ, but also to be used by Christ as a way in which His love, care, compassion, healing, blessing and forgiveness can be shared with others."*

*"Secondly, a disciple is also someone who, through prayer, knows that that they often fall short of what Christ wants for them. The Season of Lent is a grace-filled time of renewal; we begin on Ash Wednesday with the invitation to 'Repent and believe the Gospel', and throughout Lent we are encouraged to acknowledge that there are things in all of our lives that we need to let go of, because they prevent us from being the disciple that Christ is calling each of us to be. So disciples of Christ are grateful recipients of God's merciful forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, so that they in turn may become instruments of that mercy and forgiveness to others. Please, especially if you haven't been for a while, do make use of the opportunities this Lent provides to make a good Confession."*

*"Thirdly, Christ is actually calling all His disciples to holiness of life, in and through the daily circumstances of our lives; to open our hearts and lives more and more to God, who alone is holy and so is the source of holiness: 'Be holy for I am holy' (Leviticus 11: 44)."*

May this Lent be a time of special grace for each of us and our Parish, and may we all be open to what Our Lord is asking of us. The highpoint of our year is our celebration of His Death and Resurrection during Holy Week. Let us prepare well by dying to sinful ways and rising to new life with Him.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

## MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

<b>Sat</b>	9 <sup>th</sup>	5.30-5.55pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	
		<b>9.00am</b>	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		<b>11.00am</b>	Parish Mass
		12.45pm	Polish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
<b>Mon</b>	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Lenten Feria
<b>Tues</b>	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Lenten Feria
<b>Weds</b>	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Lenten Feria
		7.00pm	Latin Mass (old rite)
<b>Thurs</b>	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Lenten Feria
<b>Fri</b>	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Lenten Feria
		6.00pm	Lenten Feria
		6.30pm	Stations of the Cross
<b>Sat</b>	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Lenten Feria
		10.00-11.00am	Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions
		5.30-5.55pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	17 <sup>th</sup>	<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>Tues</b>	12 <sup>th</sup>	6.45-7.15pm	Rosary – Church
<b>Weds</b>	13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	UCM – Library
<b>Thurs</b>	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	RCIA – Library
<b>Sat</b>	16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	First Holy Communion Class (3) – Hall
		11.15am	Baptism Class – Library

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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.**

**PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died:** Jean Bradshaw, Zbigniew Czubaj, Jack Murray and Teresa Ng. **May they rest in peace**

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Winifred Howard, Hugh Peters, Kathleen McEnery, Lucy Atkins, Mary Steele, Margot Trojan, Christina Rugman, Gerrard Davidson, Tadeusz Popowicz, Suzanne Burdett, Americo Lallo, James Wardle, Lucy Antill, Elsie Walmsley, Joyce Oakley, Polikarp Ereminowicz, John Saunders, Anastacia Acma and Michele Paolella

**GRUB CLUB MEETING:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7pm in the Hall.

**101 CLUB:** This month's winning number is 37.

**THE DEANERY QUIZ** is being revived. Sacred Heart will be hosting the first event in their church hall on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May**. They are hoping all the parishes in the Deanery will send a team of four to take part and compete for the Deanery Trophy: if you are interested in being in St Mary's team, please let Fr Simon know. Social teams will also be welcome. There will be a £6 per head entry fee (to include a cheese buffet, wine and soft drinks), plus a raffle, with all profits going towards the Retired Priests Fund.

**THE UCM WILL BE HOSTING A TALK** given by Fr David entitled "My journey and the Ordinariate" on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** beginning 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall. Please come along and join us. Light refreshments will be provided.

**THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA QUIZ** will be at 7.30pm on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 this time will go towards SPANNED, a Catholic charity for the support of disabled people in our 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, please contact Will Holland on 07811 353 248; this helps with the catering.

**LACY COUNTRYSIDE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey:** An opportunity for all young people, their families and friends, to be involved by reflecting and dramatising that special journey to Calvary with Jesus. The occasion will be led by the youth but all ages welcome! Start time 1.30 p.m. with the 14 Stations of the Cross around the Abbey followed by Mass (in the Abbey), after which there will be a chance to share refreshments and socialise. See poster displayed in Church. Full information from paulinepayne@hotmail.com or iancardwell50@hotmail.com.

**THE SALVATION ARMY** (opposite St Mary's) is selling Fair Trade tea at £1.50 for 80 bags. It is branded with their name and called 'bags of kindness'. You can buy it when they are open; for instance after both our Sunday Masses. They need our support. Believe it or not there is only one SA officer running the site. *Catherine Brady*

**DISCERNMENT WEEKEND FOR MEN AGED 30 TO 55:** The Beda College in Rome is running a discernment weekend for men between the ages of 30 and 55 from **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019**. It takes place at St Bueno's Spirituality Centre in North Wales. The weekend is hoping to reach men who are not already officially in touch with their diocese and is a first step for those who may be exploring the possibility of priestly vocation in later life. Information and registration forms can be obtained from: <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/courses-events-retreats/discernment-weekend-older-men>.

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**NEXT FRIDAY 15th March** is CAFOD Family Fast Day. Envelopes for your donations from your fasting are available at the back of church.

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