

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!

FROM THE SAINTS: "In the life of the body a man is sometimes sick, and unless he takes medicine, he will die. Even so in the spiritual life a man is sick on account of sin. For that reason he needs medicine so that he may be restored to health; and this grace is bestowed in the Sacrament of Penance." (*St Thomas Aquinas, 1225-1274*).

ST JOSEPH, PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH: In addition to the 9.15am Mass next **Tuesday 19th March**, the Feast of St Joseph, I will celebrate a Latin Mass in the old rite at 6pm. This will be followed by the usual meeting of the Rosary Group at 6.45pm, which will include Benediction. Blessed Pope Pius IX declared St Joseph Patron of the Universal Church in 1870. St Joseph was the paternal protector of Our Lord while He was on earth, and so now St Joseph from Heaven continues to protect His Mystical Body, the Church. We should invoke St Joseph's help particularly in these times of crisis in the Church.
Fr Paul

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 25th March** at 7pm. Please do your best to be present.

FAMILY FAST DAY ENVELOPES: The envelopes distributed last weekend for the CAFOD Family Fast Day will be collected this weekend.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First Collection: £800	
Standing Orders: £665 @ 31.01	<i>Thank you</i>



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Served by the Rosminians: Fr Paul Gillham, Parish Priest

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

Newsletter for Sunday 17th March 2019
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - Psalter Week 2

“NOW is the Day of Salvation”

The above quote is from St Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians, 6:2. Lent is a real season of grace - a time for purification and conversion when we want to grow closer to Our Lord and leave sin behind. Has it been a while since you made a good Confession? Our Lord warns us many times in the Gospel that we must be on our guard – this means keeping our souls in the state of grace, because we never know when He will come. This applies not only to His Second Coming at the end of time but also to our death. There are certain sins that kill the life of grace in the soul. It's what we call "mortal sin". If we die in that state we will be eternally separated from God. This is why the Church has always urged upon us frequent confession of our sins and especially of any mortal sins.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church has this to say: "According to the Church's command, "after having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year." Anyone who is aware of having committed a mortal sin must not receive Holy Communion, even if he experiences deep contrition, without having first received sacramental absolution" (#1457). While Baptism washes away all sins and their punishment, Our Lord gave us the Sacrament of Penance for the forgiveness of sins committed *after* Baptism. His power of forgiving sins is exercised through a bishop or a priest in the Sacrament of Penance.

Forgiveness of serious sin only happens in this life. Purgatory is where we pay the debt of temporal punishment for those sins which have already been forgiven in the Sacrament of Penance. Mortal sins are not forgiven in Purgatory. Mercy is now, and it's available now in such abundance. We would be mad not take advantage of it. But to access that mercy we need to humble ourselves and confess and repent of our sins.

Making the effort to go to Confession and confessing our sins to a priest (remember a priest must go to Confession too) can be challenging, but the feeling of liberation after is overwhelming. When we have made a good Confession and confessed all the serious sins we can remember, and we hear the priest say over us the words, "I absolve you from your sins...", we have the guarantee of Christ that all our sins have been forgiven. Our Lord literally draws us out of the pit and makes our souls beautiful again. What peace of soul this gives! The scheduled times for Confessions at St Mary's are Saturdays 10-11am and 5.30-5.55pm and Sundays 10.30-10.55am. But you may ask a priest for the Sacrament any time.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	16 th	5.30-5.55pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	17 th	<u>Second Sunday of Lent</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		12.45pm	Polish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
Mon	18 th	9.15am	Lenten Feria
Tues	19 th	9.15am	St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)
		4.00pm	Baptism
		6.00pm	Latin Mass (old rite)
Weds	20 th	9.15am	Lenten Feria
Thurs	21 st	9.15am	Lenten Feria
		1.00pm	Requiem Mass for Zbigniew Czubaj RIP
Fri	22 nd	9.15am	Lenten Feria
		6.00pm	Lenten Feria
		6.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	23 rd	9.15am	Lenten Feria
		10.00-11.00am	Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions
		5.30-5.55pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	24 th	9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		11.00am	Parish Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Mon	18 th	1.30pm	History Group - Hall
Tues	19 th	6.45-7.15pm	Rosary & Benediction – Church
Weds	20 th	2.00-4.00pm	Senior Citizens (Beetle Drive) – Hall
Thurs	21 st	7.00pm	Grub Club Meeting - Hall
Sat	22 nd	10.00am	First Holy Communion Class (4) – Hall

VESPERS AND BENEDICTION will be celebrated next **Sunday 24th March** at 6pm. Please come and join us for the Evening Prayer of the Church. *Fr Paul*

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.

HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY to all our Irish Parishioners! With the Feast (**17th March**) falling on a Sunday this year, we don't get to celebrate the Mass of his Feast. The Sunday takes precedence. *Fr Paul*

GRUB CLUB MEETING: Thursday 21st March, 7pm in the Hall.

THE WEEKEND MASS ROTAS for April-July are now available to collect from the back of the church.

KWEDIBOMA HEALTH CENTRE: Many thanks to everyone who made donations for the Kwediboma Health Centre on the 3rd and 4th March 2019. You helped to raise a magnificent £850. When we receive the Gift Aid rebate the total will rise to nearly £1,000. Your money will help to build the new Maternity Ward. *Terry Spicer*

THE DEANERY QUIZ is being revived. Sacred Heart will be hosting the first event in their church hall on **Saturday 18th 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.

THE UCM WILL BE HOSTING A TALK by Fr David entitled "My journey and the Ordinariate" on **Wednesday 27th 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 23rd 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.

MARCH FOR LIFE/LIFEFEEST 2019: This year's March for Life UK is being held in **London on Saturday 11th May**. The St Mary's Pro Life group are organising a coach for the event which will be **fully subsidised** but donations welcome on the day. If interested please put your name on the list at the back of church or contact the following **by Sunday 31st March:** Michael 07977 543505/michaeljudemurphy@yahoo.ie; Terry 07828 785771/twhutchings@googlemail.com; Greg 07921 587 901/greg@villiersforbes.co.uk. Approximate timings: Depart Loughborough at 8.30am, returning by 8.30pm. For more information go to www.marchforlife.co.uk

ROSMINI CENTRE: Tuesday 19th March, 7 pm: "An Introduction to the Book of Acts" by Fr A Belsito. **Saturday 23rd March**, 10am-15.30pm: **Lenten Retreat**, Fr A Furlong IC. Booking necessary, lunch included.

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: Zbigniew Czubaj **May they rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mario Lanza, Eddie Murphy, Guglielmo Buttarazzi, Eva Hao Xu, Edward Wortley, Elena Romaniello, Joan Hammond, Ann Ludlow, Paddy Mills, Genoveffa De Blasio, Timm Tymzyszyn, Kath Spencer, Henry Black, Ann Turner, Claire Coburn, Stefania Mszyca and Michele Paoella