

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: “And when the last nail has been driven and Christ, like a wounded eagle, is unfurled upon His banner of salvation, we begin to say in our own heart of hearts that after all He could not be God, for if He were God how could we have crucified Him? With the job of sinning done, which means the crucifixion, we make our way down the hill of Calvary and then there comes, not the quake of earth but the quake of conscience, which makes us say in our soul with the Centurion: “Indeed this man was the Son of God”.”
(Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, 1895-1979).

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, hail 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!

RECONCILIATION SERVICE: This will take place this **Monday 15th April** at 7pm and there will be several priests available to hear Confessions. The normal scheduled times for Confession are Saturdays 10-11am and 5.30-5.55pm and Sundays 10.30-10.55am. The Sacrament is also available on request and at Mount St Bernard's Monastery every day 2.30pm-3pm. The Church requires us to confess our sins at least once a year (CCC#1457), and we should take this seriously. Christ suffered and died for our sins in His Passion and then rose from the dead on Easter Sunday. We go to the cross in the confessional, and rise again renewed after unloading our sins. Let God give you that joy so as in the words of the Gospel He can say to you, "Go and sin no more."
Fr Paul

The Good Friday Collection will be for the Holy Places of Palestine (NRCDT)

The Easter Day Collection will be for the Priests of this Parish/Rosminian Order

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First Collection: **£835**

Standing Orders: **£665 @ 24/02**

Thank you



St. Mary's Catholic Church

97 Ashby Road, Loughborough LE11 3AB

Tel: 01509 262123

Email: newsletter@stmarysloughborough.org.uk

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 14th April 2019

PALM SUNDAY

Psalter Week 2

The Holiest of All Weeks

We are now in **Holy Week** - the holiest of all weeks in the Church's year, and we begin it by recalling Our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem on **Palm Sunday**. Later in the week we will be with Him as He institutes the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Priesthood on **Maundy Thursday**. We will also be with Him as He sweats blood during His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, His arrest and trial, the scourging and crowning with thorns, and the terrible journey on the *Via Dolorosa* which will culminate in His suffering and dying on the cross on **Good Friday**. The Sacred Liturgy makes all these events present to us.

But today (Palm Sunday), while on the one hand we are joyous as Our Lord enters Jerusalem and the people hail Him as the Messiah and Redeemer, we will also be sad as we read the Passion where He is rejected and put to death. This is the **paradox**, because what seems to be Our Lord's defeat is actually His victory. His love conquers death. He proved to us beyond any doubt that God's love for us has no limits, and by His obedience to the Father, the disobedience of Adam is reversed, and by His paying the price of our sins which was the cause of His suffering, our friendship with God is restored, and the gates of Heaven are once again open to us. So we have great joy even amidst the greatest of sorrows.

JESUS wants to come into your heart this Holy Week. On Palm Sunday He entered *Jerusalem* on a *donkey*. This week He wants to enter *your heart* in the *Sacred Liturgy* which makes all these events present to us. So let's strive to make this Holy Week really different from other weeks, by turning off the TV, our computers and mobile phones more than usual. Let's give something extra to God and make the effort to attend the Holy Week ceremonies which are both solemn and moving as we live through these events of our Redemption. And why not bring someone else with you? Perhaps someone who is searching for God or someone who has been away from the Church for a long time? Your invitation could be the gentle prod they need. You could be the means God wishes to use to either help them find Him or return to Him. I wish you all a very blessed and spiritually fruitful Holy Week.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

Sat	13 th	5.30-5.55pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	14 th	<u>PALM SUNDAY</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
		6.00pm	<i>Youth Passion- Church</i>
Mon	15 th	9.15am	Monday of Holy Week
		7.00pm	<i>Service of Reconciliation and Adoration</i>
Tues	16 th	9.15am	Tuesday of Holy Week
Weds	17 th	9.15am	Wednesday of Holy Week
		11.00am	Chrim Mass at the Cathedral
Thurs	18 th	<u>MAUNDY THURSDAY</u>	
		7.00pm	Missa in Coena Domini (Mass of the Lord's Supper) followed by Watching until 10.00pm
Fri	19 th	<u>GOOD FRIDAY</u>	
		3.00pm	Sacred Liturgy: The Passion of Our Lord
		7.00pm	Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions
Sat	20 th	<u>HOLY SATURDAY</u>	
		10.00-11.00am	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		8.00pm	<u>EASTER VIGIL & SOLEMN MASS</u>
Sun	21 st	<u>EASTER SUNDAY (SOLEMNITY)</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		<u>THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S</u>	
Mon	15 th	***	History Group – NO MEETING UNTIL 20th May ***
Tues	16 th	6.45-7.15pm	The Rosary – Church
		7.15pm	Grub Club – Library
Weds	17 th	2.00-4.00pm	Senior Citizens - Hall
Fri	19 th	10.00am	Children's Stations of the Cross – Church Hall

HOLY WEEK: The signing up sheets for Readers, Extraordinary Ministers etc during Holy Week are now at the back of the church.

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.

GOOD FRIDAY: A reminder to you that Good Friday is a day of **fasting and abstinence**. According to the Code of Canon Law, this means Catholics who are 18 years old and up, until their 59th birthday (when you begin your 60th year), are bound to fast (1 full meal and perhaps a little food at a couple of points during the day). Also, all Catholics who are 14 years and older must abstain from meat. I would also recommend making a good Confession if you have not done so already. There will be a priest available for Confessions after Stations of the Cross on Good Friday evening. *Fr Paul*

DURING MASS AT THE EASTER VIGIL Frances, George and James, who have been on the RCIA programme, will be received into the Church, confirmed and make their First Holy Communion. Please pray for them and also for Nupur, who on the same day will be baptised in India.

CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS: This will take place, as usual, on **Good Friday, 19th April** at 10am in the hall.

EASTER GRUB CLUB will be open on **Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th April**, 11.30am until 1pm. Only one week as most state schools return the day after Easter Monday.

CHURCH CLEANING: Volunteers needed to help with church cleaning for Easter. Come any time after 9.15am on **Good Friday** morning, **19th April**. Everyone welcome. Equipment provided.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA: The annual enactment of the events of Holy Week by young adults of the two Loughborough Parishes will take place at 6.00pm in St Mary's this Sunday, **14th April**. We hope that as part of your Holy Week activities, you will once again support their efforts with your attendance and participation.

CARPENTER'S ARMS: Once again could we appeal to the generosity of parishioners of St. Mary's by donating dried groceries and non perishable foodstuffs to The Carpenter's Arms/Joseph's Storehouse? Many of our local supermarkets have trolleys you can fill with items of food. A high proportion of these donations go to the "Fair Share" initiative, but this does not include The Carpenter's/Joseph's Storehouse. There is a box next to the repository stall at the back of church, clearly marked "Carpenters Arms" for you to leave your items. These are collected weekly by a team of our parishioners and transported to the Carpenter's Arms. Thank you for your ongoing support of the food bank. *Jane Monaghan Frank Fay*

MARCH FOR LIFE/LIFEFEST - London, 11th May 2019: St Mary's Pro Life group is organising a coach for the event which will be **fully subsidised** but donations welcome on the day. **Booking form and contact information at the back of the church.**

LAY CHAPLAINCY VACANCY at Nottingham University, **starting August 2019**. See notice board for details.

PROPOSED TRIP TO ROME - OCTOBER 2019: Please see the notice board.

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died: Anne Wade **May she rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Wilholmina Camara, Edward Loftus, Cosimo Calabrese, Giuseppe Romano, Kenneth Holden, Mary Dempsey, Sharon Biddles, Ann Checketts, Giovanni Palmieri, Maurice Welband, Sarah Berridge and Michael Fields.