



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 19th May 2019

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Psalter Week 1

Let it show!

If you pay attention to the Catholic websites, social media or press, it probably doesn't take long for you to find a few mean-spirited comments about fellow Christians who hold different viewpoints than the writer's or your own. Reading these articles and comments might lead us to believe that the proof of 'real' Christian discipleship is to be measured by the level of orthodoxy, obedience, liberalism or whatever measuring stick you like.

However, today's gospel reminds us that the proof of discipleship is not how right we are **but how loving we are**. If we are to follow Jesus' command to love one another as he has loved us, there can be no room in our language or in our hearts for meanness of spirit.

How then should we prepare ourselves to be witnesses for Christ when we encounter others who may disagree with us? Let us look at how Paul and Barnabas helped the earliest disciples. They encouraged the common practices of the faith, the focus on **Christ**, seeking **His ways and will**. They asked for the discernment of the **Holy Spirit** to encourage good faithful leaders. They prayed **together** and fasted **together**. Did this guarantee harmony and agreement? Not always! **BUT it did prove to all that they were followers of Christ**. The disciples would be known for their love for one another as Jesus said; **'By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'** (John 13:35)

To love one another is challenging but love requires action and some doing. The love Jesus speaks of is not tied up with emotions and warm feelings. **Love for Jesus and we Christians is a 'verb', a 'doing word'**. This love requires action, practical action. **It's something others can see, others can hear, others can witness**. This is the love that St Paul describes in his first letter to the Corinthians: 'Love is **patient**, love is **kind** and envies no one. Love is never boastful, arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrong-doing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.' (1Cor 13:4-7)

In this Mary's wonderful month of May, lets us ask for her abiding graces to love her Son more in our words and deeds, that His love may shine in each of **us** and that **we** together may be known as His disciples, **because it shows**.

Fr David OLW

MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

Sat	18 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	19 th	<u>Fifth Sunday of Easter</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		<i>10.30-10.55am</i>	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		12.45pm	Polish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
Mon	20 th	9.15am	St Bernadine of Siena
Tues	21 st	9.15am	St Christopher Magallanes
Weds	22 nd	9.15am	NO MASS
		<i>11.00am</i>	<i>Requiem Mass for Rita Acierno</i>
		7.00pm	Latin Mass (old rite)
Thurs	23 rd	9.15am	Easter Feria
Fri	24 th	9.15am	Easter Feria
Sat	25 th	9.15am	St Bede the Venerable
		<i>10.00-11.00am</i>	<i>Confessions and Eucharistic Adoration</i>
		<i>5.30-5.55pm</i>	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	26 th	<u>Sixth Sunday of Easter</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		<i>10.30-10.55am</i>	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request</i>
		11.00am	Parish Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Mon	20 th	1.30pm	History Group – Church Hall
Tues	21 st	6.45-7.15pm	The Rosary – Church
		7.15pm	Grub Club Meeting and AGM – Church Hall
		7.30-8.30pm	Scripture & Tradition – Library
Weds	22 nd	7.30-9.00pm	UCM – Library
Sat	25 th	10.00am	First Holy Communion Class (4) – Church Hall

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.

11am MASS CHOIR: We need more singers for the choir at 11am Sunday Mass. If there are any parishioners who would like to help lead the singing, please speak to Noel Henry after Mass. It would be great to have more students in the choir. In the words of St Augustine, "He who sings prays twice."
Fr Paul

MASS INTENTIONS: If anyone would like a Mass said for a particular intention, there is a lot of availability after this week.

GRUB CLUB: Huge thanks to the wonderfully generous parishioners of St Mary's whose donations have now covered all the seats on the bus for Twin Lakes. You will make some children very happy.

SALE of delicious homemade cakes, jams, marmalades and curds after 9am and 11am Masses this Sunday by Missio. This will be in aid of the Catholic Church in Sri Lanka.

ROSMINI CENTRE: **Tuesday 21st May** 7-8.30pm: Fr A. Belsito "Introduction to the Book of Ecclesiastes". **Saturday 25th May** 3pm Divine Mercy chaplet and lectio on Sunday Gospel. Advance notice: June, a month of Celtic Spirituality led by Father Ted Mullen IC. Saturdays 2-4.30pm. First two sessions **1st & 15th June:** Third session Retreat Day **29th June.**

'LACY' WORKING GROUP: There will be a meeting of the LACY Working Group at St Mary's, South Wigston, LE18 4PG on **Wednesday 22nd May, 7.30 pm.** We will be looking at and finalising the upcoming events and the opportunity to share new thoughts and ideas for future celebrations with our young people. Anyone interested in offering help and ideas with this group would be most welcome. Let us inspire our young people to share Faith and Fun together. Would you like to be a LACY representative for your parish, to assist in publicising and promoting the LACY activities? We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 22nd May. More information? Contact Pauline at paulinepayne@hotmail.com.

TWILIGHT RETREAT: The first in our regular monthly programme will resume at St Joseph's, Leicester, on **Wednesday 22nd May,** beginning at 7.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (entrance at side of church). The evening of prayer, talks, reflection and music is led by Fr John Daley IC and concludes around 9.00pm with a hot drink. A donation of £3 is asked towards expenses.

PIANO CONCERT: **Saturday 1st June 2019,** 7.00pm at Emmanuel Church, Forest Road, Loughborough. Acclaimed international pianist Margaret Fingerhut has devised a very special concert that she is performing across the UK to raise awareness of refugee needs as well as to collect funds for City of Sanctuary refugee groups. Tickets £12 from Jane Monaghan, www.eventbrite.co.uk or loughboroughtos@gmail.com.

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died: Rita Acierno. **May she rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: William Thorpe, Irene Calus, Tony Wade, Henry Smith, James O'Rourke, Thomas Onions, Jo Sparano, Ellen Ramsbottom, Harry Oakley, Frank Durning (Snr), Patricia Drane, Katie Mercer, Giovanni D'Amato, Noreen Glendon, Winnie Culley, Tadeusz Misiura, Barbara Finch, Antonino Finocchio, Eamonn Johnston, Lidia Orzeszek, Gordon Mee, Rogelio Gunhuran and Phyllis Harrison.

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: "There is nothing the devil fears so much, or so much tries to hinder, as prayer." (*St. Philip Neri 1515-1595*)

REGINA CAELI: *At the end of the Bidding Prayers during Eastertide, we will recite the Regina caeli instead of the Hail Mary:* O Queen of Heaven, rejoice! Alleluia. For He whom thou didst merit to bear, Alleluia, Has risen as He said. Alleluia. Pray for us to God. Alleluia!

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.

PRAYING FOR PRIESTLY AND RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS: Last Sunday was Vocations Sunday. Please remember to pray the Prayer for Vocations *daily* at home and in your families. "*Pray to the Lord of the harvest, that He send labourers into His harvest*" (Matt 9:38). And please put in your diaries that our first monthly Holy Hour for Vocations is on **Thursday 6th June** at 7pm. Thank you. *Fr Paul*

MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS: Bishop Patrick will be celebrating Mass TODAY **Sunday 19th May** at 3.00pm in **St Barnabas Cathedral** for those who have been recently received into the Catholic Church along with their friends and family. The invitation is also open to all those who would like to welcome them into our communities. Refreshments served in the Cathedral Hall after Mass.

ASCRIED MEETING at the convent **23rd May** 7.00pm.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE	
First Collection: £761	NRCDT: Clergy Formation Fund: £278
Standing Orders: £665 @ 31/03	<i>Thank you</i>