



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 1st September 2019 TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Psalter Week 2

The Virtue of Humility

There is a story of a nineteenth century Christian army general who was leading some troops on an exercise in the countryside. While his troops were resting, he stopped to speak with a poor beggar woman. One of his officers came up to him and said, "Sir, you should remember your rank and not speak with someone so below your social level." The general replied, "What if Our Lord Jesus Christ had considered His rank?"

Fortunately for us, Our Lord humbled Himself so much by becoming as one of us to save us. And in today's readings He teaches us to exercise humility in our dealings with other people. If we live humbly we won't be embarrassed. By taking the lower place, we avoid the possibility of humiliation, but we might also be honoured by being asked to take the higher place.

The opposite of humility is pride. Pride was the sin that transformed Lucifer, the highest and most beautiful of all the angels into the evil, hideous creature we call Satan, the father of lies. He said, "Non serviam!" "I will not serve." But then it was humility that enabled the young maiden Mary to become the Mother of Our Lord and to be exalted as Queen of the Universe forever.

We ought to realise that anything good we have, all our talents, whatever they may be are a gift of God. The only things we can really claim for ourselves are our defects and sins. And it may be that when others fail in things where we have succeeded, God may have given us greater gifts, greater graces, which is surely a motive for us to have greater humility? St Thérèse of Lisieux would ask God's forgiveness not only for the sins she had committed, but also for those she *would* have committed had she not been given so many graces!

So practically speaking how can we practice this virtue? Humility can mean letting the other person decide and not always insisting on our own way. It might mean praising and complementing others so as to detract from ourselves. It can mean giving others the benefit of the doubt and not judging them harshly. And it also means admitting our mistakes, apologising to those we may have offended, and forgiving those who have offended us. And then be thankful to God for all the blessings, talents and gifts He has given to you and then try to use them for His glory.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

Sat	31 st	6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	1 st	<u>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		12.45pm	Polish Mass
		3.00pm	<i>Baptism</i>
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
Mon	2 nd	9.15am	St Gregory the Great (Feast)
Tues	3 rd	9.15am	St Cuthbert, bishop
Weds	4 th	9.15am	Feria
		7.00pm	Latin Mass (old rite)
Thurs	5 th	9.15am	School Mass
		7.00pm	<i>Holy Hour for Vocations</i>
Fri	6 th	9.15am	First Friday of the month
		1.30pm	<i>Funeral Service</i>
Sat	7 th	10.00am	Special UCM Mass
			Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		5.30-5.55pm	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	8 th	<u>Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		11.00am	Parish Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Mon	2 nd	1.30pm	History Group – Hall
Tues	3 rd	6.45-7.15pm	The Rosary – Church
Weds	4 th	2.00-4.00pm	Senior Citizens – Hall

SUNDAY 1st SEPTEMBER marks the **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**. There is a suggested prayer on the following webpage: www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/environment/season-of-creation/world-day-of-prayer-for-the-care-of-creation/

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.

RIDE AND STRIDE, SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2019: St Mary's have agreed to open again for the Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride, Please consider taking part. You can walk, jog, drive your mobility scooter, ride your horse, or (like myself over the past few years) cycle. The idea is to obtain sponsorship for the number of churches you visit during the day. Proceeds are split 50/50 between St Mary's Church and the Trust. Last year we raised over £400! The trust gives out grants to churches 50 years old and over to assist with maintenance and repairs; we have benefited from such a grant in the past! Unfortunately this year I'm unable to take part as I will be away, so it would be really good if we could have someone willing to be sponsored taking part. Please catch me or give me a call for more details, or pick up a sponsor form at the back of the church. Having committed to opening for Ride and Stride, **we will need welcomers available from 10am until 6pm to sign visitors in.** Please sign up for a slot on the list at the back of church if you are able to help with this. Thank you. Alan Leafé (R+S organiser) 07780 921976 alanleafe@gmail.com.

HARVEST LUNCH: Sunday 22nd September in the parish hall after 11am Mass (12.30pm). Tickets - £10 adults, £5 children, £20 family - on sale after all Masses this weekend.

THE NEXT HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS will take place on **Thursday 5th September at 7pm.** Last month the attendance was good. Over forty people came. It would be wonderful to see fifty at this one. If we don't pray for vocations we won't get them. If there are no priests, who will offer Mass, absolve you of your sins or anoint you when you're about to leave this world and ensure your safe passage to the next? I have a strong conviction that those who make an effort and even sacrifice to come to these Holy Hours, God will not leave without the assistance of a priest in their dying moments. Please put aside whatever you would be doing and come and spend an hour in Our Lord's presence.

Fr Paul

MASS NEXT SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER will be at **10.00am.** It will be a special Mass for UCM members in this area. Mass will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a talk on the call to holiness concluding with Benediction.

UKULELE ORCHESTRA: Why not join the Senior Citizens Group on **Wednesday 2nd October** between 2 and 4pm for an entertaining sing-along with the above orchestra from Barrow on Soar. Tea and biscuits for only £2 pp. All welcome!

LOST PROPERTY: There are a number of unclaimed items (including a pair of glasses) in the 'lost property' basket located on the repository counter at the back of church. Please check if any of them are yours by **Sunday 8th September.** After this date they will be disposed of.

GRUB CLUB STATS FOR SUMMER 2019: 11 sessions held. 494 meals served at a cost of £678 (£1.37 per meal). Total number of attendees: 57 children, 32 adults and 44 volunteers. Number of schools participating: 9 of which 8 are within Charnwood.

Please pray for those who have died: Gerard Fitzpatrick. **May he rest in peace.**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Nesia Orton, Dorothy Shipman, Nicola Palmieri, Lloyd Skelton, Christine Fornara, Gladys Bexon, Ken Lowe, Peggy Cimelli, Olimpia Buccheri, Susan Kearney, Hilda Bradshaw, Violet Bowler, Bridget Butler and Megan Eager

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.

FROM THE SAINTS: “To be pleased at correction and reproofs shows that one loves the virtues which are contrary to those faults for which he is corrected and reproofed. And, therefore, it is a great sign of advancement in perfection” (*St Francis de Sales, 1567-1622*).

THE RCIA GROUP (for those who are thinking of becoming Catholic) will have its first meeting on **Thursday 12th September at 7pm** in the library. If you are interested in joining the group, please speak to Fr Paul before this meeting so that he can give you an application form to complete.

ART EXHIBITION – ‘ABOVE THE FINIAL’ – SHEILA RISTE CLEMERSON (aka Leafe): This weekend: **31st August/1st September** and **7th/8th September**, 11.00am - 3.00pm, at Old Rectory Museum, Loughborough, LE11 1UW. Donations invited for **Kwediboma** and 20% of any sales to be donated to **Kwediboma**.

EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME: Please see the notice board for an important statement from Bishop Patrick regarding this issue.

THE XAVERIAN MISSIONARIES IN THE WORLD: St Guido Maria Conforti, Founder of the Xaverian Missionaries (1895) wanted his first missionaries to continue the work of St Francis Xavier, the patron saint of the Missionary Family, in China at whose doors Xavier had died. Therefore, China was chosen as the first mission of the Xaverians, but all the missionaries were expelled from the country in 1954. The Xaverians then accepted the invitation of the Popes to announce the Gospel in many other nations. Today the Xaverians (who are roughly 692 in number) work in 22 countries. **This weekend we welcome Fr Archie Casey SX who will be making the Annual Mission Appeal.** He has worked in Bangladesh and the Philippines.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE	
First Collection: £ 719	
Standing Orders: £ 665 @ 31/07	<i>Thank you</i>