



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 15th September 2019 TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Home Mission Sunday

Psalter Week 4

The Value of a Soul

Today we have several parables in the Gospel which teach us how God is always seeking us out to save us. The **Parable of the Lost Sheep** might seem a little strange to us. *“What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it?”* Maybe if we were in this position we might cut our losses and think it is better that we stay and look after the other ninety-nine? If you go off looking for one, you might return to find many others have strayed in the meantime.

But God is not like us. Our Lord here is talking about the love of the Father. If you're a parent with six children and one of them gets lost in the shopping centre, you wouldn't say, “Oh never mind, I have five others.” But God's love for us is infinitely greater than the most loving parent there has ever been. So He searches for the one who is lost.

Then in the **Parable of the Lost Coin** the woman is overjoyed when she finds the coin she had lost even though it be of relatively little value. But she nevertheless invites all her friends and neighbours to rejoice with her when she found it, symbolising the joy in Heaven over a sinner returning to God. Each human being God creates at conception with an immortal soul. God doesn't want anyone to be lost, but we know from what Our Lord has taught us that sadly some are lost for eternity.

We are in danger of losing our souls if we fail to recognise our sinfulness, our need of God and of repentance. It should concern us when people abandon God and lead sinful lives, stop coming to church and lose their faith, because we know not the day or the hour when the Son of Man will return to judge us. The point of **Home Mission Sunday** is to help us bring back those souls to God.

However, these parables, including that of the **Prodigal Son** show the extraordinary measures to which God will go to win them back. **He sends us out.** We are the instruments God needs to bring lost souls back to Him. Pray for them, sacrifice for them, do penances for them. And don't forget to look after your own soul. Pray every day, read the Scriptures and the lives of the saints. Learn how to become holy from them. Confess your sins frequently and practice the works of mercy. Our souls are worth protecting, because after all, Our Lord felt them worth dying for.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

Sat	14 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	15 th	<u>Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		<i>10.30-10.55am</i>	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		12.45pm	Polish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
Mon	16 th	9.15am	Sts Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop
Tues	17 th	9.15am	St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor
Weds	18 th	9.15am	Feria
		<i>4.30pm</i>	<i>Reception of Anna Martoccia RIP</i>
		7.00pm	Latin Mass (old rite)
Thurs	19 th	9.15am	St Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop
		<i>12.30pm</i>	<i>Requiem Mass for Anna Martoccia RIP</i>
Fri	20 th	9.15am	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-Sang, & Companions, Martyrs of Korea
Sat	21 st	9.15am	Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist - FEAST
		10 – 11.00am	Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions
		<i>5.30-5.55pm</i>	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	22 nd	<u>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		<i>10.30-10.55am</i>	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		11.00am	Parish Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Tues	17 th	6.45-7.15pm	The Rosary – Church
Weds	18 th	2.00-4.00pm	Senior Citizens (Bingo) – Church Hall
Sat	21 st	11.15 – 12.15pm	Baptism Class (by prior arrangement) – Library

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.

FATHER CHARLES would like to thank parishioners for their greetings and assurances of prayers on the occasion of his 90th birthday and also for the lovely booklet of messages presented to him on the day.

CANONISATION OF CARDINAL NEWMAN: The diocese would like us to make a novena to Blessed, soon to be Saint John Henry Newman in the days immediately preceding his canonisation in Rome on Sunday 13th October. This means the novena would run from Friday **4th October** finishing on Saturday **12th October**. Booklets will be made available for you nearer the time to pray the novena and we will also be put it on the parish website. *Fr Paul*

OUR LADY OF SORROWS: Were it not a Sunday we would be celebrating today the memoria of Our Lady of Sorrows. It is a big day in the Rosminian order. Blessed Rosmini had a great devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows and so many of our brethren and the Rosminian sisters made vows on this day. Please keep them all in your prayers whilst continuing to pray for new vocations. *Fr Paul*

OUR SENIOR CITIZENS' GROUP, which meets every second Wednesday, needs a new leader. Terri Carroll is retiring from the post in December after 20 years. Anyone interested or able to help is asked to contact the parish office.

ALTAR SERVERS THANK YOU PARTY: **Saturday 21st September** at Liz Abell's house. Families of all altar servers welcome, from 6pm

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

ROSMINI CENTRE: **Tuesday 17th September**, 7-8.30 pm; Fr A Belsito - "The Letter of St. James, on Christian Practical Wisdom".

A DAY FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN: The next day at St Joseph's, Leicester, will be on **Saturday 26th October**, 10.30am-4.00pm. The theme is "*What is your Calling? What are your Gifts?*" Our interviewees are women working to make a social difference in their communities and in our society. For more information and to book a place see catholicwomenspeak.com/find-a-group/east-midlands-group-leicester-uk or contact catherinemarybrady@gmail.com (There is no charge for the day: lunch to order is £3.50).

FULLY ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE 30th September 2019. £599.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Single room supplement £100. Call 01268 762 278 / 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Please pray for those who have died: Anna Martoccia **May she rest in peace.**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Anthony Pringle, William Martin, Ambo Faulks, Connie Moulton, John Walsh, Olga Keane, Francis Martin, Carmel Dakin, Patricia Blackwell, Charles Farrell, Jane West, James Quail, Giuseppe Bianco, Brian Tallon, Wayne Lynch, Giovanni Borzacchiolo, Beniamino Coviello, Leontina Brida, Umberto Fabricatore and Phillis Owen

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: “All the world together is not worth one soul” (*St Francis de Sales, 1567-1622*).

CELEBRATION OF FR LUIGI GENTILI'S MISSION: The Rosminians are gathering in St Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham on **Thursday 21st November** at 1pm for a great celebration of the missionary work of Fr Luigi Gentili whom Blessed Antonio Rosmini (our Founder) sent to this country in 1835. For a time Fr Gentili was Parish Priest at St Mary's and converted thousands to the Catholic Faith in this area. Bishop Patrick will celebrate Mass with us and Bishop John Arnold of Salford will preach. This year is also the 175th Anniversary of the foundation of St Barnabas Cathedral, built by A W Pugin, who had Fr Gentili as his spiritual director. It was Fr Gentili who, in 1841, commissioned A W Pugin to build Ratcliffe College. Pugin completed the buildings of St Barnabas Cathedral and of Ratcliffe College practically at the same time (1843-1844). Please put this date in you diaries. Furthermore, **Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman**, who is to be canonised in Rome on Sunday 13th October visited Fr Gentili here at St Mary's shortly after his conversion to Catholicism in 1845. So soon we will have a canonised saint who paid a visit to our parish.

Fr Paul

DID YOU KNOW THAT? Spilling salt is considered unlucky because it was thought the person had been jugged by the devil. Hence the salt was thrown over the left shoulder with the right hand so as to put salt on his tail!

The Second Collection this weekend is for Home Mission Sunday NRC DT when we look closer to home as we grow Missionary Parishes and form Missionary Disciples.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE	
First Collection: £ 750	
Standing Orders: £ 665 @ 31/07	<i>Thank you</i>