



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Assistant Priest: Fr Simon Giles. On attachment: Fr David Jones OLW

Newsletter for Sunday 16th February 2020 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Psalter week 2

The Sacrament of Marriage

Our Lord speaks in today's Gospel of marriage. Marriage is one of the Seven Sacraments He instituted, and is between one man and one woman. Marriage is for life and ordered to the procreation and education of children and the mutual well-being of the spouses (CCC#1601). Marriage can only be broken by death since the two become one flesh. JESUS said, "*What God has joined together let no man put asunder*" (Matthew 19:6). Neither the Church or the State can alter this, because that is how God ordered it from the beginning. The State might make laws contrary to these teachings, but that doesn't mean it is right.

Many marriages today sadly end in divorce while others may continue with problems or with little love between the parties. Is there any hope? Yes, there is always hope if we rely on God. Even some of the saints had marital problems. For example, St Rita of Cascia (1381-1457) had a brutish husband, but she prayed for him for eighteen years and eventually he changed and was converted. St Monica (331-387) had a difficult husband and troublesome children, but her love, her prayers and heroic patience, in the end, brought about their conversion and gave to the Church her son, who became the great St Augustine.

When married couples make God central in their lives, He helps them through difficulties. Difficulties are inevitable and there will certainly be sacrifices to make. In the Sacrament, God gives couples the necessary graces, if they ask Him, to live out their vocation of marriage together. Although we're never going to have Heaven on earth, hopefully most marriages will lead to some degree of happiness in this world, but it will always be secondary to the happiness of Heaven. The spouses help each other to become holy and save their souls. Difficulties may even be of spiritual benefit to the couple if they are offered to God. I'm sure my mother's prayers and sacrifices contributed to my father's conversion who was baptised by me thirteen years after her death.

As we all know, for any number of reasons, marriages do sometimes irretrievably break down causing couples to separate. Then a spouse might meet someone else and wish to remarry. One party might even be a victim in the case of divorce. The Church never rejects people in this situation, but She can never compromise on what Our Lord has taught us, and He didn't allow divorce. BUT there is what we call annulment. An annulment is not Catholic divorce. Rather, it is where the Church, after investigation, may be able to declare that for some reason the original marriage wasn't valid in the beginning, and therefore it can be declared to be null, leaving the person free to marry again. If anyone wishes to discuss any of these issues with one of the priests, please let us know.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

Sat	15 th	5.30-5.55pm	Confessions + on request
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	16 th	<u>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Confessions + on request
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
Mon	17 th	9.15am	The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Tues	18 th	9.15am	Feria
Weds	19 th	9.15am	Feria
		7.00pm	Latin Mass (old rite)
Thurs	20 th	9.15am	Feria
Fri	21 st	9.15am	St Peter Damian
Sat	22 nd	9.15am	St Peter's Chair - Feast
		10.00-11.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
		5.30-5.55pm	Confessions + on request
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	23 rd	<u>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	Confessions + on request
		11.00am	Parish Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Mon	17 th	11.30am-1.30pm	Grub Club – Hall
Tues	18 th	6.45-7.15pm	Holy Rosary – Church
Weds	19 th	2.00-4.00pm	Senior Citizens – Hall
Thurs	20 th	11.30am-1.30pm	Grub Club – Hall
		7.00pm	RCIA – Library

NB: Due to the government regulations regarding personal data (GDPR), we are only able to publicise the Mass intentions in the printed edition of the newsletter.

ROSMINIAN VOCATIONS: Is God calling you to the religious life or priesthood? The Rosminians invite any gentlemen to an open weekend for a time of prayer and reflection on "The Call of God in my Life." This will take place at the Rosmini Centre (20 mins from St Mary's) on the weekend of **22nd/23rd February**. If anyone is interested, please talk to me. *Fr Paul*

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE: This is an important voluntary role which urgently needs to be filled. Support will be provided for you by the Diocesan Safeguarding Office and training will be provided. Please ask to see a role description if you are interested in helping in this way or contact Sue Clarke with any queries on 01509 267248.

GRUB CLUB will resume at half-term, running **17th and 20th February**, in the school and parish halls, 11.30am to 1.30pm. Primary school children are registered via their school. We are looking for new volunteers, particularly for kitchen duties for the summer holidays. You need to be 18+ years and available for a few hours. No need to cover all shifts. Full training will be provided. Please speak to Catherine, Frank, Elvira or one of the other members of the team.

NATIONAL SCRIPTURE TOUR: The Scripture Tour will be in the Diocese of Nottingham next **Saturday 22nd February 2020** at the Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Newark, Notts NG24 4AU, visit anytime between 10 am and 4.30 pm. The artist Pete Codling will be explaining his artwork at 12.30 with other presentations before and after on Mary & The Word, Seeing The Word, Exploring The Word, Sharing The Word, Living The Word with food and refreshments available. Visit: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN TEACHING? Our Catholic primary schools are looking for educators to help our young people to grow in their faith. Our dedicated School Direct route guarantees a placement in a faith school and is run by an outstanding provider of Initial Teacher Training. If you have a degree in any subject, contact teachingschool@ctk.leicester.sch.uk for more information.

ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT by 40-year-old man who has his own gardening business. A former student at De Lisle currently living in Coalville, he is looking to move to Loughborough. If you can help, please call the office or email office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk

EASTER PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE: **8th April 2020**. See notice board for details.

ROSMINI CENTRE: **Saturday 22nd February** 3-4.30 pm - "Sharing Scripture in my life".

THE DIRECTORS OF THE NOTTINGHAM ROMAN CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICE are seeking to appoint an Assistant Director to take a leading role in the continuing development of Catholic Life within our diocesan schools. See the notice board for details.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION: When the Priest or Minister holds up the host and says 'The Body of Christ', the response is 'Amen' and not 'Thank you'. The 'Amen' is an affirmation of your belief in the Real Presence. *Fr Paul*

PLEASE PRAY for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: baby George Preston, Peter Rose, John Neale, Jamila Dawood, Cliff Brookes, Helena Lawrynowicz, Matti Bazi, Ellen Spurr, David Collins, Nina Juskiewicz, baby Joseph Ford, Wanda Wajertz, Sheila Jarvis, baby Winifred Davidson, Filomena Paoella, Edward Brooks, Colubrio Buttarazzi, Terry Cleverly, Emily Mingay, Richard Lynch, Sean Hönl, Susan Bagnell and Jan Skowronski

and for those who have recently died: Brother Ezio Viola IC and Gay Pepper. May they rest in peace.

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: “Everyone has faults. If they are patiently endured, peace will reign happily, but if each little peccadillo is going to arouse friction and put the other out of temper, it will be impossible to live in harmony” (*St Robert Bellarmine, 1542-1621*).

CORONAVIRUS: With more cases of the virus now being reported in the UK, it would seem prudent for the time being at Mass to omit the sign of peace and the chalice for the congregation at Communion. Once we get the all clear we can restore them. *Fr Paul*

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: On 4th to 5th July 2020 there is an opportunity for all married couples to enrich their marriage and renew their commitment to one another. A non-residential Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held at Savio House, Bollington, Nr Macclesfield, SK10 5RW. Most couples and many priests find this a very rewarding experience. Book now at www.wvme.org.uk or for more information contact Charles & Krysia Golabek on 01625 263627 charles.golabek@ntlworld.com or Mark & Liz Dutton on 01625 428498 lizmark@lizmark1.co.uk. There are Travel Lodges in Adlington & Macclesfield and a Premier Inn in Tytherington – all within 3 miles.

ANOTHER DAY FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN: One Faith: Different Cultures. Saturday 29th February, 10.30am – 4.00pm, at St Joseph’s, Leicester LE5 6RA. As with our previous events, speakers share their experience, understandings and vision for our Catholic Church. The women on 29th February are representative of the diverse cultures that make up our universal Church. The morning opens with prayer followed by interviews and concludes with a music meditation. After lunch there are small group discussions inspired by the issues raised during the morning session. The day is open to all women who identify as Catholic, whether or not actively involved in parish life. We also welcome those who no longer practise their faith. No charge for the day. Lunch (soup, rolls, cakes, etc.) available at £3.50. To book a place, email Alison.CWS@outlook.com or catherinemarybrady@gmail.com or call 0116 2207881.

PARISHIONER needs help with shopping and lifts from time to time. If you can help, please speak to Fr Paul.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE	
First Collection:	£ 695
Standing Orders:	£ 635 @ 31/12
<i>Thank you</i>	