



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 9th February 2020

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Psalter week 1

‘Make Your Discipleship Count’

Our Gospel this weekend opens with the words ‘Jesus **said** to his disciples’. Something He did two thousand years ago but something that He is doing now, **addressing us today**. There are two ‘**you are**’ statements that can’t be missed. Those early disciples were to be, and we are to be, like ‘**salt**’ and ‘**light**’, Jesus says. (**Being Different and Making a difference!**)

Jesus is telling His disciples, as He tells us, that we are to ‘**flavour**’ the earth, our homes, our communities, our world, with His love, with His ‘**saltiness**’. Flavour them as He would, by clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, showing and sharing our faith in Him through our words and deeds. (**Good Catholic Social Action**).

Salt is not just a flavouring, though, it is also a **preservative**, (stopping the rot), so here Jesus is asking us to hold on to the wisdom and teaching He and the Saints have given, through His Church, the Tradition and the Scriptures. Following the ways of ‘**Society**’ and the ‘**Ways of the World**’, have never been God’s way. That’s why God sent His Son, to get us back on the **track of life** and off the track of death and sinful self-destruction. So our discipleship is twofold: ‘**Flavouring**’ all around with Christ’s love and care, and practising and preserving the traditions of our Catholic faith in Him, so that we remain close to His Sacred Heart and not lose our ‘**Salty**’, counter cultural ‘**flavour**’, which is His mark on and in us.

Jesus’s other metaphor is clear too. We disciples are to be **light for the world**. Our ‘good deeds’ – that is – clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, providing shelter for the homeless, giving warmth for the cold - are to be seen. Not for our benefit but, as Jesus and the Saints show and tell us, to give glory to the giver of all, **God Himself, our Father in Heaven**.

When Jesus speaks to His disciples, He speaks to us. One way of praying that can really help, is to exchange one’s own name for ‘His disciples.’ So instead of ‘Jesus said to His disciples’, we read, ‘Jesus said to Kelly, to John, to Ann or David. (*your name*). Read it several times over and give the gospel new meaning. Let Jesus speak to your heart and **let His salt and light SHOW**.

Fr David Jones, OLV

MASS TIMES AT ST MARY'S

Sat	8 th	5.30-5.55pm	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	9 th	<u>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Parish Mass
		10.30-10.55am	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		11.00am	Parish Mass
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
Mon	10 th	9.15am	Saint Scholastica
Tues	11 th	9.15am	Our Lady of Lourdes
Weds	12 th	9.15am	Feria
		7.00pm	Latin Mass (old rite)
Thurs	13 th	9.15am	Feria
Fri	14 th	9.15am	Saints Cyril and Methodius (Feast)
Sat	15 th	9.15am	Saturday Mass of Our Lady
		10.00-11.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions</i>
		5.30-5.55pm	<i>Confessions + on request</i>
		6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	16 th	<u>Sixth 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

Tues	11 th	6.45-7.15pm	Holy Rosary – Church
		5.00pm	Confirmation Class - Church Hall
Weds	12 th	7.30pm	UCM – Library
Sat	15 th	10.00am	First Holy Communion Class – Church Hall
		11.15am-12.15pm	Baptism Class – Side Chapel

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

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE: This is a voluntary role which urgently needs to be filled. Support will be provided for you by the Diocesan Safeguarding Office and training will be provided. You will give valuable support to Fr Paul by providing the safe recruitment of volunteers in the parish, and by verifying DBS applications to submit to the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory service. Please ask to see a role description if you are interested in helping in this way or contact Sue Clarke on 01509 267248.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES begin next **Saturday 15th February** in the hall at 10.00am.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES begin on **Tuesday 11th February** at 5.00pm in the hall.

FREE FOOD FOR DISADVANTAGE PEOPLE: There is a leaflet available that gives up-to-date information on free food and meals available in and around Loughborough. There is one on the notice board at the back of church and some available in the parish office. Useful to give to homeless people and others who may need a hot meal. *St Mary's Catholic Social Action Team*

LOURDES SALE: *This weekend, 8/9th February*, after all Masses in the hall. A sale of cakes, bacon & sausage sandwiches/cobs, fancy goods and a bottle stall. Please come and support this good cause. *Bernie McEnergy*

FUEL POVERTY: If you cannot afford to buy food you could go to a food bank. But what happens if you cannot afford to heat your home or cook your food? Please read the Fuel Poverty leaflet that you were given this weekend, take it home and see if you can help those in need.

Terry Spicer, St Mary's Catholic Social Action Group

LOURDES 2020: **Saturday 23rd to Saturday 30th May.** 37th Annual Pilgrimage from St Mary's. Cost £495 full board. Deposit £185 includes insurance. If interested please contact Vera Hurry on 01509 231282.

GRUB CLUB will resume at half-term, running **17th and 20th February**, in the school and parish halls, 11.30 to 1.30. 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.

FAITH INTO ACTION: A day to build social action in the diocese of Nottingham with Bishop Patrick, Caritas Social Action Network and the diocesan Justice and Peace Commission **Saturday 28th March 2020** at Nottingham Cathedral Hall. Nottingham Diocese is joining the global Caritas network. Soon every Parish, school and Chaplaincy will be part of one of the biggest humanitarian organisations in the world. Caritas will help every Catholic in our diocese to put their faith into action, locally and globally – unleashing that ‘extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace’ (*Caritas in Veritate*). Look out for more details shortly.

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: Gay Pepper. **May she rest in peace.**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Winifred Styles, Bridget Potter, Jim O'Flynn, baby John Lakin, Mary Bilby, Hilda Harvey, Frederico Buccheri, Michael Bradley, Ann Murphy, Harold Main, Christopher Whittingham and baby Richard Peplow.

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: 'Good is never accomplished except at the cost of those who do it; truth never breaks through except through the sacrifice of those who spread it.' (*St John Henry Newman, 1801-1890*)

SPUC: On behalf of SPUC we would like to thank parishioners for their generous support of our Appeal which raised a total of **£400** from the Masses of the weekend of 25th and 26th January. We would also like to extend our mailing list so that we can keep you up to date with the work we do and with emails, petitions etc which can help to turn the tide in this huge moral crisis of our times. Please see our noticeboard at the back of church for contact details. Thank you.
The Committee, SPUC

ROSMINI CENTRE: **Thursday 13th February** 7.00-8.30pm Fr Antonio Belsito, "*The Week of the Passion and Death of Jesus*" **Saturday 22nd February** 3.00 - 4.30 pm *Prayer and sharing Scripture.*

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 Fr Paul.

YEAR OF THE WORD 2020: Fine Artist Sheila Riste Clemerson (aka Leafé) will, be showcasing her Scripturally-based work at Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Newark NG24 4AU on **Saturday 22nd February**, 10.00am-4.30pm, as part of the *National Scripture Tour*.

ANNUAL (VALENTINE) MARRIAGE MASS: This Annual Diocesan Mass to celebrate the gift of Christian marriage, is where married couples are able to renew their vows before the Bishop, and receive his Apostolic blessing on their Marriages. This year, it will take place on **Sunday 16th February, 3pm** at **St Barnabas Cathedral**. All are Welcome. (If you require more details please contact Fr David Palmer: catholicdavid@mac.com)

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First Collection: £ 849	Kwediboma: £720 of which £200 was Gift Aided
Standing Orders: £ 635 @ 31/12	<i>Thank you</i>