



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 24th May 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Psalter Week 3

Get Ready for the Whoosh!

Last Thursday we were celebrating Christ going home to Heaven (**Ascension Day**) and our Sunday Gospel is part of His great prayer at the Last Supper praying for His disciples and for all of us, who because of their witness, believe and have faith in Christ today. His prayer was for the help and **Helper** we would need. The help and the **Helper** He and the Father would send. The help and the **Helper, the Holy Spirit**, whose help will get us home to Heaven too, by bringing us Grace. Jesus the Christ has ascended and now the disciples are waiting for the **'whoosh'** of the Holy Spirit.

I bought a new 'toy' a week or so ago (hence the idea of 'whoosh'), it's a pressure washer to clean the paving in my back garden, the car and the like. It's great fun but you have to **hold on tight** and point it in the right direction otherwise everything and everyone gets soaked. Jesus has Ascended to Heaven and, as it were, to turn on the hose and let the Holy Spirit bring the flow of Grace. That **Grace to inspire**, that **Grace to encourage**, that **Grace to stand firm**, that **Grace to share our faith**, that **Grace to persist in prayer and self-discipline**, that **Grace to grow** as a disciple of Christ and lead others to find and know Him, **Grace to follow our vocation** in life, whatever that may be. That **'whoosh'** of the Holy Spirit comes out strong and in all kinds of ways, as we will hear in the Sunday readings in the coming months and as we can read in the lives of the Saints and, yes, know in the lives of many of those we sit alongside in St Mary's.

The instructions said: 'Point the hose where it needs to go!'

The Holy Spirit wants to do something new and creative in all our lives, whatever our age, old or young, and all in between, helping us and others get to Heaven, while making a 'Heavenly difference' here.

The Apostles show us by their example how to handle the Holy Spirit's **'Whoosh'** by first **holding on tight, tight to our faith, tight to the Church, tight to our prayers, tight to the words and instructions of Jesus** and when the time comes (**God willing very soon!**) receiving and making good use of the **SACRAMENTS, so that we are listening to Him and be pointing in the right way for the Grace He brings to be most effective and beneficial.**

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MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	23 rd	6.00pm	Rogelio Gunhuran RIP (Anniversary)
Sun	24 th	<u>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</u>	
		9.00am	For the Parish
		11.00am	Phyllis Harrison RIP (Anniversary)
Mon	25 th	9.15am	Gordon Henry Mee RIP (Anniversary)
Tues	26 th	9.15am	Maria Carecci RIP
Weds	27 th	<u>St Augustine of Canterbury (Feast)</u>	
		9.15am	Intention for the living
Thurs	28 th	9.15am	Keith Newton RIP (Anniversary)
Fri	29 th	9.15am	Private Intention
Sat	30 th	9.15am	Intention for the living
		6.00pm	Dale Morrison RIP
Sun	31 st	<u>PENTECOST SUNDAY</u>	
		9.00am	Stephen Merriman RIP
		11.00am	For the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS: Although the times of Masses have been left on the weekly calendar, the priests will not necessarily offer Mass at those specific times, but the Masses will all be celebrated for the particular intentions on the days advertised.

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

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: Anna Pelosi, Stephen Merriman and Edith de Lisle. **May they rest in peace.**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Winnie Culley, Tadeusz Misiura, Barbara Finch, Antonino Finocchio, Eamon Johnston, Monica Davison, Kath McConnell, Anthony Heath, Rev Sr Mary Agatha O'Flaherty, Edward Strong, Frank Brown, Beryl Ward, Keith Newton, George Scrivens, Hilda Petticrew, Maria Dandy, Scott Walker, Phyllis Harrison, Rogelio Gunhuran and Gordon Henry Mee.

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Like me and many others with 'new toys', we so often don't read or listen to the instructions and so get in a mess and get things wrong. And so, with the **Helper** Jesus and the Father wants to send us to help us on the journey of life to Heaven, let's pay attention to the instructions Jesus gave to His Apostles and Our Lady, to **Wait, Listen and remain Faithful**. Remember Jesus always tells us to **ASK for the Graces we need, then faithfully to wait, watch and listen for the 'Whoosh', as His Holy Spirit comes, often in the most unexpected ways. He is the God of surprises after all!**

With every blessing in this exciting Season.

Fr David Jones, OLV

FROM THE SAINTS: "Life is entrusted to us as a treasure which must not be squandered, as a talent which must be used well." (*St John Paul II, 1920-2005*).

MASS BY PHONE: You can hear Mass from Middlesborough Cathedral by phone. You just dial the number 01642130120 which should be the cost of a local call and you hear Mass over the phone. You can access the Mass at any time. Useful for those who have no internet connection.

THE FOOD BANK is open 2-3pm, Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the parish hall. A Grub Club volunteer will be present during those times. As time goes on we believe that the need may be greater. We will keep you posted how it is going. Thank you for the donations. Families are appreciative.

ROSMINI CENTRE: **Healing Mass and Rosary, celebrated by Fr Denis Labartette every Wednesday** starting with Mass at 11am followed at 11.30am to 12.00noon by the Glorious mysteries of the Rosary with Adoration/intercession. This will continue until the end of August. If you wish particular people to be remembered at the Mass, please email their names and these will be placed in a basket on the altar. Please send the email to rosminicentreinfo@gmail.com. **Joining together in spirit, all are welcome to take part in this prayer of healing and intercession while you are at home.**

CORONAVIRUS AND STAYING CONNECTED: While the church is closed, you can keep in touch in two ways:

1. **The Parish website – www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk.** Here you can sign up to receive the newsletter by email every week and access the Sunday Mass readings and prayers. The home page will keep you updated with links to News posts and other helpful information.
2. **A private Facebook support group (St Mary's Community Support)** that you can join and through which you can interact with other parishioners and offer each other support. To join the group you will need to have a Facebook account. A link to the group is available on the Parish website.

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.*

PRAYER TO OUR LADY AGAINST DISEASE

Priest: The Star of Heaven that nourished the Lord drove away the plague of death which the first parents of man brought into the world. That very Star is now worthy to encompass the world, whose wars cut down the people with the sore of dreaded death.

All: O glorious Star of the Sea, preserve us from pestilence; hear us, O Lady, for Thy Son honours Thee by denying Thee nothing. Save us, O Jesus, for whom Thy Virgin Mother supplicates Thee.

A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION is an earnest desire to receive Holy Communion when you are unable to. St Padre Pio, even though he celebrated Mass every day also had the habit of making a spiritual communion a number of times throughout the day. Here is a form used by him and many other saints: **My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to possess You within my soul. Since I am unable at this moment to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

PENTECOST NOVENA LINK: <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-to-the-holy-spirit>

**PLEASE KEEP CHECKING THE PARISH WEBSITE FOR UPDATES FROM ST
MARY'S**

www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk