



# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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## Newsletter for Sunday 2 August 2020 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Psalter Week 2

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### “Nothing Can Come Between Us and the Love of Christ”

The above quote comes from today’s Second Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans. Two points: Firstly, this is a controversial passage of Scripture because some people say this means that once a person has come to believe in JESUS and accept Him as their Saviour, salvation is assured regardless of what you do or how you live your life. Well the Catholic Church has never interpreted it in this way. First of all because when Paul lists what won’t be able to separate us from the love of Christ, he lists **sufferings**, not sins. Paul does not say that blasphemy, fornication, idolatry, theft or murder won’t separate you from the love of Christ. Rather he says distress, persecution, hunger, nakedness, danger and the sword, which are very different. Paul continues, *“These are the trials through which we **triumph**, by the power of Him who loved us.”* So it is actually through trials and sufferings that we become victorious, just as Our Lord Himself did on the Cross.

Second point: we are talking about **spiritual battle** here. *“Neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, or any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ JESUS our Lord.”* There are good angels and bad angels. There are invisible powers that are the enemy of God at work in this world. None of these things can separate us from God’s love as hard as they might try. They may persecute you, tempt you or even attack you but we must not fear. God never abandons His Church no matter how bad things get.

The Church is being persecuted in many places throughout the world now. In some countries like China it is full on, but in other places it can be more subtle through fines or taxes. We may be denied our freedom of worship, freedom of speech, or attempts may be made to prevent us from preaching certain truths Christ taught because they don’t fit with the contemporary world view. It has been reported this past week that quoting from the Bible or the Catechism of the Catholic Church in Scotland could soon be regarded as hate speech if a new bill is passed in Parliament.

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## MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

<b>Sat</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Alan Ellis RIP - <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b><u>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u></b>	
		<b>9.00am</b>	Private Intention – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	For the Parish - <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.15am	Intention for the living
<b>Tues</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Jim & Margaret Smith RIP – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Weds</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	Editha Castillo RIP (A) – <b>PUBLIC MASS (Latin old rite)</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast)</u></b>	
		9.15am	Victor & Mary Woodhouse RIP
		<b>7.15pm</b>	<b>Latin Mass (Missa Cantata, old rite) – PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>First Friday of the Month</b>
			For our Deceased Relatives & Friends – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	Michael Power Jr (RIP)
		<b>10.30am-</b>	<b>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed</b>
		<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Sacrament. Confessions available 10.30am-11.30am</b>
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Heather Saunders RIP – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u></b>	
		<b>9.00am</b>	For the Parish – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	Francesco & Rosina Guarasci RIP (A) – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>

**ITALIAN MASS** will resume on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August**.

**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.

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

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**PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died:** Mary Stella, Lawrence Ajuyah and Domenica Coviello **May they rest in peace**

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Pina Giancola, Andy Tchorzewski, Pina Stanyard, Joseph Rowan, Francesca Cutillo, Ruby Campbell, Bertie Byrne, Johanna Hall, Margaret Curran, Edward Connor, Teresa Giancola, Betty Flynn, Moyna McGlynn, Mary Dakin, June Gibson, Ronald Carrington and Editha Castillo

*Cont'd from front page*

These words of Our Lord come to mind: “*If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you*” (John 15:19). JESUS wants His followers to be different from those who are not. The great Archbishop Fulton Sheen (1895-1979) said decades ago, “*One of the surprises of Heaven will be to see how many saints were made in the midst of chaos, and war and revolution.*” We are in a spiritual war right now. JESUS is Lord of all and nothing occurs without His permitting it. These may be tough times to live in, but it is where God has placed each of us in history and it is an opportunity to become a great saint. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us! St Michael the Archangel, pray for us!

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

**PUBLIC MASSES AT ST MARY’S:** The Mass times for the present are as follows:

**Tuesday: 9.15am**

**Saturday: 6.00pm**

**Wednesday: 6.30pm (Latin old rite)**

**Sunday: 9.00am and 11.15am**

**Friday: 6.30pm**

*(Changed times are underlined)*

Private Prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will continue on **Saturdays only 10.30am – 12.30pm with Confessions during the first hour or by appointment**

**ONLINE BOOKING FOR MASS:** St Mary’s has signed up for the Online Mass Booking service with the Diocese and it is now functioning. This weekend's Masses are still on a first come first served basis, but you are now able to book for Masses from **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August** onwards. You must sign up in order to reserve seats for yourself and others. Seats can be reserved 7 days in advance up to 23 hours before the start of Mass. The website address is <https://massbooking.uk>. If you don't have the means to book yourself, please ask someone to do so for you.

**TOILETS DURING MASS:** Please note that for safety reasons it will not be possible to access the toilets via the sacristy and library during Mass. Instead you will need to exit the church by the Lady Altar and use the outside entrance to the hall, and then re-enter the church by the main double doors. All children under 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Thank you.

**PLAYGROUND CAR PARK:** The school playground is not available for parking due to safety concerns. Parents of St Mary’s School children have not been allowed on the playground either. With the University being closed and the limit on numbers at Mass it should be easy to find a parking space close to the church. Sorry for the inconvenience.

*Fr Paul*

**A BIG THANK YOU TO PARISHIONERS** for your generous and overwhelming support of the foodbank collection at John Storer House. We delivered two car loads of your donations on Monday and staff at JSH were deeply appreciative. They shared some staggering statistics; 600 food parcels are delivered weekly to households in the Charnwood area and £2500 is spent on food to support the donations given and also the food share project. Joseph's Storehouse/Carpenters Arms ceased to function last January and the initiative from here plus others in the Charnwood postal codes have been picked up by JSH. We are planning a further collection later in August and will inform through this newsletter and the parish website.

*Jane Monaghan*

## 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.*

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**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.*

**A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:** 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.

### **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.

**FROM THE SAINTS:** “The only way out of this crisis is spiritual, because the trouble is not in the way we keep our books, but in the way we keep our souls. The time is nearer than you think.” (*Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen writing in 1947.*)

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**THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION** is this coming **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August**. There will be a special sung Latin Mass at 7.15pm. The chanting will be done by a small group, as we are not yet allowed to have any congregational singing. **Attendance at this Mass is on a first-come-first-served basis.**

*Fr Paul*

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PLEASE KEEP CHECKING THE PARISH WEBSITE FOR UPDATES FROM ST MARY'S  
[www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk](http://www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk)