



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 26 July 2020

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Psalter Week 1

Our Need of the Sacraments

A limited schedule of public Masses was resumed at St Mary's last Tuesday after nearly four months of your absence. Around 30 people were present and it was great to have you back because we priests have missed you all. Thanks be to God we were able to put all the strict requirements in place to enable us to open safely for the public celebration of Mass. A number of parishes will not be able to do this so we are truly blessed. A very big thank you to all those who have helped make this possible. If you feel uneasy about coming to church at this time please stay at home. **The obligation to hear Mass on Sundays is still suspended until further notice.** Also with the limit on numbers not everyone is going to be able to get a place each week. We hope to have an online booking system in place soon, so for the time being places are on a "first come first served" basis. The church will open 15 minutes before Mass is scheduled to begin. We could still do with a few more volunteers under 70 years of age for stewarding and cleaning. Please let me know if you are able to help.

For Catholics the **Sacraments** are very important. Many of you have told me you have come to a greater realisation of this during lockdown, and they must be important because Christ instituted them all for our benefit. Due to **Original Sin** we are all sinners and the Sacraments help to make us holy, they help us to become saints and win Heaven. The Sacrament to which all the others point is, of course, the **Holy Eucharist** because the Holy Eucharist is Christ Himself, and so we must always receive Him **reverently** and **worthily**. So to increase our worthiness we go to **Confession** even if we're not in *serious* sin. God loves us so much He gives us Himself in spite of our unworthiness. So let's sweep the house clean! If we are aware of any unconfessed serious sin, we ought not to receive Holy Communion until we have made a Sacramental Confession and received **Absolution**. Make a **Spiritual Communion** instead. We are only obliged to receive Holy Communion once a year. A priest is available for Confessions in the church on Saturday mornings between 10.30 and 11.30am and on request. If you're in a state of grace the devil can't harm you, but if you're not, you're fodder for him. Give yourself the protection. It has been hard in recent months with Confession not being so easily available, so I would encourage you now to make use of it.

We are trying hard to ensure Holy Communion is distributed as safely as possible, but if anyone is apprehensive about the risk of contagion at Holy Communion, you are advised not to receive until the present danger has subsided, and then again, make a Spiritual Communion instead. "*Sweet Sacrament! we Thee adore! O, make us love Thee more and more!*"

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	25 th	6.00pm	Estrella Marti RIP (Anniv) - PUBLIC MASS
Sun	26 th	<u>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Deceased members of the Thurland & Galvin families - PUBLIC MASS
		11.15am	Natalie Gillham RIP (Anniv) - PUBLIC MASS
Mon	27 th	9.15am	Carmelo Lopez Lopez RIP (Anniversary)
Tues	28 th	9.15am	Vladyslaw Moson RIP - PUBLIC MASS
Weds	29 th	<u>St Martha (Memoria)</u>	
		6.30pm	Intention for the living - PUBLIC MASS (Latin old rite)
Thurs	30 th	9.15am	Intention for the living (GE)
Fri	31 st	6.30pm	Intention for the living - PUBLIC MASS
Sat	1 st	9.15am	Intention for the living
		10.30am- 12.30pm	Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions available 10.30am-11.30am
		6.00pm	Alan Ellis RIP - PUBLIC MASS
Sun	2 nd	<u>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Private Intention (PG) - PUBLIC MASS
		11.15am	For the Parish - PUBLIC MASS

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 online edition of the newsletter.

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: Barbara Watkins & Dr Antony Giles **May they rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Roy Rowbottom, Kathleen Callan, Norman Denton, Helen Mitchell, Carmelo Lopez Lopez, Carmen Langley, Kathleen Winfield, Gerrard Nicholson, Bernie Wyatt, Jane Row, Derek Brewin, Len Sepede, Norman Boyce, Estrella Marti and Natalie Gillham

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**

- **A limit of 56 people** in the congregation at any one time is allowed for Mass in accordance with 2 metre social distancing rules. This may be slightly increased with couples and families sitting together.
- **The church will open 15 minutes before Mass.** You will be guided by the stewards. If you wish to light a candle please tell the steward as you should do so before being seated. They will fill up the church from the front; therefore, you may not be able to sit in your favourite seat. Those in wheelchairs should enter by the side door in the usual way.
- **You will also be asked to sign in and leave a phone number for Track and Trace purposes.** St Mary’s will protect the data.
- **The diocesan booking system** is not yet up and running so places are on a “first come first served” basis.
- **Please note that the obligation to hear Mass on Sunday remains suspended until further notice.** So this is not yet a return to normal. If you feel uneasy about coming to Mass, please stay at home. Please do not come to Mass if you have any cold-like symptoms.
- There is still no Holy Water in the stoups. There will be no singing (unless by a cantor), no Offertory Procession, no Bidding Prayers or Children’s Liturgy.
- **Holy Communion will be distributed *after* Mass** under one kind only by the priest. You are then asked to exit the church straight away and make your thanksgiving on the way home.
- **Parents may not bring food, drink, or toys to the church. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult to the toilet.** (Please see the notice below.)
- The church will be closing straight after Mass for cleaning, so we ask you not to linger. There will also be a collection box by the exit. There will be no tea and coffee in the Hall after Sunday Mass.

Thank you for your continued patience, but we are moving in the right direction.

Fr Paul

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

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.*

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 Eucharist is the sun of the feasts of the Church. It sheds light on those feasts and renders them living and joyous” (*St Peter Julian Eymard, 1811-1868*).

NEW PRIEST: Please pray for Fr Potentinus Mutekanga, a Rosminian who was a student with me in Rome ordained to the Sacred Priesthood last Saturday 18th July in Tanzania. He has just finished his theological studies in Tangaza. Please also keep in your prayers our English Rosminian novice, Brother William Rees who, God willing, will make his First Vows in the Order in September. Then we have Sam Hart, one of our altar servers who has been accepted by Nottingham Diocese to study for the Priesthood. All these young men need sustaining in their vocation by our prayers. Don't forget to pray *daily* our Parish Prayer for Vocations on the back page of this newsletter.

Fr Paul