



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 16 August 2020

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Psalter Week 4

Our Mother Mary's Love for Us

August is the month dedicated to the **Immaculate Heart of Mary**, and **this August is an especially fitting time for us to find strength in this devotion**, as we handle the constraints and stresses stemming from Covid-19 health concerns, social distancing, and economic worries.

Many of us are, or know, someone who has been personally impacted by the coronavirus. Even as our church has re-opened, we have had to reduce the number of pews in use, cut back on the number of Masses, coped with sanitising everything and navigate postponements of cherished events. It can be surreal out there, in a masked world where friends and strangers alike are trying to stay at least two metres apart.

So, what better time is there to run to our spiritual mother? We should never keep our distance from her and are always safe in her arms. Our Lady of Fatima famously said, **"In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph."** She also said, **"Don't lose heart ... My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God."** We can put our anxieties aside by resting in **Mary's Immaculate Heart**.

The lovely Memorare prayer reminds us: **"Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgins of Virgins, Our Mother."**

We are almost halfway through the month, and this weekend we celebrate Our **Blessed Lady's Assumption** into Heaven. This great **Solemnity** commemorates the death of the Blessed Virgin (the Dormition, or falling asleep, as it is known in the Eastern Church) and celebrates the Tradition and Doctrine that her body did not suffer decay but that she was raised up, body and soul, into Heaven to be with her Son, our Saviour, Jesus. Mother and Son reunited.

Do you sometime worry about your children, young and the 'grown up ones'? Whether they will keep the faith or return to it, if they have wandered away? Do you worry about your parents as they all grow older, or beloved relatives, or friends, who have no faith in Christ or who don't want to know Him? What can you do? How should you pray in love for them? There is a lovely quote by Fr Gobbi, a Marian priest, that advises, **'every time you pray the Rosary (and remember Our Lady asks us all to do that), say, "I bind (put in the name/s) to the Immaculate Heart of Mary."** He taught that **'Our Lady will see to their souls.'** She'll look after them. With that spirit of trust in Blessed Mother Mary's maternal love, let us offer Rosaries for all whom we love. Especially in this month of her Immaculate Heart.

Mother Immaculate pray for us and those we love.

Fr David Jones, OLW

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	15th	6.00pm	Dr Antony Giles RIP – PUBLIC MASS
Sun	16th	<u>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)</u>	
		9.00am	For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS
		11.15am	For the Victims of the Beirut Explosion – PUBLIC MASS
Mon	17th	9.15am	Vito Caruso RIP
Tues	18th	9.15am	Barbara Watkins RIP – PUBLIC MASS
Weds	19th	6.30pm	Keith Newton RIP – PUBLIC MASS (Latin old rite)
Thurs	20th	9.15am	Barbara Bennett RIP
Fri	21st	6.30pm	Intention for the living – PUBLIC MASS
Sat	22nd	<u>The Queenship of Our Lady (Memoria)</u>	
		9.15am	Intention for the living
		10.30am-	Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
		12.30pm	Confessions available 10.30am-11.30am
		2.30pm	<i>Baptism</i>
		6.00pm	Bill Alborough RIP – PUBLIC MASS
Sun	23rd	<u>Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Eamon Keating RIP – PUBLIC MASS
		11.15am	For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS

ITALIAN MASS will resume on **Sunday 23rd August**.

MASS INTENTIONS: Although the times of Masses are all displayed in this newsletter, the PRIVATE Masses (ie those Masses not open to the public) will not necessarily be offered at those particular 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: Maria Coviello and Lar Gilmore **May they rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Kathleen Flood, Norah Fay, Maria Camara, Franciszek Malik, David Taylor, Joan Van Ristell-Brown, Christopher Turner, Rev Sr Mary David Jeremy, Jeffrey Barrington, Edmond Mortell, Eileen Lieber and Vincenzo Pasquale

ONLINE BOOKING FOR MASS: St Mary's has signed up for the Online Mass Booking service with the Diocese and it is now functioning. 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.

THANK YOU on behalf of the whole Parish to all the volunteer stewards and cleaners for all you are doing and particularly to Emily and Elvira for organising everything. Without the stewards we wouldn't be able to open the church for anything. The dedication and commitment of all concerned has been outstanding. *Fr Paul*

LATIN MASS BOOKLETS: Due to the Covid situation we are not able to hand out the booklets at the Latin Mass and so people have been asking to buy their own. I have ordered 20 copies of the booklet and should have them some time over the next week. If you would like one, please ask me. The cost is £3.75. *Fr Paul*

FACE MASKS AT MASS: The Government have now made compulsory the wearing of a face mask at public worship. You will obviously have to remove it to receive Holy Communion. Children under 11 are not expected to wear them. People are exempted from having to wear a face mask for the following reasons: "not being able to put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability; if putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress; in order to take medication." Other reasons are given too. You can check out the document at the following website: www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES will resume in the autumn and it is anticipated that the children will make their First Communion in small groups during Parish Masses. There will be further information about this in due course.

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*

FOOD BANK COLLECTION: Following your very generous donations to the John Storer House food bank distribution centre, we are planning another drop off at the end of August. Parishioners will be in the church car park on Saturday morning **29th August** between 10.30am and 11.00am to collect any items you wish to donate. Staff at JSH suggested some items which are always in demand: soap, shampoo, hand gel, hand wash, household detergents and confectionery. We will be wearing masks, gloves and observing social distancing. Thank you once again. *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.*

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: "Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls for Christ." (*St Teresa of Calcutta, 1910-1997*)

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

www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk