



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 23 August 2020 TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Psalter Week 1

The Gift of the Papacy

This Sunday's Gospel gives us the famous account of Our Lord conferring the **Keys of the Kingdom** on Peter and changing his name from Simon to Peter, the rock upon which He would build His Church. Peter had professed his faith in the divinity of JESUS who then said to him, *"You are Peter and on this rock I will build My Church and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in Heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in Heaven"* (Matthew 16: 18-19). Our Lord had marked Simon out for this special mission which is why he changed his name from Simon to Peter. Christ will always be the Head of the Church, but after the Ascension Peter was to be the *visible* Head of the Church on earth. Peter, or *Cephas* in Aramaic, means 'rock' and so Our Lord is making Peter the foundation or the rock of the Church. He will keep the Church together and make it endure. We should not assume that this power was given to Peter only because he was not called Simon then. It is passed on to all his successors. As Venerable Fulton Sheen once said, *"Pius, Leo and Benedict all die, but Peter lives on until the consummation of the world."*

The **First Vatican Council** in 1870 infallibly defined that:

- St Peter was appointed by Christ to be the visible Head of the Church;
- He received from Christ supreme authority to teach and govern the whole Church;
- Peter has a perpetual line of successors in the Primacy;
- His successors are the Roman Pontiffs or the Popes.

The Primacy of the Pope means he has real power and authority to rule the Church and we believe that **under very strict conditions** he is **infallible**, when he defines a doctrine concerning **faith or morals to be held by the whole Church**. It does not mean the Pope can do no wrong or that he can never be mistaken, even in religious matters. It means that when he solemnly defines a doctrine of faith or morals binding on the whole Church, God protects him from error. Neither can the Pope invent a new doctrine because God does not change and Divine Revelation ended with the death of the last Apostle. The Pope is the servant of the truth and the guardian of the **Deposit of Faith**. He cannot contradict what has always been taught by the Church down the centuries.

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MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	22nd	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
		4.00pm	Italian Mass
Mon	24th	<u>St Bartholomew, Apostle (Feast)</u>	
		9.15am	Waleria Hawalewicz RIP
Tues	25th	9.15am	Mary Ellen Frilot RIP – PUBLIC MASS
Weds	26th	6.30pm	Kyle Rooney RIP (A) – PUBLIC MASS (Latin old rite)
Thurs	27th	9.15am	Intention for the living
		2.00pm	<i>Baptism</i>
Fri	28th	6.30pm	Intention for the living – PUBLIC MASS
Sat	29th	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	For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS
Sun	30th	<u>Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Criselda Castillo RIP – PUBLIC MASS
		11.15am	Vincent Paul Johns RIP – PUBLIC MASS

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: Lar Gilmore and Mary Comery-Lang **May they rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Thabani Ncube, Bruno Scaffali, Paulino Divinagracia, Angela Billson, Johanne Main, Lesley Owens, Irene Elsner, Kyle Rooney, David Wells, Rev Sr Mary Anthony Popple, Edwardina Pannell, Roderick MacMillan, Jeffrey Barrington, Mary Durning, Richard Newton and Giovanni D'Amato

Cont'd from front page

The Papacy is a great gift to the Church. As Catholics we know that when the Church has given a solemn and definitive answer to a question the teaching can never change and the goal posts are not going to be moved in the future. This is what Our Lord intended and why He founded His Church on Peter the rock. The Pope is the test of the true Church. “*Where Peter is, there is the Church*” said St Ambrose in the Fourth Century.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

WHEN MAKING A PAYMENT TO ST MARY'S BY PAYPAL you will now be prompted to select what your payment is for from a drop-down menu. The options are: ‘Donation’, ‘Mass Intention’, (Sunday) ‘Collection’. Although PayPal have made this an optional feature, it is important for accounts purposes that you use it. If you have any queries about using PayPal, please contact Louise at office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk. Thank you.

CONFESSIONS: A reminder that there is a priest hearing Confessions in the church on Saturday mornings between 10.30 and 11.30am, and by appointment.

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

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.

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: “If a man does not hold fast to this unity of Peter, does he imagine that he still holds the Faith? If he deserts the Chair of Peter upon which the Church was built, does he still have confidence that he is in the Church?”

(St Cyprian of Carthage, 200-258)

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

www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk