



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 1st November 2020

ALL SAINTS

Psalter Week 3

The Communion of Saints

November is the month of the **Communion of Saints**. We celebrate today the Feast of **All Saints** when we honour *all* those in Heaven (not only canonised saints) and ask them to pray for us here on earth. Tomorrow (Monday) is **All Souls Day**, when we commemorate all the faithful departed and when we are reminded that we should assist the souls of the faithful departed in **Purgatory** by our prayers, sufferings and good works that they may be released from their pains. This teaching as well as being in Scripture is also part of our natural instinct. If you move far away from your family, you believe they will still pray for you. Similarly, when a family member departs this life and arrives in Heaven why should they not continue to pray for us? They still love us and death only destroys the body while the soul lives on. To quote Cardinal James Gibbons (1834-1921), “*The dross of sin and selfishness and hatred are burned in salutary fires of contrition, and nothing remains but the pure gold of charity. O far be from us the dreary thought that death cuts off our friends entirely from us!*”

Nowadays the doctrine of Purgatory is often undermined, particularly at funerals, when the deceased is sometimes canonised, meaning that absolute certainty is expressed that they are already in Heaven. While the intentions may be good this actually does a disservice to the deceased, because people will be discouraged from praying for them. **Nothing impure can enter Heaven** (Apocalypse 21:27). Most people die in a state of imperfection and so they desperately need Masses, the prayers and sacrifices of us here on earth to speed up the process of their purification. To pray for the dead is a great act of mercy.

So we should always honour the saints and celebrate their feast days invoking their aid. Then as well as offering our sufferings and prayers for the souls detained in Purgatory we should also try to gain **Indulgences** for them. (*See page 3 for what you can do this month*). By doing so you could release a soul from Purgatory. They in turn will be so grateful that they will intercede in Heaven on your behalf. How wonderful and consoling to know we have people praying for us in Heaven who won’t rest until we arrive there ourselves. And we should, of course, also pray for each other here on earth. **This is the Communion of Saints**. Let us thank God that we are Catholic and that we know about this Divinely revealed truth and can take advantage of it.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	31st	6.00pm	For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS
Sun	1st	<u>ALL SAINTS (SOLEMNITY)</u>	
		9.00am	Deceased members of the Castillo Family – PUBLIC MASS
		11.15am	Giovanni Brunetti & Michele & Filomena Paoella RIP – PUBLIC MASS
		<i>3.00pm</i>	<i>Blessing of Graves, Loughborough Cemetery</i>
		<i>4.00pm</i>	<i>Italian Mass</i>
Mon	2nd	<u>ALL SOULS</u>	
		9.15am	Vito Caruso RIP – PUBLIC MASS
		12 noon	Latin Mass (old rite) – Pope's Intentions – PUBLIC MASS
		6.30pm	For the Faithful Departed – PUBLIC MASS
Tues	3rd	9.15am	Norah Lillian Hutchings RIP
Weds	4th	6.30pm	Amanda Giorgio RIP (Latin Mass, old rite) – PUBLIC MASS
Thurs	5th	9.15am	Holy Souls
Fri	6th	6.30pm	<i>First Friday:</i> For our Deceased Relatives & Friends – PUBLIC MASS
Sat	7th	9.15am	Senior Citizens' Intentions
		10.30am-	Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
		12.30pm	Confessions available 10.30am-11.30am
		6.00pm	Intention for the living – PUBLIC MASS
Sun	8th	<u>Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Remembrance Sunday)</u>	
		9.00am	For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS
		11.15am	Requiem Mass for the Fallen – PUBLIC MASS

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

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Margaret Nutt, Vincenza Lallo, Antoni Michalski, Eileen Hately, Joseph Allan, Mary Hudson, Elena Keetley, Margaret Cramp, Margarette Szczur, Bob Moore, Jerzy Stepowski, Marion Uttley, Ron Lucas, Teresa Brewin and Antoni Juskiewicz

NOVEMBER BLESSING OF GRAVES: We will have the customary Blessing of Graves at Loughborough Cemetery this **Sunday 1st November at 3pm**, provided it is not pouring with rain. There will be three Masses on **Monday 2nd November, All Souls Day** – 9.15am, 12 noon (Latin old rite) and 6.30pm.

CHANGES TO NOVEMBER INDULGENCES FOR THE HOLY SOULS: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Apostolic Penitentiary in Rome has made some changes regarding the November Indulgences for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. This is to help avoid large gatherings.

1. The plenary indulgence for those who visit a cemetery and pray for the dead, even if only mentally, normally established only on the individual days from 1st to 8th November, can now be transferred **to any other day of the month of November**.

2. The plenary indulgence of 2nd November, for those who piously visit a church or an oratory and pray for the dead and recite the "Our Father" and the "Creed" there, may now be transferred not only to the Sunday preceding or following, but also **on any other day of the month of November**.

In all instances make a good confession within the week before or after and be free from all attachment to sin. Also say one Our Father and Hail Mary for the Pope's monthly intentions and receive Holy Communion worthily on the same day or soon after. If you don't manage to fulfil all these conditions, the indulgence is partial.

The elderly or sick or those for some reason cannot leave home, can obtain the plenary indulgence provided that they are completely detached from sin and have the intention of fulfilling as soon as possible the three usual condition of sacramental confession, Holy Communion and prayer for the Pope's Intentions. They obtain the plenary indulgence by saying prayers for the dead before an image of Our Lord or Our Lady such as the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, or other prayers for the dead, or meditate on a Gospel passage proposed by the Liturgy for the Dead, or do a work of mercy by offering their pain and discomfort to God.

ON RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION: A gentle reminder to remove your face mask *before* the priest is standing in front of you, because if you juggle with your facemask and the Sacred Host, Our Lord could fall onto the floor. Also, please do not hold out your hands to receive Holy Communion wearing gloves. The Sacred Host must be received directly onto the hand before you place It reverently into your mouth. Particles of the Host can stick to gloves, and the Real Presence is in every particle, no matter how small. Thank you. *Fr Paul*

POPE FRANCIS AND CIVIL UNIONS: Some parishioners have asked me to clarify what the Holy Father is reported to have said about civil unions in a new film entitled "Francesco". I do not know exactly what the Pope meant by this – to date no clarification has been issued - but whatever the Holy Father meant, it is his personal opinion and in no way changes the perennial teaching of the Church which is contained in Scripture and Tradition and transmitted by the Magisterium down the ages: that marriage is a lifelong vocation between one man and one woman ordered to procreation. This was re-iterated by Bishop Patrick in his statement I published last week. Any sexual activity outside of that must be repented of in the Sacrament of Penance (*See Catechism of the Catholic Church on the Sixth Commandment*). Let us always pray for the Pope and for the unity of the Church. *Fr Paul*

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE:

First Collection: £624, of which £165 was gift-aided
Standing orders: £776
Thank you

PRAAYER 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.*

FROM THE SAINTS: “The souls in Purgatory repay the prayers that we say for them.”

(*St Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, 1887-1968.*)

REPOSITORY RE-OPENING: Saturdays 11.00am-12.30pm. Wide range of cards, including Mass cards, First Holy Communion cards, Rosaries and gifts available at very reasonable prices. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, please bring the exact money for payment. Thank you.

THE DIRECTORS OF ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST are seeking to appoint a new headteacher at Holy Cross Catholic Voluntary Academy, Leicester, (salary scale L15-21). For an application pack please call the Trust's HR department on 0116 296 8164 or email pcooper@aquinas-cmat.org. To arrange a school visit please contact Elizabeth Routledge (school office) on 0116 283 3135 or email eroutledge@holy-cross.leicester.sch.uk **CLOSING DATE: Monday 23rd November 2020.**

PRE-BOOKING PLACES FOR MASS: Online bookings can be made on the diocesan website at <https://massbooking.uk> Telephone bookings can be made by calling **07554 603972 on Tuesday or Wednesday between 2pm and 4pm or Thursday and Friday between 5pm and 7pm.** Due to the higher demand at weekend Masses, a pre-booked seat is not guaranteed if you arrive after Mass has begun. May I take this opportunity to remind you that **the Sunday obligation is still suspended, and therefore I would encourage some of you to take advantage of attending Mass during the week if possible** to help ease the numbers at the weekend. Thank you.

Fr Paul