



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 8th November 2020

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Remembrance Sunday

Psalter Week 4

Lockdown Again

With the Government having decided to have another national lockdown until at least 2nd December, our churches, once again, have had to close for public worship in spite of many appeals made by the Bishops and others. I know many of you also wrote to our local MP, Jane Hunt. But as things stand right now, there will be no public Masses at St Mary's for at least the next month and First Holy Communions and RCIA have had to be put on hold again. This is a great pity and seems unnecessary, as our churches, with all the rigorous measures we have put in place, must be among the safest places for people to be, and neither is there any evidence that our churches have contributed to the rise in Covid-19 infections. The public worship of God is vital for the well-being of our country and can never be regarded as "non-essential" because we are all bound to worship Him. I would like to thank again on behalf of the whole parish our wonderful team of stewards and cleaners who have worked so hard to enable St Mary's to open for public worship several times a week.

The good news is we are still able to open for **private prayer**. Therefore, the church will be open at the following times:

**Sundays 3-5pm, Mondays 9.30-10.30am, Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm with Confessions,
Fridays 5.30-6.30pm, Saturdays 10.30am-12.30pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10:30-11.30am.**

Holy Mass will continue to be offered daily by us priests for the intentions advertised. We keep in our prayers all the sick of the parish, all those suffering from Covid and all those who will suffer further hardship as a result of restrictions. As we pray especially hard for the Holy Souls in Purgatory this month, we keep in mind those who have died from Covid-19, particularly doctors and nurses, priests and nuns throughout the world who gave their lives in service of others.

Today is also **Remembrance Sunday**. I will offer Mass today for all who died for their countries in battle. Many of them suffered severe injuries with little or no preparation to meet their Maker. They need our prayers. When we help release souls from Purgatory, they are so grateful and we gain friends and intercessors for ourselves in Heaven. St Ambrose (ca. 340-397) said, "*Whatever we do for the departed souls redounds to our own benefit; after death it will be restored to us with interest.*"

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	7th	6.00pm	Intention for the living
Sun	8th	<u>Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Remembrance Sunday)</u>	
		9.00am	For the Parish
		11.15am	Requiem Mass for the Fallen
Mon	9th	<u>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Feast)</u>	
		9.15am	Geraldine Jackson RIP
Tues	10th	9.15am	Joan Gunn RIP
Weds	11th	6.30pm	Holy Souls
Thurs	12th	9.15am	All the Stewards - Intentions
Fri	13th	6.30pm	For all deceased Parishioners
Sat	14th	9.15am	Giuseppe & Giannina Romano RIP
		10.30am-	Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
		12.30pm	Confessions available 10.30am-11.30am
		6.00pm	James O'Rourke RIP
Sun	15th	<u>Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	For the Parish
		11.15am	Joan Meynell RIP (Anniversary)

MASS INTENTIONS: Although the times of Masses have been left on the weekly calendar, the priests will not necessarily offer them at those specific times. However, the Masses will all be celebrated for the particular intentions on the days advertised.

CONFESSIONS: In addition to the usual Saturday slot, please note that there will also be Confessions on Wednesdays, 5.30-6.30pm

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: Fr Michael Horrax and Freda Ainsworth.
May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patricia Wilkinson, Dirk Van Der Meyden, Margaret Veals, Alice Hoggan, Tony Daly, Michele Giorgio, John Brewin, Daniel Fellows, Lea Chievetta, Marion Scrivens, Sean Kelly, Ernest Start, Danny Borzacchiello, Stan Borkowski, George Hamilton and Raymond Tebutt

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, sick or housebound 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.

KWEDIBOMA UPDATE: I have received an update from the Health Centre. Everyone at the hospital is doing their best to protect themselves with schools and colleges closed and meetings banned. Their latest project is to build a mortuary and they have asked if we can help. At the moment we have £1,714 in the Kwediboma Fund. If you wish to make a donation to help to build the mortuary please leave your donation in an envelope, marked for the "Kwediboma Fund" at the Presbytery or send it in by post. Cheques should be made payable to "St Mary's Catholic Church". I will wait for a month before sending anything out to the Health Centre. Thank you all in advance.

Terry Spicer

DONATION REQUEST: Our local charity that helps the homeless, Exaireo, is trying to put measures in place to limit the negative impact on residents' mental health. They are hoping to install a desktop PC in each of the houses, so residents can access online support and activities, as well as keeping in touch with management and other agencies they may need to interact with. **Do you have a PC you no longer need and would like to donate?** If so, please contact Exaireo at info@exaireo.org or by phoning their office on 01509 266422 (this is not currently manned all day). St Mary's has been a faithful supporter of Exaireo for many years.

SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER, 10.30-11.00am: Our Christmas food bank collection for John Storer House will be at this time in the car park. Staff at JSH have suggested if possible that we contribute 'Christmas Goodies', which could include chocolates, sweets, chocolate biscuits, tins or sachets of cocoa, jars of coffee, tea, long life milk, selection boxes, Christmas crackers, boxes of toiletries, tinned meat. If you have the time an idea is to present your donations in a gift-wrapped box, however donations in the usual way are very greatly appreciated. This year many families will be dependent on the food bank for all the little extras that make the Christmas table special. Parishioners from St Mary's continue to give marvellous support to this venture. With grateful thanks to all.

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.

FROM THE SAINTS: "If it were but known how great is the power of the good souls in Purgatory with the Heart of God, and if we knew all the graces we can obtain through their intercession, they would not be so much forgotten. We must, therefore, pray much for them, that they may pray much for us" (*St John Vianney, 1786-1859.*)

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.**

CAFOD has written to thank parishioners for their prayers, fasting and generosity on Family Fast Day. As previously announced, donations from St Mary's amounted to **£286.**

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE:	
First Collection: £418 , of which £107 was gift-aided	
Standing orders: £776	<i>Thank you</i>