



# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Served by the Rosminians: Fr Paul Gillham, Parish Priest

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## Newsletter for Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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### Suggestions for Lent

This is the final Sunday before **Lent** begins. **Ash Wednesday** is *this* week and we wouldn't want to begin Lent without a firm idea of what we're going to do to help us grow in the spiritual life. Lent is a very special season so let's not let it go to waste. We are called to **repentance** and to deepen our relationship with Christ. So if you haven't done so recently, the best way to begin is by **making a good examination of conscience** followed by **Confession**, as being in a **state of grace** is the starting point of any personal renewal.

We Catholics are in the habit of giving up something we are fond of for Lent. This is a good practice because it helps us to become detached from the things of this world. However, very often we begin with the best of intentions and then after a few days we find we have lapsed. If this is the case, don't just give up. Start again afresh. Be *realistic* about what you're going to give up – remember it's for 40 days – and it's best not to choose something you know is going to make it difficult for the people you live with or is going to make you bad tempered!

But let's try and go *deeper* in our relationship with Our Lord. If possible, try to get to **Mass** an extra time in the week. I know this may be difficult for some, particularly at this time, but if you can, make the effort. We're also going to be having **Stations of the Cross** each Friday evening after Mass, and there is **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** every Saturday morning from 10.30-12.30pm. Drop in for a quarter of an hour. This would be especially good for those who don't normally do these things. Pray the **Rosary** every day and say the **Litany of St Joseph** and other prayers to him in this special year.

Some might like to take up some **spiritual reading**. You may gain a **Plenary Indulgence** every day for **reading the Scriptures** prayerfully for half an hour. You could read in conjunction with a good Catholic commentary. Or you might read the life of a favourite saint or the writings of a saint, or watch a good religious film such as "Jesus of Nazareth", "The Song of Bernadette" or "The Chosen" all of which are free on YouTube. You can think of others. Then use the free "**Walk with Me**" booklet which has a meditation for each day.

Never forget the **Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy**. Pray every day for the **Souls in Purgatory**. Have Masses offered for them. You might wish to **give alms** to worthy causes such as Aid to the Church in Need or CAFOD and some of our local charities. Pray for someone who is driving you up the wall or who is far from God.

These are just a few ideas and no doubt you will have your own thoughts. Let us pray that these Lenten days will be grace-filled for all of us. May God bless us all throughout this holy season.

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

## MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

<b>Sat</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	For the Parish – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u></b>	
		<b>9.00am</b>	Jim Moreland RIP – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	Cliff Brookes RIP (Anniversary) – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>4.00pm</b>	Italian Mass – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Intention for the living – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Kathleen Hartland RIP
<b>Weds</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Ash Wednesday</u></b>	
		<b>9.15am</b>	Deceased members of the Hallam & Faulks families – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>12 noon</b>	Leslie & Winifred Boot RIP (Latin) – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Ann Wilcox RIP – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Patrick Lavery RIP
<b>Fri</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	Kathie Meedin RIP – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross – PUBLIC SERVICE</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Eamon Keating RIP
		<b>10.30am-</b>	<b>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.</b>
		<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Confessions available 10.30am-11.30am</b>
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Andy Newbold RIP – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b><u>First Sunday of Lent</u></b>	
		<b>9.00am</b>	For the Parish – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	John McEnery RIP – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>
		<b>4.00pm</b>	Italian Mass – <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>

**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.**

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**PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died:** David Hibbin, Margarita Ilago Rubin and Vera Hurry. **May they rest in peace**

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Harold Main, Christopher Whittingham, Peter Smith, Samuel Reid, Emily Heath, Maria Richardson, Peter Rose, Jamila Dawood, Cliff Brookes, Helena Lawrynowicz, Matti Bazi, Ellen Spurr, David Collins, Nina Juszkievicz, Wanda Wazjert, Sheila Jarvis, Filomena Paoella, Francis Brooks, Colubrio Buttarazzi, Katarzyana Hönl and Terry Cleverly

## THIS WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY IS ASH WEDNESDAY

It is a day of **fasting and abstinence**. Catholics who are 18 years old and up, until their 59th birthday (when you begin your 60th year) are bound to fast (1 full meal and perhaps a little food at a couple of points during the day). This is also the case for **Good Friday**. Catholics who are 14 years old and above are bound to **abstain from meat** on Ash Wednesday and on ALL Fridays throughout the year unless it is a Solemnity (major feast). *Fr Paul*

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES:** There will be three Masses: 9.15am, 12 noon and 6.30pm. Please note the weekly Wednesday Latin Mass will be at 12 noon and not in the evening. The 6.30pm Mass this week will be in English. The Vatican has decreed that this year ashes must be distributed by **sprinkling them over the head**, thus avoiding any physical contact. This is the normal practice in some other countries. *Fr Paul*

**'WALK WITH ME' BOOKLETS** with daily meditations for Lent to help us grow spiritually have now arrived and are in the church for you to take. It has been produced by the diocese and includes a special message from Bishop Patrick. The copies are provided free for all parishes in the diocese. One copy per household please. *Fr Paul*

**VISITING GROUP:** Twenty-five years ago St. Mary's started a Visiting Group in the parish, reaching out to the housebound, recently bereaved, sick, lonely and families in need irrespective of age, gender and nationality. Since lockdown members of the group have continued contact with parishioners either by telephone or email. We are always looking for members to join our team and if you feel you can offer this service please make your first contact initially with Fr. Paul details below, Clearance through the Disclosure and Barring Service will be needed for this role. If you would like a member of the team to contact you during these difficult times contact by email to [office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk) or phone St. Mary's 01509 262123 and we will get back to you. Thank you. *Angela Pearson*

**SENIOR SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR:** The Catholic Diocese of Nottingham seeks to appoint an experienced Safeguarding Professional to lead and manage its Safeguarding Service. **Salary:** £43,800 - £47,800 dependent on qualifications and experience. For full information and an application pack. email: [office@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:office@dioceseofnottingham.uk). Closing date: **28<sup>th</sup> February 2021**. Interviews are expected to take place in person on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021**.

**VOCATIONS:** Are you looking for a challenge? Are you searching for God? Why not join the Vocations Team at their Zoom Café on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March**, 7.30 – 9.00pm, where you will have an opportunity to ask questions and chat with Priests and Religious Sisters about vocation. A warm welcome awaits you. Please email Diane at [vocationsadmin@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:vocationsadmin@dioceseofnottingham.uk) to register your place or for any further information. They look forward to seeing you (for 18 and over).

**THE NEXT COLLECTION FOR THE LOUGHBOROUGH FOOD BANK** will be on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February** in the church car park between 10.30 and 11.00am. Once again suggestions for donations include tea, instant coffee, tinned and sachets of drinking chocolate, canned soups, long life milk, biscuits, toiletries and cleaning materials. Kindly note John Storer House are not able to accept fresh produce. Thank you. *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.*

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**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 you want to flee from God, flee to Him instead. Flee to Him by confessing to Him; don’t flee from Him by trying to hide. For you can’t hide, but you can confess”  
*(St Augustine of Hippo, 354-430).*

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**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. Please do not phone the Presbytery.** 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*

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY** will be on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February.**

<b>LAST WEEK'S FINANCE</b>	
Collection: <b>£495</b> of which <b>£80</b> was gift-aided	
Standing orders: <b>£788 (@31/12)</b> of which <b>£702</b> was gift-aided	
Mass attendance: <b>193</b>	<i>Thank you</i>