

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

12th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

NEWSLETTER

Evil and the Greater Good

The Gospel today is the well known account of JESUS calming the storm (Mark 4:35-41). We can perhaps see this as a symbol of our own lives and of the many storms we have to pass through before getting to the other side. So why does an all-powerful and all-knowing God allow these storms to happen in our lives? Why does a loving God permit evil?

This is a very difficult question to answer, but let us recall God created our first parents, Adam and Eve **perfect** and free from all suffering. God wished to create a **moral** universe in which we would have the power to say either 'yes' or 'no', and so He had to create us free. Then Adam and Eve, by eating the fruit of the forbidden tree disobeyed God and thus sin came into the world and they lost God's grace. **Suffering and death are the direct consequence of sin.** God does not *cause* evil but He *permits* it to bring about a greater good. The greater good here is that by sending His Son into the world to redeem us, He raised us to a higher state through His Incarnation. Without the Fall the head of the human race would be a mere man – Adam. By the Redemption our new Head is the Incarnate Word – Christ. A closer union with God could not be possible. We have been incorporated into Christ. Thus the Original Sin has brought about a greater good. As St Paul says, "*Where sin abounded, grace did more abound*" (Romans 5:20).

But people often ask, "How could God permit Hitler or Stalin and all the atrocities that came with them?" God did not create their evil. Man himself allowed this evil to take root. God wants us to love Him and love each other freely and not have us function as machines. Therefore to have free will there also has to be the possibility of abusing our free will. Morality implies responsibility and duty, but they can only exist if we are free. Virtue is possible because there is also vice. It is possible to be a saint only because there also exists the possibility of being a devil.

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St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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office@
stmarysloughborough.org.uk

Served by the Rosminians

Parish Priest

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Assistant Priest

Fr Simon Giles, IC

On attachment

Fr David Jones, OLW

Parish Catholic Schools

St Mary's Primary

Hastings Street
Loughborough LE11 5AX
01509 212621

office@stmarys-rc.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss P Jordan

De Lisle College

Thorpe Hill
Loughborough LE11 4SQ
01509 268739

enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Dr J F Pye



St Thomas More

Please pray for those who have recently died

Tom Sparks

May he rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Irene Calus

Dennis Main

Martin Allaway

Richard Hönl

Andrew Marples

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat 19th Vigil Mass
6.00pm Anne O'Rourke RIP – PUBLIC MASS

Sun 20th 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS
11.15am Andy Newbold RIP – PUBLIC MASS
4.00pm Italian Mass – PUBLIC MASS

Mon 21st
9.15am David Paterson RIP – PUBLIC MASS

Tues 22nd Saints John Fisher and Thomas More (Feast)
9.15am Anne Fahey RIP

Weds 23rd
6.30pm Intention for the living (Latin) - PUBLIC MASS

Thurs 24th Nativity of St John the Baptist (Solemnity)
9.15am Marcus Beddoe RIP

Fri 25th
6.30pm Andrew Marples RIP (Anniversary) – PUBLIC MASS

Sat 26th
9.15am Intention for the living
10.30am **Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am**
-12.30pm **Vigil Mass: Carmela Brunetti RIP – PUBLIC MASS**
6.00pm

Sun 27th 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am Anna Krause RIP – PUBLIC MASS
11.15am For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS
4.00pm Italian Mass – PUBLIC MASS



Month of the Sacred Heart: The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of JESUS. Our Lord made known His desire for devotion to His Sacred Heart through St Margaret Mary (1647-90). Over the centuries many people had developed a false image of God as harsh and distant Who was waiting to crush us for the slightest sin. Our Lord revealed to St Margaret Mary His heart, burning with love for humanity. In one vision He allowed her to rest her head on His heart. His human heart was to be the symbol of His divine-human love. He explained to her that He wished to make these wonders known to all the world, and that He had chosen her for His work. The First Friday of the month is always dedicated to the Sacred Heart of JESUS.

Fr Paul

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There is a famous story of the **Chinese Farmer** who relied on an old horse to till his fields. One day the horse ran away and his friends came to sympathise with him and the farmer replied, "We'll see." A week later the horse returned from the hills with three other horses. This time his friends congratulated him on his good luck. The farmer replied, "We'll see." Then, when his son was trying to tame one of the wild horses, he fell off its back and broke his leg. Everyone thought this very bad luck, and the farmer said, "We'll see." Several weeks later the army marched into the village and conscripted every able-bodied young man they could find. But when they saw the farmer's son with a broken leg, they let him off. Now was that good luck or bad luck? The moral of the story is that it is virtually impossible for us to see the full consequences of an act or an event. What might appear to us as purely good or purely evil is only part of the picture. Only God in His Providence knows how this will all work out for the greater good in the end.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Grub Club: In view of the local increases in Covid cases, and the lack of specific guidance available for establishing relevant safety measures to protect children and adults, we have decided not to run Grub Club for meals and activities this summer. However we may operate a food and activity pack collection. **The 26th June meeting is cancelled.** We will contact volunteers by email.

Catherine Brady and Frank Fay

Gardening: The gardening group are asking if you could donate a shrub/plants for the garden area. They will be pleased to receive on **Saturday 26th June between 11.30 and 12.00.**

Bernard Monaghan

Mass Intentions: If you would like Mass offered on a particular date or weekend, you would be well advised to book 3 to 4 months in advance. Weekend Mass intentions get booked up well before the date. The suggested diocesan offering is £10. *Fr Paul*

Happy Father's Day to all fathers in the parish. In some countries 'Father's Day' is celebrated on the Feast of St Joseph (19th March) which suggests a link to his role as the foster-father of JESUS. However, in June we celebrate the 'Faith of our Fathers' with the Feast Day of Saints John Fisher and Thomas More (22nd June) and our Apostolic Fathers, Peter, and Paul (29th June), and so, "may the Father of Our Lord JESUS Christ enlighten the eyes of our minds, so that we can see what hope His call holds for us."

Year of St Joseph



VACANCIES

Nottingham Diocesan School Chaplaincy Apprenticeship

SIX School Chaplaincy Apprenticeships based in various locations across of the Diocese of Nottingham

Two year fixed term

Salary £17,842 p/a

To begin September 2021

You must be a practising Catholic to apply.

Application Closing Date:

9am Monday June 28th

Interviews will take place on **Tuesday June 29th**

Email

apprenticeships@ndcys.com to register or to apply

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.

Are you called? The Vocations Team are holding their next Zoom café on **Monday 12th July at 7 pm**. This month's guest speaker is Maggie Mairura from Cafod who will be talking about how she lives her call today. If you would like to know more about Vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life and would like to meet the team please email Diane at vocationsadmin@dioceseofnottingham.uk for the Zoom link. A warm welcome awaits you.

The Solemnity of Ss Peter and Paul falls next **Tuesday 29th June**. In normal times it is a Holyday of Obligation but for the moment, due to Covid 19, the obligation is suspended. However, there will be 2 Masses - a Latin Mass at 12 noon and English Mass at 6.30pm. *Fr Paul*

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Day for Life. Next weekend's second collection will be for Peter's Pence. Both collections are mandated by the Diocese.

From the Saints

"Take away all evil, and much good would go with it. God's care is to bring good out of the evils that happen, not to abolish them"

(St Thomas Aquinas, 1225-1274)



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

Tuesday or Wednesday

2pm – 4pm or

**Thursday and Friday,
5pm – 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

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £604, of which £128 was gift-aided

Standing orders: £819 @30/04, of which £717 was gift-aided

Mass attendance: 248

Thank you