

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

16th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

NEWSLETTER

Conversing with Our Lord



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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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

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Thorpe Hill
Loughborough LE11 4SQ
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Headteacher: Dr J F Pye

The Apostles having returned from their first solo missionary journey of preaching repentance, casting out demons and anointing and curing the sick now spend some restful time with Our Lord and report on their progress (Mark 6:30-34). The message here is clear. The Apostles had spent considerable energy in preaching and healing the sick and casting out devils, and now they needed to spend some intimate time with Our Lord to recharge their spiritual batteries. And we need to do the same. The Benedictines have as their motto "*ora ET labora*"; that is "*prayer AND work*". It is not either or. So we can spend plenty of time **doing** things for Christ, but it's even more important that we spend time in **quiet contemplation** with Him too. Only spending time with Him can give us the necessary strength, wisdom and energy we need to carry out our spiritual tasks. **Venerable Fulton Sheen** (1895-1979) understood this well because he would often say, "*I pray because I don't have time.*" If we don't spend time in prayer, we won't have much to give others.

We all know prayer isn't easy. The saints knew it was essential but that doesn't mean they found it easy. **St Aloysius Gonzaga** (1568-91) when asked by his spiritual director if he suffered from distractions in prayer responded, "*If I were to sum up all the distractions I have had during the past six months, there wouldn't be enough time to fill the saying of a Hail Mary.*" Even the great **St Teresa of Avila** (1515-82) once said of her prayer time, "*I was more occupied in wishing my hour of prayer were over and in listening whenever the clock struck than in thinking of things that were good.*" So we can all have hope!

However difficult we might find prayer we must never give up trying. When God sees us struggling and striving to speak to Him, however imperfect our efforts, we are being greatly pleasing to Him. We can pray anywhere, but we should always begin by asking God to help us pray well. While it is an excellent thing to pray in church **in front of the Blessed Sacrament** we can also pray in our room at home or on the bus or when we're in the car. There is nothing irreverent about doing that. We may well find it hard to sit in meditation for an hour, but we surely wouldn't find it hard to raise up our heart and

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St Mary Magdalene

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat 17th Vigil Mass
6.00pm For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS

Sun 18th 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am Jan Adamek RIP – PUBLIC MASS
11.15am In Thanksgiving - PUBLIC MASS
4.00pm Italian Mass – PUBLIC MASS

Mon 19th
9.15am Carmela Brunetti RIP - PUBLIC MASS

Tues 20th
9.15am Intention for the living
4.00pm *Baptism*

Weds 21st
6.30pm Intention for the living (Latin, old rite) – PUBLIC MASS

Thurs 22nd St Mary Magdalene (Feast)
9.15am Denise Kabala RIP

Fri 23rd St Bridget of Sweden (Feast)
6.30pm Carolina, Francesco, Carmela, Salvatore, Dave RIP
– PUBLIC MASS

Sat 24th
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: For the Parish – PUBLIC MASS**

Sun 25th 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am In Thanksgiving – PUBLIC MASS
11.15am Chrissie Tuohey RIP - PUBLIC MASS
4.00pm Italian Mass – PUBLIC MASS

Please pray for those who have recently died

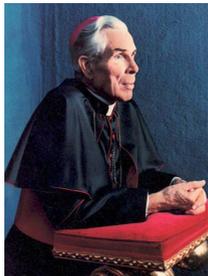
Brother Terry O'Donnell IC
May he rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Harold Wright
Lily Rigley
Domenica Coviello
Margaret Armstead
Amelia Michalski

PLEASE NOTE

Due to government regulations regarding personal data (GDPR), we are not able to publish name details of Mass intentions for the living in this online version of the newsletter.



From the Saints

“The essence of prayer is not the effort to make God give us something. Rather, the purpose of prayer is to give God the opportunity to bestow the gifts He will give us when we are ready to accept them”

(Venerable Fulton Sheen, 1895-1979)

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mind to God several times a day for a minute or so saying short prayers like, "JESUS I love You." "God help me to believe in You." "JESUS, forgive me my sins." Anyone who perseveres with this type of prayer is well on the way to holiness.

St Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-97) admitted to many distractions in prayer, but as soon as she became aware of them she would pray for the people who were diverting her attention. In this way her distractions became spiritually beneficial. We can easily try and cultivate this habit ourselves. And remember, prayer doesn't have to be about holy and lofty spiritual matters. We can tell JESUS about anything; our fears, our aspirations, our concerns and our interests. This is how the Apostles would have spoken with Him. Keep it simple and straight forward and you'll overcome many problems.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Out of isolation: We three priests ended our isolation period on Tuesday with none of us having experienced any Covid-19 symptoms. Thanks be to God. Thank you also for your prayers, offers of help and good wishes during this period. *Fr Paul*

Covid-19 Step 4 Guidance: The Diocese has just issued guidance on churches and public worship from next week. As the measures need to be considered carefully, the measures in place under Stage 3 for the last few weeks will be kept in place during the forthcoming week. Some congregational singing will be permitted. Further guidance will be provided in the Parish Newsletter for the weekend of **24th and 25th July 2021**. *Fr Paul*

July is the month of the Precious Blood: It was revealed to St Mary Magdalen de Pazzi (1566-1607) that she released many souls from Purgatory by saying the following prayer many times a day: "O Eternal Father, I offer Thee, through the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Precious Blood of Thy Son for the relief of the suffering souls in Purgatory." Let us follow her example and try to say this prayer frequently throughout the day. *Fr Paul*

Raising funds for Kwediboma: Marie Brookes will be selling home-made jams and cakes and bric-a-brac at Loughborough Market on **Saturday 24 July**. All proceeds will go to Kwediboma. If you are able to donate any baked items or help her on the day she would really appreciate it. You can contact her on 01509 215180.

Year of St Joseph



Weekly cleaning of the church takes place every Friday between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Thank you to all those who have offered to help. New volunteers are always welcome, so please contact Fr Paul or Emily if you are interested, or just turn up any Friday.

We would appreciate having more volunteers on the rota.

Thank you.

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.

Friday is the Feast of St Bridget of Sweden

She came from a wealthy family and married into the Swedish royal family. She and her husband cared much for people in need and even built a hospital on their own estate which was open to all. When her husband died, she gave away all her possessions and founded the religious order which became known as the Brigittines. During an epidemic in Rome, she personally assisted the sick and dying. Then made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land during which she experienced Christ's presence in prayer visions. Because of her holiness, she was declared a saint only 18 years after her death in 1373. She is the patron saint of Sweden. In 1999, Pope St John Paul II honoured her once more: St Bridget was named co-patron saint of all of Europe along with St Catherine of Siena and St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, or Edith Stein as she was known in life. We can pray to St Bridget asking her to help us care for our neighbour as she did.

Last Rites does not mean Last Minute!

As soon as a person begins to be in danger of death because of illness, injury or old age, the time for anointing has surely already come.

Fr Paul

www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk

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: £462, of which £17 was gift-aided

Apostleship of the Sea: £245

Standing orders: £826 @30/06, of which £726 was gift-aided

Mass attendance: 253

Thank you
