

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

FIRST SUNDAY
OF LENT

NEWSLETTER

Russia and Our Lady of Fatima

We are all deeply concerned about the escalating conflict between Russia and Ukraine. I believe this is all connected with Our Lady's message at **Fatima, Portugal in 1917**. It has been the constant teaching of the Catholic Church that Divine Revelation concluded with the death of the last Apostle and that nothing can be added or changed from the revealed Deposit of Faith. That said, the message of Our Lady of Fatima, who appeared to three shepherd children, Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco, although we would regard it as private revelation, her message is one of vital importance for the entire world, and one which we continue to ignore at our peril.

In July 1917, after showing the three children a vision of Hell, Our Lady said:

"You have seen Hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them God wills to establish throughout the world the devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If people do what I tell you, many souls will be saved, and there will be peace. The war is going to end. But if they do not stop offending God, another and worse war will break out in the reign of Pius XI. When you see a night illumined by an unknown light, know that it is the great sign that God gives you, that He is about to punish the world for its crimes by means of war, hunger, persecution of the Church and of the Holy Father. To forestall this, I shall come to ask for the Consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation of the First Saturdays. If they heed my requests, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace. If not she will spread her errors throughout the world, promoting wars and persecutions of the Church; the good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated; in the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, which will be converted, and some time of peace will be given to the world."

The first part of this prophecy was fulfilled exactly as Our Lady said with the ending of the First World War in 1918, and then the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. The final part, although it is yet to be fulfilled, assures us we are not living in the lead up to the end of the world and the coming of the Anti-Christ, because

Continued on page 3

www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

97 Ashby Road
Loughborough LE11 3AB
01509 262123

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



Ss Perpetua & Felicity

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat 5th **Vigil Mass**
6.00pm John Saunders (RIP)

Sun 6th **First Sunday of Lent**
9.00am Lavinia Molly Bedell (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm Italian Mass

Mon 7th **Lenten Feria (Commem Ss Perpetua & Felicity)**
9.15am Intention for the living
12.30pm *Requiem Mass for Marta Moson RIP*

Tues 8th **Lenten Feria (Commem St John of God)**
9.15am Patrick Ready (RIP)

Weds 9th **Ember Wednesday of Lent**
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary (in church)*
6.30pm Special intention (Latin, old rite)

Thurs 10th **Lenten Feria**
9.15am Patrick Lavery (RIP)
6.30pm *Holy Hour for Peace in Ukraine*

Fri 11th **Lenten Feria**
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm Barbara Heath (RIP)
7.10pm *Stations of the Cross*

Sat 12th **Lenten Feria**
10.00am Stephen O'Rourke (RIP) - **Not open to the public**
10.30am *Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*
-12.30pm *with Confessions 10.30-11.30am*
2.30pm *Baptism: Harry Preddy*
6.00pm **Vigil Mass: Katarzyna Hönl (RIP)**

Sun 13th **Second Sunday of Lent**
9.00am Victor, Lucy, Joseph, James & Martin (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm Italian Mass

This week at St Mary's

Mon 7th: First Holy Communion Class - 4.15pm in the Hall
Weds 9th: UCM - 2.00pm in the Hall

Please pray for those who have recently died

Jamie Cardwell
Pat Newby
Biasina Sepede
May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Ingeborg Cox
Winifred Howard
Laura Pietryzk
Suzanne Burdett

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.

Continued from front page

Russia will be converted and a period of peace will be granted to the world. Our Lady asked for the Consecration of **Russia** to her Immaculate Heart by the pope in union with the world's bishops. Various popes since Pius XII have made various consecrations to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, but have not consecrated Russia specifically in union with the bishops of the world. This is a controversial point, but **Pope St John Paul II** in 1984 made a consecration of the world to the Immaculate Heart. He wanted to say Russia, but the diplomats wouldn't allow him to do so for fear it would cause political problems. Some argue that by consecrating the world, Russia was included. While I don't doubt that the 1984 Consecration brought benefits, like the collapse of the Iron Curtain, I think we can see that Russia has yet to be converted and the promised period of peace we are still awaiting. Therefore the 1984 Consecration would seem not to have fully satisfied Our Lady's request. Our Lord Himself, made it known to Sister Lucia in 1931 that the Holy Father will make the Consecration, but that it will be late. **Amazingly, the Catholic bishops of Ukraine, this last Ash Wednesday, asked the Pope to consecrate Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart as Our Lady requested.**

We may have little influence in world politics, but we can all strive to fulfil Our Lady's requests, by prayer and penance, making the **Five First Saturdays Devotion** and praying the **DAILY Rosary**. Let us also use this time in Lent to pray in earnest for peace in the world and for the Pope to be given the grace to consecrate Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the manner she requested at Fatima.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Fridays in Lent after the 6.30pm Mass for which you may gain a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions.

The Diocesan Draft Response to the Synod is on the parish website (see address below). If you have any responses to the draft, please email them to Fr David Cain by **Saturday 19th March**; his email address is given in the document.

The 'Deanery Roadshow' will be at Sacred Heart this **Thursday 10th March** from 7 to 8.30pm The Bishop will be present to discuss the Synod responses and future organisation of the diocese with the reduced numbers of priests. While it has been proposed to link Sacred Heart, Loughborough with Sileby, there is no proposal to change anything at St Mary's for the present. All are welcome to attend.

UKRAINE CRISIS

Collection for refugees

Please see the notice boards at the back of church for information about the items being collected for the Ukrainian refugees in Poland and where they can be taken. Collections are being organised by the Polish Social Club in Loughborough and students from Loughborough University.

British Red Cross Appeal

As the security situation allows, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society (URCS) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will continue to respond to existing and emerging humanitarian needs. The Red Cross has supported people affected by this conflict for years and this will not stop now. Your donation could help someone affected get food, water, first aid, medicines, warm clothes and shelter. To donate, go to <https://donate.redcross.org.uk>.

There will be a Holy Hour for peace in Ukraine this Thursday 10th March starting at 6.30pm and during which we will pray the Holy Rosary. Please come and join us if you can. *Fr Paul*

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.

Marie Brookes raised £167.60 from her sale of cakes and jams last weekend. She will be donating this to the Bridge's 'fuel-poverty' appeal and would like to thank everyone who gave their support.

Amherst School are having an Open Day on Saturday 19th March from 8.30am. For details, anyone interested can contact the school registrar, Katie Sidwell, at k.sidwell@lsf.org

CAFOD Lent Fast Day is next Friday 11th March. Envelopes are available today for you to take and then return next weekend with what you have saved.

The visiting group wishes to express their profound gratitude to its founder Mrs Angela Pearson for the good work she has done with the group. This group checks up on families of bereaved parishioners with home visits or telephone contacts to offer a word of prayer, chat etc. If you would like to know more about the group, do contact Cynthia Tuuli on 07756217229 or Fr Paul.



From the Saints

"I have come to warn the faithful to amend their lives and ask pardon for their sins. They must not continue to offend Our Lord, Who is already too much offended."

Our Lady of Fatima, 1917

Public Masses

All Masses with the exception of the 10.00am Mass on Saturday - unless it is a first Saturday - are now open to the public.

Catholic Life at St Mary's School

Ashes were distributed to the school children by Fr David on Ash Wednesday; he explained at age appropriate level the significance of this. The school will continue to support various charities throughout Lent notably the CAFOD walk, the aid to the Ukraine appeal and the Loughborough Food Bank. The children will take part in Stations of the Cross and Lenten liturgies throughout the coming weeks. *Jane Monaghan*

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £501 (of which £160 was gift-aided)

Standing orders: £816 @31/01 (of which £710 was gift-aided)

Attendance: 347

Thank you
