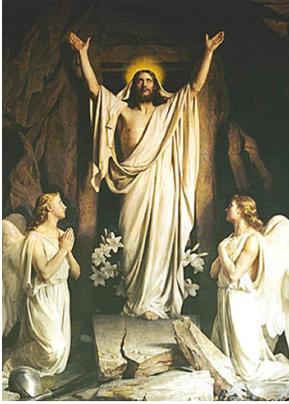


St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

EASTER SUNDAY

NEWSLETTER



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
T: 01509 268739
enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Dr J F Pye

The Resurrection is our only hope

The Resurrection of Christ from the dead which we celebrate today means everything to us. It is the central doctrine of Christianity. Without it, everything is meaningless. The Resurrection means that JESUS is still alive and saving souls **now**. He is saving us **now**. We cannot be saved by a dead Saviour. Christ didn't just rise from the dead. He **is** risen.

The Resurrection proves that everything in the Catholic Faith is true. Everything JESUS taught and that has been handed down by the Church He founded is guaranteed infallibly, because God can neither deceive nor be deceived. **If Christ is physically risen from the dead, so also will the faithful members of His Church rise physically to eternal life and victory in Him at the end of time.**

Many of the Jews in the Old Testament believed in the resurrection even if they didn't understand it fully. The Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob believed the Lord would raise us up from the dead, and so did the prophets. Isaiah said, *"Thy dead shall live, their bodies shall rise. O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy"* (26:19). The prophet Daniel speaks of the difference between the resurrection of the good and of the wicked when he said, *"Some shall awake unto life everlasting and some to shame and everlasting contempt"* (12:2). And then the prophet Ezekiel said, *"Behold I will open your graves, and bring you out of your sepulchres ... and you shall know that I am the Lord when I shall have opened up your sepulchres"* (37:12,13). Faith in the resurrection of the dead and of the life to come enabled Job to endure all his sufferings and trials. *"For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that in the last day I shall rise out of the earth. And I shall be clothed again with my skin, and in my flesh I will see my God"* (19:25-26).

But it is in the **Gospel** this truth is most clearly taught. Our Lord not only taught it but made it so evident through His many miracles, such as the raising of Jairus' daughter from the dead (Mark 5:21-43). Even more spectacularly He brought Lazarus back to life after he had been in the tomb four days (John 11:1-44). And most extraordinary of all, on the third day **He raised Himself up from the dead**. This faith in the resurrection of Christ and the promise

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Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died

Ann Wall
Filomena Gobi Varallo

May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Giovanni Palmieri,
Maurice Welband,
Ann Checketts,
Mary Margaret Walsh,
Edward J Connell,
Peter Cawley,
Jeff Field,
Tadensz Robert Misiura,
Joan Brain.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat 16th Holy Saturday
8.00pm Solemn Mass of the Easter Vigil: Anne Checketts (RIP)

Sun 17th EASTER SUNDAY
9.00am Phyllis & Aislabie Harrison (RIP, Anniversary)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm **No Italian Mass**

Mon 18th Octave of Easter
10.30am* Family Intention

Tues 19th Octave of Easter
9.15am John Merwick Senior (RIP)

Weds 20th Octave of Easter
2.30pm *Funeral Service: Ann Wall (RIP)*
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary (in church)*
6.30pm Fr Maurice Stokes (RIP) (Latin old rite) **No Public Mass**

Thurs 21st Octave of Easter
9.15am Pat Newby (RIP)

Fri 22nd Octave of Easter
6.00-6.30pm *Confessions*
6.30pm Pat Newby (RIP)

Sat 23rd Octave of Easter
10am Marcella Sepede (RIP) **No Public Mass**
10.30am *Private Prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am*
-12.30pm **Vigil Mass:** Pat Newby (RIP)

Sun 24th Divine Mercy Sunday
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am Andy Newbold (RIP)
2.30pm *Baptism:* Leo Kondracki
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

*** Please note:**
Mass on Easter Monday, being a bank holiday, will be at 10.30am.

Easter Day Collection: This will go towards parish funds, which are used to support the priests and maintain the presbytery and the church. If you wish to make a personal offering directly to the priests, please use the white (IOC) envelopes.

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of our own resurrection is what inspired the Apostles and all the martyrs and helped them to endure all their terrible tortures. It gives purpose to life, and helps us endure our trials and sufferings. It gives meaning to our Lenten penances.

The bodily Resurrection of Christ is a historical fact, but it is also a sign to us of what He is doing to us now and of our future destiny. God created us **soul and body** and they are meant to be together, so God **saves** both and **resurrects** both. **He is preparing our souls and bodies right now for resurrection to eternal life.** This began in **Baptism** when the seed was planted. It was strengthened in **Confirmation** and fed in the **Holy Eucharist** and then healed through **Confession** and the **Anointing of the Sick** and finally the **Last Rites**. The empty tomb and the Resurrection of Christ from the dead is our hope. It is our *only* hope. Let us rejoice as we now sing again, Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Happy Easter to you from all the priests!

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Divine Mercy Sunday: Next Sunday 24th April is Divine Mercy Sunday. Our Lord told St Faustina that **“The soul that will go to Confession and shall receive Holy Communion shall receive the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment”** (Diary 699). He went on to say, **“I want to grant complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy”** (Diary 1109). There will be the Solemn Blessing of the Divine Mercy image as requested by Our Lord at all Masses next weekend and extra opportunities for Confession. It is required of all Catholics to confess at least once a year. If you haven't yet met this obligation, I encourage you to take advantage of this outstanding opportunity to receive an outpouring of the graces that JESUS promises us on this Feast. There are detailed leaflets explaining the Feast at the back of the church.

Fr Paul

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Melwood in honour of Saint Augustine Webster will be led by Bishop Patrick on Saturday 7th May. The Rosary begins at 12.00 noon on the road about 400m from the farm and ends where Mass will be celebrated. Please bring a chair, and a picnic which can be eaten outside. See the poster on the notice board, or contact Jane Sarsfield (jane.sarsfield@talk21.com or 01724 711434) for more information.

A new ‘then and now’ booklet with 20 photos of St Mary's Church taken in 1931 and 2022 respectively is available now. This fascinating historical printed record can be picked up from the back of the church, price £2.

UKRAINE CRISIS

Ways you can help

If you wish to make a financial contribution to help the Church minister to those suffering in Ukraine, one way to do this is through **Aid to the Church in Need**. Go to <https://acnuk.org/>

CAFOD is working closely with Caritas Ukraine, Caritas Poland and others, who are already there delivering practical help to those most in need. To give to CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal go to <https://cafod.org.uk/Ukraine>.

As the security situation allows, the **Ukrainian Red Cross Society** and the **International Committee of the Red Cross** will continue to respond to humanitarian needs. Your donation could provide food, water, first aid, medicines, warm clothes and shelter. Go to <https://donate.redcross.org.uk>.

De Lisle College Open Days 2022

10,11,12 May. Three sessions: 9.00am, 9.15am & 10.00am.

To book tel 01509 268739, email: enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk

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.

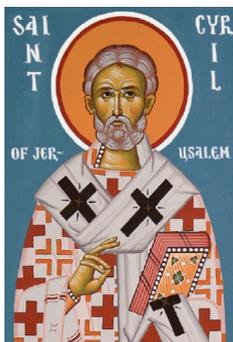
Journey in Hope is a series for members of parish outreach groups who would like to regroup and explore new mission challenges after the Covid-19 lockdown. Six reflective Eastertide sessions, inspired by Scripture and the writings of Pope Francis, take place on Zoom on Tuesdays at 7.00pm from 3rd May. You can find out more at bit.ly/JourneyinHopeSessions, and book your place at bit.ly/JourneyinHopeZoom.

Talking Philosophy: a Carmelite Perspective – Reading & Discussion Zoom Group – Open to All meets on Wednesday 4th May, at 8.00pm and finishing at 10.00pm. More information is available from Deacon James Hunter: james.hunter200@btinternet.com

From the Saints

“With this body you shall rise from the dead to be judged... Can't He, Who brought what didn't exist into existence, raise up again what, already in existence, has decayed? Will He, Who raises up the grain for us when it dies, year after year, have difficulty in raising us up – those for whose sake the grain has been raised?”

St Cyril of Jerusalem, 315-386



And I would walk 500

miles ... in May, Fr Joe Wheat, one of our Vicars General, is walking Hadrian's Wall over 6 days to raise money for Rainbows Hospice Loughborough and the Lewis Sewell Memorial Trust. The link to a Just Giving page is here <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/WalkforLewis-aHadriansWallChallenge> Lewis died in August 2020 at the age of 18, the son of friends of Fr Joe. Rainbows Hospice was where Lewis spent his last few days and died. Any support would be gratefully received.

The Diocese of

Nottingham Synodal Submission is now available. It is rather long, but there are some hard copies at the back of the church, or you may find it on the parish website.

CAFOD have written to thank you for your generous donation of £404 for the Family Fast Day.

Fr Paul

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £667 (of which £195 was gift-aided)

Standing orders: £808 @31/03 (of which £700 was gift-aided)

Attendance: 324

Thank you