

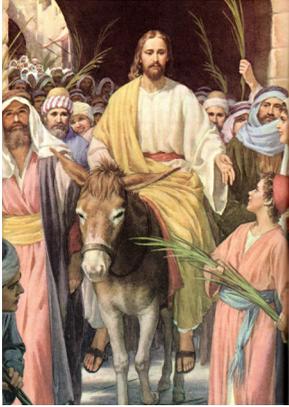
# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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## PALM SUNDAY

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# NEWSLETTER



### St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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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

## Will you be there?

The events that will be happening in church this week are better than any movie you have ever seen or ever will see. Be sure not to miss any of it, otherwise you won't get the full plot!

**Holy Week** begins today, **Palm Sunday**, when we commemorate JESUS' triumphal entry into Jerusalem when the Jews cried out, "*Hosanna to the Son of David!*" and strew palm branches and garments in His path. Palms will be blessed and we will walk in solemn procession with them. The words of today's Second Reading summarise the whole of Holy Week: "*Christ did not cling to His equality with God, but emptied Himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became obedient even unto death, death on a cross. But God raised Him high...*" (Philippians 2:7-8).

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are fairly quiet, but during this time Judas plots his betrayal of Christ. Then begins the **Sacred Triduum**: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. These are the three holiest days of the year.

On **Holy Thursday** we celebrate the **Mass of the Last Supper**, where Our Lord at the Passover meal with His disciples instituted the Most Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. He changed the bread and wine into His own Body and Blood, and then instituted the Priesthood by saying to the Apostles, "*Do this in memory of Me.*" He also washed their feet. In the Old Testament this was done before priestly ordination. So Our Lord washed the feet of the Apostles because He was about to ordain them His first priests. Without the Priesthood there is no Holy Eucharist, there is no Mass, so let us give thanks for this double gift. The bells are rung at the Gloria of this Mass and then they remain silent until the Gloria of the Easter Vigil. At the Consecration, a ratchet or noise maker is used instead to indicate that we have now entered into a time of mourning. Then we will have the beautiful **Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose** where there will be Watching until 10.30pm. Adore Our Lord as He passes you in the procession and then spend some time with Him as the Apostles did in the Garden of Gethsemane. "*My soul is sorrowful even unto death. Remain here and keep watch with Me*" (Matthew 26:28). The altars in the church are stripped and the tabernacle is left empty.

*Continued on page 3*



## MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

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**Sat 9th**      **Vigil Mass**  
6.00pm      Clelia Paciolla (RIP)

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**Sun 10th**      **Palm Sunday**  
9.00am      For the Parish  
11.15am      Genina & Giuseppe Romano (RIP)  
4.00pm      Italian Mass

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**Mon 11th**      **Monday of Holy Week**  
9.15am      Deceased members of the Pagani family

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**Tues 12th**      **Tuesday of Holy Week**  
9.15am      Cillian Boyle (RIP)

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**Weds 13th**      **Wednesday of Holy Week**  
11.30am      Chrism Mass, St Barnabas Cathedral  
6.00-6.25pm      *Parish Rosary (in church)*  
6.30pm      Special Intention (Latin, old rite)

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**Thurs 14th**      **Maundy Thursday**  
6.30pm      Solemn Mass of the Last Supper and Procession to the Altar of Repose followed by Watching until 10.30pm  
For all Priests

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**Fri 15th**      **Good Friday**  
10am      *Children's Stations of the Cross in the Church Hall*  
3.00pm      Sacred Liturgy of the Passion  
7.00pm      *Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions*

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

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

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**Saturday Mass:** The Saturday Mass at 10am is currently only open to the public on the first Saturday of the month and when specified in the newsletter.

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**Chrism Mass:** The Bishop will be celebrating this Mass on Wednesday at 11.30 am in the Cathedral during which the Holy Oils for the year will be blessed. Parishioners are welcome to attend. The Mass will also be live-streamed through the Cathedral's website.

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**Please pray 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**

Sr Mary Magdalen Ferguson  
Jean Whieldon  
Adam Hill  
Tom Pelosi  
Charles Pears  
Margaret Pascall  
Edward Loftus  
John Hussey  
Sharon Biddles  
Genina Romano

### 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*

I have explained many times how the Mass makes Christ's sacrificial death on Calvary present. But **Good Friday** is the day it actually happened, so we don't celebrate Mass on this day because we are living the reality. We don't consecrate the bread and wine on Good Friday because it is actually happening in front of us. But after the solemn unveiling and adoration of the Cross, Holy Communion is distributed. During this Liturgy, think of standing at the foot of the cross with Our Lady, St John and St Mary Magdalene, and if you receive Holy Communion, recall that the word 'host' means 'victim'.

Then comes **Holy Saturday** which is a day of quiet meditation as Our Lord's body is in the tomb, but His soul is in **Limbo announcing the Redemption** to the Holy Souls, who because of the sin of Adam and Eve, up until now, could not enter Heaven. Then in the evening we celebrate the **Easter Vigil** which is the climax of Holy Week with the solemn blessing of the Easter Fire and the Procession of the Paschal Candle into the dark church symbolising the Risen Christ Himself, Who is *"the light of the world"* (John 9:5). We listen to the prophecies foretelling these events, and then at the Gloria, the bells ring jubilantly, the organ is played and the Alleluia is heard again as **Christ's triumphant Resurrection** is announced to the world. He is victorious over death and Satan. We will also share the joy of those being baptised, and we renew our own Baptismal Promises, being determined to follow Christ ever more faithfully. Will you be there?  
*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

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**Good Friday** (15th April) is a day of fasting and abstinence. This means Catholics who are 18 years and above, until their 59th birthday (when you begin your 60th year), are bound to fast (one full meal in the day, and perhaps some food at a couple of points). All Catholics who are 14 years old and above are bound to abstain from meat.

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### **Knights of St. Columba**

THIS SUNDAY - This year's enactment of the events of Holy Week by young adults of the Loughborough area parishes, as their contribution to the ceremonies of Holy Week, is at 7.00pm here in St. Mary's this Palm Sunday evening, 10th April. We hope that you will as usual support them with your participation in this liturgy. Thank you"

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**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>.

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### **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](mailto: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.

## Holy Week Indulgences:

The Church grants a Plenary Indulgence for the following during Holy Week: On Maundy Thursday by reciting the Eucharistic hymn Tantum ergo (Therefore we before Him bending) during the solemn veneration of the Blessed Sacrament; on Good Friday by venerating the cross during the solemn celebration of the Lord's Passion; and on Holy Saturday by renewing your Baptismal Vows during the solemn celebration of the Easter Vigil. In addition one must be free from attachment to sin, make a sacramental Confession and receive Holy Communion and recite an Our Father and Hail Mary for the Pope's Intention. If you don't manage to fulfil all the conditions, the Indulgence is partial.

*Fr Paul*

## From the Saints

*"The death of the Lord our God should not be a cause of shame for us; rather, it should be our greatest hope, our greatest glory. In taking upon Himself the death that He found in us, He has most faithfully promised to give us life in Him, such as we cannot have of ourselves."*

St Augustine of Hippo, 354-430



## Pre-Easter Church

**Cleaning** takes place on this Wednesday 13th April from 11am to 12.30pm. It would be great to have more volunteers for this special time of year, to get the church, including the side chapel, ready for Easter. Please feel free to turn up on the day. Thank you.

No cleaning on Friday 22nd April; usual weekly cleaning resumes on Friday 29th April from 11am to 12.30pm. New volunteers always welcome.

## 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.

## Last Week's Finance

**Collection:** £451 (of which £102 was gift-aided)

**Standing orders:** £818 @28/02 (of which £710 was gift-aided)

**Attendance:** 324

*Thank you*