

# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

FIFTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER

# NEWSLETTER



## Preparing souls to meet God

In last week's newsletter I wrote about the **priesthood and vocations**, and about how we need priests because the priest acting 'in persona Christi' ('in the person of Christ') prepares souls for Heaven and seeks to bring those entrusted to his care to eternal salvation. A priest is not a priest for himself but for others.

There was once a Catholic priest who worked extremely hard in the Midwest of America in the early 1900s. He rode his horse thousands of miles going from village to village to celebrate Mass and administer the Sacraments to the few Catholics who lived in those areas. One day, after he had finished Mass a lady said to him, "Father, have you heard about old man Jones? He's dying." The priest immediately took the Blessed Sacrament, his holy oils and ritual and followed the woman's son, also on a horse who led him many miles through the woods. Finally they arrived in a dilapidated one-room cabin. The priest entered and saw the bed in the corner with the old man lying there emaciated from cancer. He was just skin and bones. When the man saw the priest dressed in his black cassock, he said, "Father, I knew you would come." The priest immediately heard the man's **confession, anointed him** and gave the **Apostolic Pardon**. The death rasp had already begun, so the priest knelt down by the bed, held the man's hand and began to pray the Rosary. As evening came, the sun went down and the cabin became darker and darker. Suddenly this very weak dying man sat up in bed and exclaimed, "I see the Blessed Virgin and she's smiling at you and me!" The priest turned around quickly, but all he could see was darkness. When he turned back the old man was dead. The priest said, "I stayed there kneeling on the floor holding the old man's hand until they went cold. Then I cried and thanked God that I was a priest."

What a grace it is to die a happy death with the Sacraments of the Church. It is something we should all pray for, and that there will be a priest to anoint us when our time comes. What a privilege it is for a priest to help people die well. If you're declining in health due to old age or serious illness and that death is a possibility, please call one of us priests to give you the Sacrament of the Sick. Father is

### 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

*Continued on page 3*

[www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk](http://www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk)



St Dunstan

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died

Giuseppina Giorgio,  
Greg O'Connor  
*May they rest in peace*

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Peter Darleston  
Anna Pelosi  
Anna Krauze  
Irene Callis  
Tony Wade  
Jo Sparano  
Ellen Ramsbottom  
Harry Oakley  
Lidia Orzeszek  
Patricia Drane  
Katie Mercer

#### 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

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**Sat 14th Vigil Mass**  
6.00pm Greg O'Connor (RIP)

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**Sun 15th Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
9.00am For the Parish  
11.15am Stella Gurney (RIP)  
4.00pm Italian Mass

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**Mon 16th Easter Feria**  
9.15am Jan & Maria Adamek (RIP)

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**Tues 17th Easter Feria**  
9.15am Vito Caruso (RIP, Anniversary)

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**Weds 18th St Venantius, Martyr**  
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary (in church)*  
6.30pm Special Intention (Latin, old rite)

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**Thurs 19th St Dunstan (Memoria)**  
9.15am Peter Allen (RIP)

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**Fri 20th St Bernadine of Siena (Memoria)**  
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*  
6.30pm In honour of St Padre Pio

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**Sat 21st Easter Feria**  
10.00am Vera Cunningham (RIP) **No Public Mass**  
10.30am *Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*  
-12.30pm *with Confessions 10.30-11.30am*  
6.00pm **Vigil Mass:** Keith Newton (RIP)

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**Sun 22nd Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
9.00am Tadeusz & Joanna Kalinowski (RIP)  
11.15am Intention for the Living  
4.00pm Italian Mass

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### This week at St Mary's

**Mon 16th** First Holy Communion Class - 4.15pm in the Hall

**Tues 17th** Exploring the Gospel of Mark - 7pm in the Library

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*Continued from front page*

not too busy for this! Similarly, if a loved one of yours is in the hospital and death is a possibility, call the priest to anoint them in plenty of time. Don't leave it till the last minute as Father could be out elsewhere. Remember, this is the supreme moment in our lives. Also, anyone in poor health or who is about to undergo serious surgery qualifies to receive the Sacrament.

Something else I particularly want to mention, because people generally don't know about it, is the **Apostolic Pardon**. You should know what this is, because not all priests will automatically do it. When a person is dying, the Apostolic Pardon forgives **temporal punishment** due to our sins, but not the sins themselves which is why it is usually administered with Confession and Anointing. If we die in a state of grace, if anything remains from our lives for which we have not done sufficient penance, the temporal punishment for those sins is completely forgiven through the Apostolic Pardon. The words the priest uses are: *"By the faculty given to me by the Apostolic See, I grant you a plenary indulgence and the remission of all your sins, and I bless you. In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."*

Normally, an Apostolic Pardon is something only the Pope can give, and as you know a Plenary Indulgence also requires one to go to Confession, receive Holy Communion and pray for the Pope's Intentions, all of which may not be possible for someone who is dying. If the dying person is **properly disposed** to receive the Plenary Indulgence, he/she doesn't need to go to Confession, receive Holy Communion or pray for the Pope's Intentions. The Indulgence is given them there and then by the priest which would mean they go straight to Heaven. What a magnificent gift from Our Lord and the Church which priests can use. *"From a sudden and unprovided death, spare us, O Lord."*

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

**Gift Aid:** New boxed sets of envelopes for UK tax-paying parishioners are available at weekend Masses on **15th and 22nd May**. Please remember to take home the box bearing your name. All gift-aiders will receive their annual letter, by either hand or post. Our gift-aided income for 2021/22 exceeded £46K which brought in £11.3k refunds from HMRC. **Any member of our congregation** currently paying UK tax on their income can join this effective (painless) form of fundraising. Please help to increase our regular collection income that slumped during the lockdowns. Complete the yellow form at the Repository and drop it into the collection or church post box. Thank you.

*Geoff Mercer*

**Grub Club:** We are pleased to announce that Grub Club will reopen, after all, for four or five weeks this summer. Working with John Storer House and The Bridge, we are running sessions at the very well-equipped United Reform Church community rooms on Frederick Street. To support the initiative we are looking for volunteers, 18 or older, to commit to at least three sessions for the whole period. We need people for meet & greet, kitchen duties, activities and general housekeeping. Full training will be given. Interested? Get in touch. All you need is enthusiasm and a desire to help families who may struggle to feed and entertain their young children this summer. Contact Catherine Brady: [catherinemarybrady@gmail.com](mailto:catherinemarybrady@gmail.com) or Eileen Smith: [egs46@aol.com](mailto:egs46@aol.com).

**The next Food Bank collection** will be on **Saturday 21st May** in the church car park 10.30 - 11.00am. Items requested: microwave sachets of rice and noodles, tea bags, small jars of coffee and drinking chocolate, long life milk, canned soup but no perishable foodstuffs. A huge thank you for your continued support of this venture. *Jane Monaghan*

## 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.
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**Rosminian Vocations:** “Come, follow Me”, says the Lord. Come and discern whether you may have a call to follow Him along the splendid path marked by Blessed Antonio Rosmini. We live in communities, helping each other along the way to holiness. We have set aside a weekend for anyone thinking of giving his life to the Lord. The venue is the Rosmini Centre House of Prayer, 433 Fosse Way, Ratcliffe on the Wreake LE7 4SJ on **Saturday 21st to Sunday 22nd May**. Starts 11am Saturday and finishes 4pm Sunday. Please call 01509 813078 or e-mail aabelsito@hotmail.com or office@stmarysloughborough.org.uk

**Happy & Glorious:** Bishop Patrick warmly invites you to a joyful celebration to mark the life and service of Her Majesty the Queen on **Thursday 2nd June**, at 7pm, in St Barnabas Cathedral. The programme will include Handel’s ‘Zadok the Priest’ and the Coronation Mass by Mozart. See the poster on the noticeboard.

**Sunday Mass Obligation:** The Bishops’ Conference have issued a letter about returning in person to Mass at Pentecost (**Sunday 5th June**). You will find the letter on the parish website and there are also copies at the back of the church.

**There will be a Corpus Christi Procession** in Nottingham on **Sunday 19th June**, starting at 2pm; it will be led by Bishop Patrick. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for details.



## From the Saints

*“Think often of death, so as to prepare for it and appraise things at their true value.”*

St Elizabeth Ann Seton, 1774-1821

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**The Christian Leadership Formation Programme** is running again, and is open to applications from students in Lower Sixth (Year 12), with a deadline of **Friday 3rd June**. The programme is for students who are actively committed to their faith, intellectually gifted, and who are committed to shaping a Christian society through their careers. It provides a spiritual and philosophical/theological formation in the Catholic tradition around themes relating to the common good, as well as workshops in skills pertaining to public life. Scholarships are available.

More information and the application form are available at: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/clf/>. Information about last year’s first module is at: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/media/christian-leadership-formation-takes-off/>

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## Last Week’s Finance

**First collection:** £485 (of which £118 was gift-aided)

**Clergy Formation Fund:** £272 (of which £50 was gift-aided)

**Standing orders:** £813 @30/04 (of which £700 was gift-aided)

**Attendance:** 397

*Thank you*

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