

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

PENTECOST SUNDAY

NEWSLETTER

Come Holy Spirit and set us on fire!

Today we celebrate the great Feast of **Pentecost** when the Holy Spirit, as Our Lord had promised, came down upon Our Lady and the Apostles and the **Catholic Church** was founded. When Our Lord was on earth He laid the **foundations** for His Church, but the references were always in the future tense. *“You are Peter and upon this rock I will build My Church”* (Matthew 16:18). Neither did He say ‘churches’, but ‘Church - in the singular. So there is only one Church and that is the Catholic Church, which He established and which enjoys divine rights over the Deposit of Faith and the Sacraments and which came to birth at Pentecost.

This is also a feast about **fire** which challenges us to come out of our sometimes lazy and tepid Christian lives. Our Lord said, *“I have come to cast a fire upon the earth”* (Luke 12:49). This is the fire of the Holy Spirit, which transforms us, refines us and purifies us and emboldens us.

What kind of men were the Apostles before Pentecost? They were rough, ignorant and timid, but also ambitious, because they were hoping for personal glory here on earth. Then the Crucifixion came, their hearts sank and they deserted JESUS. The Resurrection restored their faith but they still lacked courage and enterprise. So they gathered in the Upper Room in hiding for fear of the Jews, waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit Whom Our Lord promised would come to enlighten them, teach them all truth and give them the courage and ability to spread the Faith throughout the world. Then fifty days after the Resurrection on the Jewish feast of Pentecost, *“they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from Heaven”*. There appeared *“tongues of fire which settled on them”* (Acts 2:1). From this moment when they received the Holy Spirit they were utterly transformed. Their minds were infused with supernatural light, their hearts were overflowing with love, and they received courage and strength to withstand all human opposition. Then they went out and began openly preaching the Gospel of JESUS Christ. Their preaching was heard by each listener in their own language so that the light of the Gospel could be given to all. Neither did they show any fear when

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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

De Lisle College

Thorpe Hill
Loughborough LE11 4SQ
01509 268739

enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Dr J F Pye

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June, Month of the Sacred Heart

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died

Alan Creighton

Pietro Lallo

Jack Paisley

Tony Jackson

Greg O'Connor

May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Maureen Connell

William Gallagher

Frank Kozimor

Eddie Hamilton

Rae Hagan

Anthony McAllister

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 4th Vigil Mass
6.00pm Andrew Carr (RIP)

Sun 5th Pentecost
9.00am Charles O'Toole (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm Italian Mass

Mon 6th BVM, Mother of the Church (Memoria)
9.15am Pat Newby (RIP)

Tues 7th Feria
9.15am Christian Carullo (RIP)

Weds 8th Pentecost Wednesday (Ember Day)
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary (in church)*
6.30pm Brian & Kitty McDermot (RIP) (Latin, old rite)

Thurs 9th Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest (Feast)
9.15am For all Priests

Fri 10th Feria
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm Tom Tyler (RIP)
Confirmation

Sat 11th St Barnabas (Feast)
10.00am Intention for the living **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:** Filomena Gobi Varallo (RIP)

Sun 12th The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am Andy Newbold (RIP)
4.00pm Italian Mass

This week at St Mary's

Mon 6th First Holy Communion Class - 4.15pm in the Hall
Tues 7th Exploring the Gospel of Mark - 7.00pm in the Library
Weds 8th UCM - 2.00pm in the Hall
Thurs 9th RCIA - 7.00pm in the Library

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they had to face the wrath of the Synagogue or Jewish officials. After this they went out into the whole world to win it for Christ.

The Holy Spirit accomplished in them what armies have never been able to do except perhaps in a very limited way. But God used these weak and ignorant men to conquer the world for Christ so it would be obvious that God's power was with them.

But what of today? We can become depressed when we see the state of the world and the state of the Church. We are constantly told the Church is dying, but the Church can never die, because Christ is alive and His Mystical Body, the Catholic Church, is vivified by the eternal Spirit Who can never die. **The Spirit is the very soul of the Church which can no more be destroyed than the soul of an infant.** The Church throughout history has been attacked and betrayed from within and from without just as She is today. But the Church will never die because Christ can never die again. All the old heresies, errors and betrayals being regurgitated in the Church today will disappear again just as they did in the past, so that in the end He will be glorified in His Mystical Body just as He is now in His physical Body.

So what does this mean for us? Too many Christians are silent today out of fear, perhaps fear of being called names or of being unpopular or not being able to answer difficult questions. Sometimes we can be very comfortable in the "Upper Room" of the parish, but once outside we retreat into silence. The Holy Spirit wants to change that! Pray to Him and ask Him to light a fire in **you!** We need to win souls for Christ. The spread of the Gospel is in your hands. Be not afraid. **Come Holy Spirit and enkindle in us the fire of Your love!**

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Forty Hours Devotion: The Loughborough Deanery will be celebrating Forty Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament leading up to the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. Mass will be celebrated each day at 9.30am followed by all day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Benediction at 8pm. The dates and venues are as follows: **Monday 13th June** at Holy Cross, Whitwick; **Tuesday 14th June** at St Mary's Loughborough; **Thursday 16th June** at St Wilfrid's, Coalville; and **Friday 17th June** at Loughborough University Chaplaincy. I hope many parishioners will support this especially here and at the University which falls within the parish. Signing up sheets for St Mary's are at the entrance to the church.

Fr Paul

The Queen



As the country celebrates this weekend the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, we send her our warmest congratulations and give thanks to God for her long reign and the dedicated service she has given to our country and the Commonwealth over seven decades, fulfilling the promise she made on her accession to the throne in 1952. Throughout her reign, she has been guided by her strong Christian faith and has won the hearts of her people through a life of dignity, respect and commitment to them. There will be special prayers for Her Majesty at this weekend's Masses. *Ad multos annos!* God save the Queen!

Almighty God, we pray that your servant Elizabeth, our Queen, who, by your providence has received the governance of this realm, may continue to grow in every virtue, that, imbued with your heavenly grace, she may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil and, being blessed with your favour may, with the royal family, come at last into your presence, through Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

Calling Foundations Governors: Bishop Patrick McKinney is seeking to appoint new foundation governors to our diocesan schools. See the poster on the notice board for further information.

Parish Census: We invite all households to complete the Parish Census Form issued by the Diocese, copies of which can be collected from the back of the church. A copy is also available to download from the website. Even if you have provided the information requested on the form in the past, we would ask you to do so again so that we can check that the details we hold for you are correct. Please return your completed form to the presbytery no later than **31st July 2022**. If we have not heard from you by that date, any information previously provided will be removed from the database.

June is the month of the Sacred Heart. The Sacred Heart of JESUS represents His love for humanity and inspires us to remember how much JESUS loves us, while also growing in our desire to love Him back. We especially need to love Him with so many who do not know about or outright reject His love. *“Behold the Heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing, even to exhausting and consuming Itself, in order to testify Its love; and in return, I receive from the greater part only ingratitude, by their irreverence and sacrilege, and by the coldness and contempt they have for Me in this sacrament of love.”* – Our Lord to St Margaret Mary Alacoque, 1675.



From the Saints

“As the soul is the life of the body, so the Holy Spirit is the life of our souls.”

St Peter Damian, 1001-1072

First Holy Communions

will take place at both Masses on **Sunday 19th June**. The 11.15am Mass will be followed by a short Corpus Christi Procession and Benediction.

Hand sanitising: From this **Monday 6th June** onwards, stewards will stop sanitising parishioners hands before they receive the Holy Communion.

Sanitisers will still be available at the entrances and exits. You are encouraged to use the sanitiser when entering the church. Also please be reminded to remove your face covering **before** the priest gives you the Host.

Loughborough Deanery

Roadshow: The second Deanery Roadshow, discussing the Synod and Parish amalgamations, will be at Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 7.00pm on **Monday 20th June**.

Last Week's Finance

1st Collection: £670 (of which £112 was gift-aided)

World Communications: £179

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

Attendance: 375

Thank you
