

# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

26th SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

# NEWSLETTER



**St Mary of the Annunciation  
Catholic Church**

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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**

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**Headteacher:** Dr J F Pye

## Signs and Symbols of the Faith

The magnificent and moving Funeral of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last Monday really and truly showed the Christian roots and heritage of our once great Catholic country. The entire day was an outstanding witness to the Christian Faith which Her Majesty held so dear and by which she strived to live. A very brief but inspiring sermon was preached by the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, **Dr Justin Welby**, who before the entire watching world, proclaimed JESUS Christ to be God, and “*the Way, the Truth and the Life*”, and that death is the door to heavenly glory where we hope we will all meet again. This life is not the end. If only we heard this type of thing more often! The Christian Faith was proclaimed throughout by word and music, but also by **signs and symbols** which speak to us in a way that words simply cannot.

The **muffled tolling bell** symbolised our mourning at Her Majesty's passing. The impeccable **military ceremonial** and the great respect shown to Her Majesty's mortal remains, which at Baptism had become a Temple of the Blessed Trinity, shows our belief in the bodily resurrection of the dead. On top of the **Imperial Crown** was a beautiful cross showing that all kingship, all monarchy derives from Christ the King. Monarchy's meaning comes from His Kingship, and all royal crowns are His by right, because He is King and Lord of all. The **sceptre**, a symbol of earthly power, and the orb surmounted by a cross is a reminder to the monarch that their power comes from above. Just before the Committal at St George's, Windsor, these signs of monarchy were removed from the casket and placed on the altar – **a sign that all earthly power comes to an end and that we will all appear naked and without any earthly honours before the Judgement Seat of Almighty God.**

Then there were the **black vestments** worn by the clergy. Black is a colour of mourning and the colour of death, and a reminder that it is something that will come to all of us. However, in a Catholic Church, even when the clergy are vested in black, the tabernacle may never be draped in black because Christ is not dead. He is risen and

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*May she rest in peace*

**Please pray for those who are sick**

**for those who have recently died**

Winifred Brewin  
Sulayman Jallow  
Gabriella Ronchetti  
*May they rest in peace*

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time**

Giuseppina Di Cosmo  
Margariet Kuzniar  
Eileen Scott  
Donald Folkes  
Joan Slevin  
Patrick Lynch  
June Upton  
Arthur Spencer  
Ian Yeomans

**PLEASE NOTE**

Due to government regulations regarding personal data (UK-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 24th Vigil Mass**  
6.00pm Intention for the living

**Sun 25th Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
9.00am For the Parish  
11.15am Connie Moulton (RIP)  
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

**Mon 26th Ss Cosmas & Damian (Memoria)**  
9.15am John Marples (RIP)

**Tues 27th St Vincent de Paul (Memoria)**  
9.15am Vera Cunningham (RIP)

**Weds 28th St Wenceslaus, Martyr**  
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary (in church)*  
6.30pm Ken Gillham (RIP) (Latin, old rite)

**Thurs 29th Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels (Feast)**  
9.15am John Marples (RIP)

**Fri 30th St Jerome (Memoria)**  
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*  
6.30pm HM King Charles III (GE)

**Sat 1st St Thérèse of Lisieux (Memoria) (Five First Saturdays)**  
10.00am Queen Elizabeth II (RIP) - **PUBLIC MASS**  
10.30am *Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*  
-12.30pm *with Confessions 10.30-11.30am*  
6.00pm **Vigil Mass:** Intention for the living

**Sun 2nd Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Rosary Sunday)**  
9.00am John Marples (RIP)  
11.15am For the Parish (Votive Mass of Our Lady of the Rosary)  
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

**This week at St Mary's**

**Tues 27th** Bible Study - 7.00pm in the Library  
**Thurs 29th** RCIA - 7.00pm in the Library

**October is the month of the Holy Rosary** and next Sunday the 11.15am Mass will be of Our Lady of the Rosary.

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is truly alive in the Blessed Sacrament, so instead it is draped in purple as a symbol of sorrow at the death of one of His own. The **white of the altar cloths** symbolise Christ's Resurrection and Ascension. The four **unbleached (amber coloured) candles**, as opposed to the customary white ones, which stood around Her Majesty's coffin at Westminster Abbey and at St George's Chapel in Windsor, tell us of the light of faith burning in the soul of the Queen throughout her life, and also of the need of purification in Purgatory. They represent the **Church Suffering** for whom we must offer prayers and Masses for their release.

There is so much rich symbolism in our ceremonies and in our church buildings which must never be lost, because they convey meanings in what they represent and help us to ponder truths we can never fully understand. Think of the simple **genuflection** we should make to the Blessed Sacrament as we enter every Catholic church. **This is a sign of our belief in the Real Presence of JESUS in the tabernacle.** I am reminded of the words of St Paul to the Philippians 2:10 "that at the name of JESUS every knee should bow, in Heaven on earth and under the earth." Making the Sign of the Cross with **Holy Water** as we enter the church cleanses us of venial sin and makes us worthy of prayer in the presence of God.

So signs and symbols are not just additional decorations added to our worship. They are important, because through them, we can gain a deeper appreciation of the mystery and the beauty of our faith, and thus come to a greater love of God.

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

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**The cost of living crisis:** how might our parish respond? If you would like to help the most vulnerable in our communities through the difficult months ahead, Caritas can support you. On **Wednesday 28th September**, 7.00 – 8.30pm, you are invited to an online workshop, which will be an opportunity to share ideas and road-test a toolkit for parish action. Booking is open now for the workshop, and also for the in-person Caritas Assembly on **Saturday 5th November 2022**. If you can't make either date, sign up anyway for ongoing advice, information and networking: visit <https://bit.ly/LoavesandFishes2022>.

**Loughborough Amherst School** - the fastest growing independent school in the county - is holding its annual Open Morning on **Saturday 1st October** from 08.30am to 11.00am. To book a place, please contact the Registrar, Katie Newman, at [k.r.newman@lsf.org](mailto:k.r.newman@lsf.org).

## **Message from the King**

His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols had an audience with King Charles on Friday 16th September and afterwards made the following remarks:

*In my personal conversation with the King, I assured him that the Catholic community had continued, during these days of mourning, in heartfelt prayer for his mother. He expressed his gratitude for this. And then, turning back to me, he asked me to ensure that the Catholics of England and Wales knew of his thanks and gratitude for these prayers. I am passing this on to you in case there are ways in which His Majesty's message might be conveyed to the people of our parishes.*

## **Prayer cards for the Queen:**

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have prepared prayer cards 'Upon the Death of Queen Elizabeth II'. They are free for you to take from the back of the church.

## **A recording 'Requiescat in Pace Queen Elizabeth'**

has been prepared by Alison Kennedy and the Watermead Apostolate, Leicester; all the images are royalty-free, and the video can be freely shared. It's available at: <https://youtu.be/EhcXHCsHuA>

## 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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**The Relics of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes** are now touring our country, and will visit our diocese on **Thursday 6th and Friday 7th October**, at Saint Bernadette's Church, Scunthorpe, and the Cathedral, Nottingham. All are encouraged to come to this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, to have a little experience of Lourdes here amongst us. Please see the poster for details of timings, or visit the diocesan website for the latest information and news: [dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/relics](http://dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/relics) All are very welcome!

**St Mary's Catholic Primary school is hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning** in the School/ Parish Hall, from 9.30am to 3pm on **Friday 30th September**. All invited. Cakes and Savouries for sale, please do come along.

**Marie Brookes will be selling her cakes and jams after the 9am and 11.15am Masses this Sunday**. All proceeds will be donated to the Christian Institute, which exists for 'the furtherance and promotion of the Christian religion in the United Kingdom' and 'the advancement of education'.

**Family Fast Day - Friday 7th October:** Envelopes for your donations are available at the back of the church. More details next week.

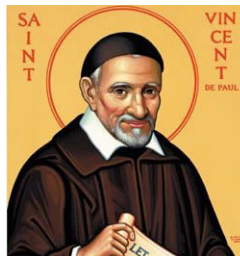
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## From the Saints

*Ceremonies may be shadows, but they are the shadows of great truths, and it is essential that they should be carried out with the greatest possible attention.*

(St Vincent de Paul, ca 1580-1660)

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**RCIA:** For those who have signed up for the new RCIA course, the first class will be in the library on **Thursday 29th September** at 7pm. The course is primarily for those thinking of becoming Catholics, but would also be suitable for Catholic adults wishing to be confirmed or for Catholics simply wishing to learn more about the faith. Please let Fr Paul know if you are interested.

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**Car Parking:** Niamh, a first year Catholic student at Loughborough University, has enquired whether any parishioner could offer her a car park space during the week just for her first year. If you can help please let Fr Paul know.

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## Last Week's Finance

**1st Collection:** £652 (of which £184 was gift-aided)

**Home Mission Sunday:** £192

**Standing orders:** £772 @ 31/08 (of which £641 was gift-aided)

**Attendance:** 386

*Thank you*

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