

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

CHRIST THE KING

NEWSLETTER



The one who reigns from a Cross of Love

This weekend's solemnity of **Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**, marks the crowning of the liturgical year, the Church's year. We have retold 'Our' story. Our faith and hope. Soon we will begin again. The readings at Mass have as their common theme *the centrality of Christ*. Christ is at the centre; Christ **IS** the centre. Christ is the centre of **creation**; Christ is the centre of **His people** and Christ is the centre of all **history**.

The apostle Paul, in the **second reading**, offers us a profound vision of the centrality of Jesus. He presents Christ to us as the *first-born of all creation*: in Him, through Him and for Him all things were created. He is the centre of all things, He is the beginning: Jesus Christ, the Lord. God has given Him the fullness, the totality, so that in Him all things might be reconciled (cf. Col 1:12-20). He is not only the Lord of creation, He is the Lord of **reconciliation**. Besides being the centre of creation and the centre of reconciliation, Jesus is the *centre of the people of God*. Today, He is here in our midst. He is here right now in His Word, and He will be here on the altar, alive and present amid us, His people, in the Blessed Sacrament. We see this in the first reading which describes the time when the tribes of Israel came to look for David and anointed him king of Israel before the Lord (cf. 2 Sam 5:1-3). In searching for an ideal king, the people were seeking God Himself: a **God who would be close to them, who would accompany them on their journey, who would be a brother to them**. Jesus Christ, the descendant of King David, is really the *"brother" around whom God's people come together*. It is He who cares for His people, for all of us, even at the price of His life. Finally, we hear that Christ Jesus is the *centre of the history of humanity and also the centre of the history of every individual*. The one who reigns from a Cross of LOVE. To Him we can bring the joys and the hopes, the sorrows and troubles which are part of our lives. When Jesus is the centre, light shines even amid the darkest times of our lives; He gives us hope, as He does to the good thief in today's Gospel reading.

**St Mary of the Annunciation
Catholic Church**

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office@

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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

Safeguarding Officer

Jane Monaghan: 07513 725546

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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St Cecilia

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died

Domenico Romano
Andrew Slevin
John Leonard
Nick Knudsen
Teresa Lee
Imelda Duffy
May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Jean Woodcock
Tina Cassella
Carmela Giancola
Pat McLoughlin
Vincenzo Caruso
Lidia Buttarazzi
Michele Caggiano
Rose Tidy
Andy Newbold
Lawrence Adkin
Michael Smith

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 19th Vigil Mass
6.00pm Holy Souls

Sun 20th Christ the King (Solemnity)
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am Gino Romano (RIP)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

Mon 21st Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Memoria)
9.15am Emily Houston (RIP)

Tues 22nd St Cecilia (Memoria)
9.15am Natalie Gillham (RIP)

Weds 23rd St Clement I (Pope & Martyr)
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary*
6.30pm Vivancio Castillo (RIP, Anniversary) (Latin, old rite)

Thurs 24th St Andrew Dung-lac & Companions (Memoria)
9.15am Vincenzo Caruso (RIP)

Fri 25th St Catherine of Alexandria (Memoria)
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm Andy Newbold (RIP, Anniversary)

Sat 26th Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am For the Parish **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: Rito & Rocco Acierno (RIP)**

Sun 27th First Sunday of Advent
9.00am Chris Dover (RIP)
11.15am Andy Newbold (RIP)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

This week at St Mary's

Weds 23rd UCM - 2.00pm in the Hall

Thurs 24th RCIA - 7.00pm in the Library

Advent: Next Sunday is the First of Advent and the beginning of the new liturgical year. The popular **'Walk with Me'** booklets with daily meditations for Advent are available for you to take. There are a limited number of copies, so only one per household please. *Fr Paul*

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Whereas all the others treat Jesus with disdain – **“If you are the Christ, the Messiah King, save yourself by coming down from the cross!”** – the thief who went astray in his life but now repents, clings to the crucified Jesus and begs him: **“Remember me, when you come into your kingdom”** (Lk 23:42). Jesus promises Him: **“Today you will be with me in paradise”** (v. 43), in His kingdom. Jesus speaks only a word of **forgiveness**, not of **condemnation**; whenever anyone finds the courage to ask for this forgiveness, the Lord does not let such a petition go unheard. Today we can all think of our own history, our own journey. Each of us has his or her own history: our mistakes, our sins, our good times and our bleak times. We would do well, each one of us, to think about our own personal history, to look at Jesus and to keep telling Him, sincerely and quietly: **“Remember me, Lord, now that you are in your kingdom!** Jesus, remember me, because I want to be good, but I just don’t have the strength: I am a sinner, I am a sinner. But remember me, Jesus! You can remember me because **you are at the centre, you are truly in your kingdom.”**

Jesus’ promise to the good thief gives us great hope: it tells us that God’s grace is always greater than the prayer which sought it. The Lord always grants more, He is so generous, He always gives more than what He has been asked: you ask Him to **remember** you, and He **brings you INTO** His kingdom! **Praise be Christ, King of the Universe, our King, our Saviour, Lord, and brother.** Let’s have courage to tell of our King and live for Him.

Fr David Jones OLV

Food Bank: Thank you to all who were able to contribute to the last Food Bank collection, the next collection-for Christmas-will be on **Saturday 3rd December** from 10.30 to 11.00am in the car park. Please would you consider donating sweets, chocolate and confectionary of any kind. All the usual grocery items are also much appreciated (tinned goods, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, long life milk, rice pouches, pasta and toiletries). This is in addition to the collections on the previous day from our two parish schools, St Mary’s and De Lisle.

Jane Monaghan

VACANCY: Parish Administrator, Sacred Heart Parish, Park Road, Loughborough. This is a part-time post (up to 5 hours per week initially). Please see the noticeboard for more information.

Confirmation 2023: The Bishop will be coming on **Tuesday 23rd May 2023** at 7pm to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. Application forms are now available from me. Candidates should be in at least Year 7 and should already be attending weekly Mass. I shall only be giving forms to those I recognise as regular Mass attendees. Those who are not already attending weekly Mass will be asked to defer their Confirmation until such a time as they are. Confirmation is a serious commitment to the Faith.

Fr Paul

Reception Class Places Academic Year 23-24:

Open Morning at St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, **Thursday 24th November**, 9 am-12 noon. Come along and see our superb EYFS classroom and have a tour of the school. St Mary’s is an inclusive school and all are welcome.

The Christian Heritage Centre

has now opened applications for 2023’s Christian Leadership Formation Programme for Sixth Formers. Further information about the programme can be found at www.christianheritagecentre.com or by emailing admin@christianheritagecentre.com

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.

Is the Lord calling you to the Religious Life and/or to the

Priesthood? You are welcome to attend our next Vocation Day of Discernment on **Saturday 26 November 2022** from 10am to 4.00pm at the Rosmini Centre House of Prayer, 433 Fosse Way, Ratcliffe-on-the-Wreake, LE7 4SJ. Tel: 01509 813078. Mob: 07828 781537. Email: aabelsito@hotmail.com.

Church Flooring: As you may be aware, the replacing of the old floor tiles in the church due to have taken place between 14th and 25th November has been delayed due to a lack of availability of tiles to complete the work. It will now have to wait until the new year. Apologies for the very short notice but we were made aware of this late on Friday 11th after the newsletter had been printed. Consequently there will not be an additional 10am Mass this Sunday 20th as advertised last week.

Fr Paul



From the Saints

"Pray with fervour and let God take care of the details!"

St Gertrude the Great (1256-1302)

Student Choir Carol

Service: Our student choir members from 11.15am Mass will be giving a Carol concert with readings on **Sunday 4th December** at 5.30pm before many of them go on their Christmas holidays. Refreshments will be served after in the parish hall. All welcome.

Prayer cards with the new **Diocesan** Prayer for Vocations are available for you to take from the back of the church.

The second collection this weekend is for the Exaireo Trust, the Loughborough-based charity that provides temporary supported accommodation to single, homeless adults. The money donated will go towards the charity's annual Christmas lunch for its service users and support staff.

Missio have written to thank you all for the collection of £232 and £191.41 from the red boxes.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £671, of which £132 was gift-aided

Standing orders: £783 @ 31/10, of which £648 was gift-aided

Attendance: 414

Thank you