

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

32nd 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

Safeguarding Officer

Jane Monaghan: 07513 725546

Parish Catholic Schools

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Loughborough LE11 5AX

01509 212621

office@stmarys-rc.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss P Jordan

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Headteacher: Dr J F Pye

Evidence for Purgatory

November is the month dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. It is a certainty of our faith and logical that Purgatory exists and that souls are there. **Purgatory** comes from the Latin 'purgare' which means to make clean. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, *"All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of Heaven"* (CCC#1030). So Purgatory is a place where the souls there must suffer for a time, because although they died without mortal sin on their souls, they haven't done sufficient penance for them. Mortal sin and the penalty it incurs of eternal punishment are removed by the **Sacrament of Confession**, but penance must still be done even though the sins are forgiven. Similarly, if I kick a football through your window, you may forgive me, but in strict justice I must pay the debt.

There are no physical bodies in Purgatory. Only souls are there, and the saints tell us that the sufferings of Purgatory far exceed any here on earth. But at the same time there is a joy there because all the souls in Purgatory know they are saved and will be in Heaven one day. So it is a place of preparation to see God. **St John Henry Newman** (who visited our church), in his great poem '**The Dream of Gerontius**' describes the thoughts of the departed who at their **particular judgement** are sentenced to a time in Purgatory. Seeing themselves exactly as they are before God, they willingly and spontaneously descend to this place of purification because they know that Heaven is not for them *yet*. We can only see God face to face when we are ready for it.

Sometimes non-Catholics will object to this doctrine and say it is not in the Bible. Well all Christians believe in the Trinity, but you won't find the word 'Trinity' in the Bible, but the teaching is there. It's the same with Purgatory. The word 'Purgatory' is not in the Bible, but the teaching is. Few people are so evil that they deserve Hell for all eternity, but then few people are so good and without stain that they can go straight to Heaven. But the Bible says, *"There shall not into it [Heaven] anything defiled"* (Apocalypse 21:27). Does this mean those not

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The Lateran Basilica, Rome

**Please pray for those
who are sick**

**for those who have
recently died**

John Ioum
May he rest in peace

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

Frances Ebong
Juana (Pany) Tinker
Dirk Van Der Meyden
Margaret Veals
Alice Hoggan
Tony Daly
Michele Giorgio
Lea Chiavetta
Peggy Hicks
Joan Scrivens
Danny Borzacchiello
Stan Borkowski
Ken Gillham

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 5th <i>6.00pm</i>	Vigil Mass Giorgio & Corbu families (RIP)
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Sun 6th <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>3.00pm</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time For the Parish Greg O'Connor (RIP) <i>Blessing of Graves in Loughborough Cemetery</i> Italian Mass (Loughborough Mausoleum)
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Mon 7th <i>9.15am</i>	St Willibrord (Memoria) Venancio Castillo Jr (RIP)
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Tues 8th <i>9.15am</i>	Feria All deceased Rosminians
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Weds 9th <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Feast) <i>Parish Rosary (in church)</i> Holy Souls (Sung Latin, old rite)
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Thurs 10th <i>9.15am</i>	St Leo the Great (Memoria) Colette McDermott (RIP)
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Fri 11th <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	St Martin of Tours (Memoria) <i>Confessions</i> Mass for the Bereaved: For the Holy Souls
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Sat 12th <i>10.00am</i> <i>10.30am</i> <i>-12.30pm</i> <i>6.00pm</i>	St Josaphat (Memoria) Jason Mistry (RIP) NO PUBLIC MASS <i>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am</i> Vigil Mass: For the Parish
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Sun 13th <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time John McDermott (RIP) Requiem Mass: For the Fallen Italian Mass
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This week at St Mary's

Weds 9th UCM - 2.00pm in the Hall
Thurs 10th RCIA - 7.00pm in the Library

Sunday 13th November is Remembrance Sunday and the 11.15am Mass will be a Requiem for the Fallen.

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perfect at death are sentenced to Hell? No. That would be a tragedy! The Bible also speaks of a cleansing fire. *"If any man's work burn, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire"* (1 Corinthians 3:15). Here, St Paul is talking about being purified by fire after death. There is no purifying fire in Heaven because those in Heaven are all perfect since nothing defiled can enter there. And neither can it be Hell, because nobody in Hell can be saved. So it is logical that there be a place of purification in between by which one can be saved. This is Purgatory which is a great mercy of God, and most of us will surely need it!

The souls in Purgatory can no longer merit. There is nothing they can do to add to their eternal glory or hasten their deliverance from Purgatory. They are utterly helpless and yet they are suffering. Some of these souls are our parents, brothers, sisters and friends. But we can help them by our prayers and good deeds, by having Masses offered for them, by gaining indulgences for them, by voluntary mortifications and by the acceptance of the everyday trials of life offered for their release. And we should do this because the time will come when we might be in Purgatory and will be in need of the same help. **Charity is not just in action – it is also in prayer.** If we remember the dead now, they will one day be in a position to do the same for us. *"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy"* (Matthew 5:7).

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

NOVEMBER INDULGENCES FOR THE HOLY SOULS

You may still gain a plenary indulgence for the Holy Souls in Purgatory by visiting a cemetery between **1st and 8th November** and praying there for the dead. In addition you should worthily receive Holy Communion (ideally on the same day), make a good sacramental confession within the week before or after, pray one Our Father and Hail Mary for the Pope's monthly intentions and be free from all attachment to sin, even venial sin, otherwise the indulgence is partial.

We will be visiting Loughborough Cemetery for the Rosary and Blessing of Graves this afternoon (Sunday 6th November) meeting in the car park at 3pm.

You may gain a partial indulgence for the Holy Souls anytime by saying the prayer: *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

First Holy Communion

2023: Applications for next year's First Holy Communion close today (**6th November**). Please ensure your completed form has been handed into the Presbytery by the end of the day. No late applications accepted.

Fr Paul

Reception Class Places Academic Year 23-24:

Open Morning at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, **Thursday 24th November**, 9.00am to 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.

KSC Quiz: The Knights of St Columba are holding their next quiz in Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 7.30pm on **Saturday 12th November**. The cost is £7 per person, £3 for children and students, to include a cheese supper, wine and soft drinks. All profits from the evening will be donated to the Loughborough Knights Youth Activities Fund. If you would like to come please call Will Holland on 07811 353 248. This helps with the catering.

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.

Church flooring: Following lengthy discussions, we have received permission for the old floor tiles in the church and organ loft to be replaced with new tiles that are consistent with the listed building status of the premises. A contract has now been placed and the work will commence on **Monday 14th November 2022** and should be completed by **Friday 25th November 2022**. During this period the church will not be usable. Therefore, weekday Masses will be in the Parish Hall and weekend Masses on **19th/20th November** in the School Hall. There will be an extra Mass on **Sunday 20th** at 10.00am to help accommodate numbers.

Fr Paul



From the Saints

"When St Paul tells us that God dwells in inaccessible light, we must remember the poor souls in Purgatory, who, with eyes still dim from the dust of this world, are too weak to be able to gaze like the eagle on that dazzling brightness."

(Blessed Cardinal Ildefonso Schuster, 1880-1954)

Our annual Mass for the Bereaved, after a break due to Covid, will resume this year on **Friday 11th November** at 6.30pm.

A Requiem Mass will be celebrated for all our departed loved ones. Votive lamps will be provided on which you may write the name of anyone you wish to remember. All are welcome.

Volunteers needed on Saturday 26th November 10.30am to 12.30pm

The church will need to be deep cleaned after the flooring work has been completed to ensure it is ready for opening on the 1st Sunday of Advent. This is quite a big task which will require more volunteers than usual. If you can help, please leave your contact details with Emily, the priests or the parish office as soon as possible. This is to help with the planning. Thank you.

Last Week's Finance

1st Collection: £766, of which £110 was gift-aided
World Mission Sunday: £232, of which £170 was gift-aided
Standing orders: £772 @ 30/09, of which £641 was gift-aided

Attendance: 501

Thank you