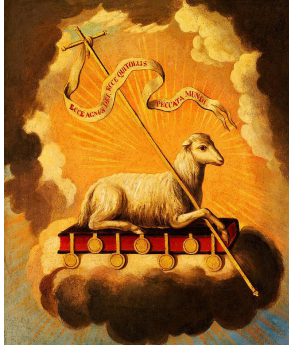


St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

NEWSLETTER

2nd SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



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

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

What does it mean to be a practising Catholic?

At a wedding or a funeral you might hear the priest say that only 'practising Catholics' may come forward to receive Holy Communion, while all others are invited to come forward for a blessing. We also require that candidates for Confirmation should be practising Catholics because a real commitment to the Faith is required. And in Catholic education, there are 'reserved posts' for which only a practising Catholic may apply. There is a difference between being a baptised Catholic, or a Catholic in name, and one who actually practices the Faith. So what does it mean to say you are a practising Catholic?

We should certainly be striving to keep the **Ten Commandments** and we should also **accept the teaching of the Catholic Church and be striving to live by it**. These teachings come from Christ and are part of Divine Revelation. Then we should do our best to follow the **Five Precepts or Commandments of the Church**, because these are the bare minimum in the spiritual life (See Catechism of the Catholic Church #2041).

The first precept is to attend Mass on all Sundays (or Saturday Vigil) and on all Holydays of Obligation. This might seem incredibly demanding, but really it isn't. It works out at just over an hour a week. God commands us to keep the Sabbath holy, and the Church, given authority by Christ, tells us how to do it, which is by attending Mass. This is binding under mortal sin unless you are prevented from doing so for a serious reason, such as you are ill, or you have to look after a sick person, or there is no Mass available to you within a reasonable travelling distance.

The second precept is to go to Confession at least once a year. Note this is the minimum, but if you are only going once a year, you might not be taking your spiritual life very seriously! If you are aware of having committed a mortal sin you should confess as soon as possible. This precept leads onto the next.

Continued on page 3



Blessed Cyprian Tansi

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died

HH Pope Benedict XVI,
HE Cardinal George Pell,
Palmina Chomik, Maria Cuff
May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Clelia Paciolla, Emildio Chiavetti, Linda Goodby, Henry Reed, Fr Eugene Monaghan IC, Bogdon Wozniak, Justina O'Donoghue, Mary Connell, Thomas Jones, Wanda Lapham, Vera Hurry, Greg Baker, Wanda Souraty

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 14th Vigil Mass
6.00pm Clelia Paciolla (RIP, Anniversary)

Sun 15th Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am Jimmy McDonagh (RIP, Anniversary)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

Mon 16th Feria
9.15am Alan Offiler-Russell (RIP)

Tues 17th St Anthony of the Desert (Memoria)
9.15am Teresa Lee (RIP)

Weds 18th Feria
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary*
6.30pm Vittorio Giorgio (RIP) (Latin, old rite)

Thurs 19th St Wulstan (Memoria)
9.15am Intention for the living

Fri 20th Blessed Cyprian Tansi (Memoria)
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm Greg Baker (RIP, Anniversary)

Sat 21st St Agnes (Memoria)
10.00am For the Unity of Christians **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:** Paul & Rita Desouza + Alex & Cynthia Vegas (RIP)

Sun 22nd Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am Giovanni & Michele Brunetti (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

Blessed Cyprian Tansi was a monk of Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, Coalville, for 14 years, from 1950 until his death in 1964. He was born in Nigeria and was ordained a priest for the Onitsha diocese in 1937 at the age of 34. He did great work in Nigeria before joining Mount Saint Bernard Abbey. He died in the Leicester Royal Infirmary on the 20th January 1964, aged 61. *Fr Paul*

Continued from front page

The third precept is to receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season. Priests encourage the faithful to confess at least during Lent, so that they may fulfil this precept and receive Holy Communion at Easter in a 'state of grace' (that is with no unrepented mortal sins on your soul). St Paul tells us that he who receives the Body and Blood of Christ unworthily (ie. not in a state of grace) "*eateth and drinketh judgement to himself, not discerning the body of the Lord*" (1 Corinthians 11:29).

The fourth precept is to observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence. This rule has changed over the years and now the only days of fasting and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition we may not eat meat on any Friday unless it is a Solemnity.

The fifth precept is to contribute to the support of our pastors and the material needs of the Church according to your ability. This simply means do what you can to help the Church out *within your means*. We are not required to give any percentage of income, but a millionaire would have a responsibility to give more than someone who has a family and who has trouble paying their bills.

These precepts are actually very reasonable and are what it means to be a practising Catholic. So we should try to live up to these precepts and even to transcend them. To reject them is to endanger our eternal salvation. Remember these are the bare minimum. JESUS Christ and His Church want to lead you to the heights of holiness. If by God's grace it has been possible for others, it is possible for you too.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Loughborough Food Bank: Once again a huge thank you to St Mary's Parish for the generous and overwhelming donations to the food bank at Christmas. The next collection will be on **Saturday 21st January** 10.30 to 11.00am in the car park. *Jane Monaghan*

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 18th-25th January 2023:

This year's theme is racial justice. Prayer resources and daily reflections can be found on the Churches Together website at ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2023/

We welcome Pedro Santos, a diocesan seminarian from Brazil, who is on holiday in Loughborough from Monday; he will be with us for a couple of weeks. He stayed with us about four years ago.

Share, inspire, support:

The Caritas Hub for Leicester and Leicestershire warmly invite you to Saint Peter's church, Hinckley Road, Leicester LE3 0TA for its next meeting on **Tuesday 17th January at 7.00pm**. The Hub brings people together from across parishes in the city and county to explore new ways of working together for outreach. This time we will reflect on our experiences during the pandemic and beyond, with a focus on communication and inclusion. For information contact Karen Scott karenscott070663@gmail.com.

Towards a politics of communion: Wednesday 18th January at 7.00pm on Zoom.

An ideal taster for anyone who wants to know about Catholic social teaching but was afraid to ask! Paul Bodenham from Nottingham Caritas is hosting a talk by Dr Anna Rowlands, professor of Catholic social thought and practice at the University of Durham, and one of the most engaging experts on the topic in Britain today. To book a place visit bit.ly/AnnaRowlands

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.
-

The Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers (Betharram) invite you to a 'Come and See Weekend' to explore the Gift of Vocation to the Religious Life and Priesthood. The Weekend will take from Friday (Evening) **24th February** to after lunch on **Sunday 26th February** at Shallowford House Retreat Centre, Staffordshire, ST15 0NZ. For more information please contact Brother Andrew Ferris SCJ (br.andrewscj@holyname.org.uk) or Father Wilfred Joseph SCJ (wilfred15@hotmail.com).

Help Your Marriage: Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a face-to-face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on **24 - 26 February 2023**, or a virtual weekend on **6 - 9 July 2023**, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk



From the Saints

"You cannot be a half saint. You must either be a whole saint or no saint at all."

(St Therese of Lisieux, 1873-1897)

First Holy Communion:

Parents should have received an email with the dates of the classes, which begin on **Monday 6th February** at 4.15pm in the church hall. Prior to this, there will be an important meeting for parents on **Monday 30th January** at 7.00pm in the church hall; this should finish by 7.30pm.

The Knights of St Columba are holding their next quiz in Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 7.30pm on **Saturday 21st January 2023**, with all profits from the evening going to one of our local charities, The Carpenter's Arms. The cost is still just £7 a head, £3 for children and students, to include a cheese supper, wine and soft drinks. If you would like to come please call Will Holland on 07811 353 248. This helps with the catering.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £722 of which £123 was gift-aided

Standing orders: £783 @ 30/11, of which £648 was gift-aided

Attendance
501

Thank you
