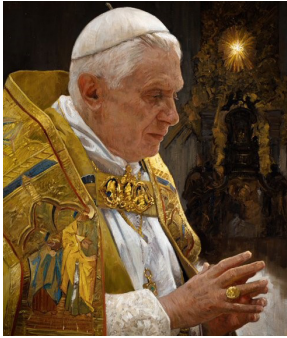


St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

NEWSLETTER



Pope Benedict XVI, RIP

We are deeply saddened at the death of our Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. He went to the Lord on the last day of 2022 aged 95, almost the same age as Queen Elizabeth whose passing we mourned only in September. Although he was by nature a quiet man, Pope Benedict (Joseph Ratzinger) had been a towering figure in the Church for many decades, long before he became Pope, and ranked among the greatest theologians of the twentieth century. He was a theological adviser at the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s and Pope St John Paul II's brilliant right hand man for nearly 25 years. In these roles he made an outstanding contribution to the Church, always upholding and defending the teaching of JESUS Christ, speaking out against relativism, and where necessary, correcting the course of the Church after much of the silliness of the 1960s and 70s when it was thought that everything was up for grabs. He strengthened the faith of his brethren. Benedict was a humble man deeply rooted in prayer, and for him Our Lord JESUS Christ was the centre of everything. Benedict always sought to be leading people to Christ, and in doing so inspired a decade of young vocations to the priesthood and the religious life.

He emphasised the importance of beauty in the Sacred Liturgy and that the focus of it must always be Christ and not us. In 2007, after over forty years of liturgy wars, he gave the traditional Latin Mass much more freedom saying, *"What earlier generations held as sacred, remains sacred and great for us too, and it cannot be all of a sudden entirely forbidden or even considered harmful. It behoves all of us to preserve the riches which have developed in the Church's faith and prayer, and to give them their proper place."* Since then, many in the Church, both young and old as well as many new Catholics, have found here a real spiritual treasure. In 2011 he created the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, thanks to which we have Fr David in the parish. This was a great ecumenical gesture and enabled many Anglicans to come into full communion with the Catholic Church while at the same time retaining much of their heritage and patrimony. It has certainly enriched the Catholic Church in this country and indeed our own parish.

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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

St Mary's Primary

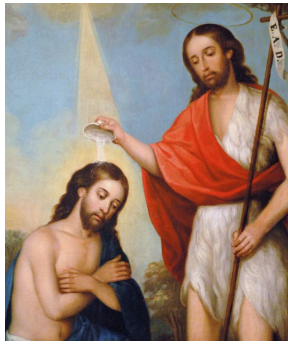
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office@stmarys-rc.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss P Jordan

De Lisle College

Thorpe Hill
Loughborough LE11 4SQ
01509 268739
enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk
Headteacher: Dr J F Pye



The Baptism of Jesus

**Please pray for those
who are sick**

**for those who have
recently died**

HH Pope Benedict XVI,
Fr Umberto Muratore IC,
Palmina Chomik
May they rest in peace

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

Marie Paparozzi, Tony
Kennedy, Helly Claydon,
Laurie Devaney
Mary Brookes, Margaret
Woodhouse, Clarice Ryder,
Amelia Blake, Carmela
Brunetti, Helen McGreechan,
Annie Heath, Ian North, Paul
Turner, Fr Joe Mullen IC,
Eamon Keating, Costantino
Lallo

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 7th **First Saturday**
10.00am Solemn Requiem Mass for Pope Benedict XVI RIP
6.00pm **Vigil Mass:** For the Parish

Sun 8th **The Baptism of the Lord (Feast)**
9.00am Intention for the living
11.15am Mary Nung (RIP)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

Mon 9th **Feria**
9.15am Greg O'Connor (RIP)

Tues 10th **Feria**
9.15am Imelda Duffy (RIP)

Weds 11th **Feria**
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary*
6.30pm Intention for the living (Latin, old rite)

Thurs 12th **St Aelred of Rievaulx (Memoria)**
9.15am John Leonard (RIP)

Fri 13th **St Hilary (Memoria)**
5.30-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm Intention for the living

Sat 14th **Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
10.00am Ian Billson (RIP) **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:** 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**

NB: The church will be open for Masses this week (see next page)

This week at St Mary's

Weds 11th UCM - 2.00pm in the parish hall
Thurs 12th RCIA - 7.00pm in the library

Continued from front page

Then there are his personal theological and spiritual writings which include 66 books including his three volume work “JESUS of Nazareth” and innumerable essays. They are very accessible and I have personally known of several people who have found them to be life-changing.

The few things I have mentioned above don't even begin to scrape the surface of his enormous influence and legacy. Pope Benedict XVI will be sorely missed. We thank God for his papacy and pray for the repose of his soul, and especially during these official nine days of mourning (Novendiales) which began on Thursday, the day of his Funeral Mass. Please say a Hail Mary for him now as you read this, and I also encourage you to pray the Collect for a deceased Pope, printed below, from the traditional Latin Mass which he loved so much:

O God, Who by Thine ineffable providence wast pleased to number Thy servant Benedict amongst the sovereign pontiffs; grant, we beseech Thee, that he who reigned as the vicar of Thy Son on earth, may be joined in fellowship with Thy holy pontiffs for evermore. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Church Flooring: The work to replace the tiles on the floor of the church is delayed again. Further information will be communicated once we know what is happening. Thank you for your patience.

Fr Paul

Loughborough Food Bank: Once again a huge thank you to St Mary's Parish for the generous and overwhelming donations to the food bank and “Your Store” project at John Storer House. Grateful thanks also to De Lisle and St Mary's schools who joined the parish with their contributions. There was a greater demand this year for food parcels and Christmas groceries and your thoughtfulness helped to meet this need. The next food bank collection will be on **Saturday 21st January** 10.30 to 11.00am in the car park.

Jane Monaghan

Sunday 8th January, 4.00pm, Sacred Heart Church, Park Road: ‘End of Christmastide liturgy of lessons and carols’, led by the young adults of the Loughborough parishes. There will be refreshments for everyone in the parish hall afterwards. All welcome.

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 karensco070663@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.
-

On the death of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI 31st December 2022

An abiding memory I will have of Pope Benedict is how his quiet humility, warm charm, gentle eloquence, and love of Christ won over the hearts of the British people during his visit to the UK in 2010. May he rest forever in God's merciful love.

On behalf of the Catholic diocese of Nottingham, I wish to express our sadness at hearing of the death of Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI. May Christ Jesus, whom he served so generously, give him rest after his labours.

Prayers and Masses will be offered for his happy repose in God's eternal and merciful love.

*Right Reverend Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham*



From the Saints

"I especially invite everyone to remember your baptism, that spiritual rebirth that has opened the way to eternal life. May every Christian rediscover the beauty of being born again from above, from the love of God, and live as a child of God."

(Pope Benedict XVI, 1927-2022).

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.

Thank you again for all your prayers, good wishes and gifts to the priests for Christmas. As always we are most grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Fr Paul

Finance

Christmas Collection:

£2182 of which £312 was gift-aided

31st Dec/1st Jan Collection:

£733 of which £110 was gift-aided

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

Attendance

24th/25th Dec: 827

31st Dec/1st Jan: 446

Thank you
