

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

NEWSLETTER

6th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



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

From Here to Eternity

In today's First Reading Sirach reminds us that our life, **from here to eternity**, is built on our **choices**. The Lord created us as free beings, but with freedom comes **responsibility and consequences**. We always have to **"own"** what we have done and what we have failed to do, which is why we make a Penitential Act at the start of every Mass. Sirach doesn't just remind us today that we're free to choose; he encourages us to make the **right** choices.

God's Commandments reflect God's wisdom, and that not only makes them good choices, but the best choices, even if sometimes in the uncertainty of faith we have to trust in God in making His choices our choices.

In today's Gospel Our Lord teaches us that all the commandments have a purpose and reflect a wisdom that can shape our lives for the better if we choose to observe them from the heart. In His discourse He is also **calling out** those who observe the commandments superficially and without heart. The play actors. Those who wants to **look** good!

A common recurring defence today for a watered-down life ethic is, "hey, at least I'm not killing anybody." Our Lord reminds us that not killing anybody is good, but we have to go way beyond that if we don't want to be Pharisical. When we can say, "hey, at least I don't hate anybody," we're getting closer to the mark.

In a violent world maybe sometimes we look the other way in the face of a lack of kindness, but Our Lord today reminds us to go the distance and not only **not** kill anybody, but to actually be **kind** to everybody. When tempers flare and rash words are said the best thing to do, as Our Lord teaches, is to try to make amends **as soon** as possible and simply apologize. If we live a life of cruel and cold justice, focusing especially on the justice due to us, we'll be in for a surprise when the eternal Judge brings us to "court" by the same harsh standards to which we held others. As Our Lord's prayer reminds us, "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

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Ss Cyril & Methodius

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died

Peter Wyss

Maria Cuff

May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Olive Chapman

Pat Newby

Teresa Frankow

Emily Heath

Maria Richardson

Ellen Spurr

Terence Foister

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 11th Vigil Mass
6.00pm For the Parish

Sun 12th Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am Sheila McFerran (RIP)
11.15am Ellen Monaghan (RIP)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

Mon 13th Feria
9.15am Terence Foister (RIP, Anniversary)

Tues 14th Ss Cyril & Methodius (Feast)
9.15am John Kane (RIP)

Weds 15th Feria (Mass of Sexagesima Sunday)
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary*
6.30pm Marta Moson (RIP) (Latin, old rite)

Thurs 16th Feria
9.15am Greg Baker (RIP)
12.30pm *Requiem Mass: Maria Cuff RIP*

Fri 17th Seven Holy Founders of the Servites (Memoria)
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
4.00pm *Requiem Mass: Gary Moore RIP*
6.30pm Greg O'Connor (RIP)

Sat 18th Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am Jamie Cardwell (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:** Intention for the living

Sun 19th Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am Derrick Baxter (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

This week at St Mary's

Mon 13th First Confession Class - 4.15pm in the hall
Confirmation meeting - 7.00pm in the hall

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Our Lord teaches us that **chastity doesn't start at home** but starts in the **heart, your heart** and **mine**. The eyes are the windows to our soul, and if we start ogling and fantasizing, a radical response is needed if we are to preserve our **chastity** and keep our hearts **pure**, since no one can intervene regarding the hidden desires of the heart except ourselves with the help of Christ's grace.

Our Lord reminds us that making a promise or giving testimony is a powerful thing. The promises we make give witness to **who we are**, and the witness **we give** is a testimony to how seriously we take our promises.

The easiest way to be sincere, as Our Lord reminds us today, is simply to be sincere. Let's trust His ways, honour His Word, Ways and Commands and show that we are His friends, disciples and His people. **Let who you are shine out from here to eternity.**

Fr David Jones OLV

The next food bank collection will be on **Saturday 25th February** 10.30 to 11.00am in the church car park. Canned goods, shower gels, toothpaste, shampoo, washing machine liquid, cleaning products are requested. Thank you for your contributions last month and once again it was commented that St.Mary's make a sizeable contribution to the "Your Store" project. Cash receipts are in the parish office. The Easter collection will be on **Saturday 1st April**. Thank you.

Jane Monaghan

Church flooring: We still have no firm dates for the start of this work. After the Diocese approved the project (using carefully-specified tiles that were acceptable to the Historic Churches Committee), the contractor was unable to obtain the tiles due to industrial action at the manufacturing end. The contractor is optimistic that the tiles will be manufactured relatively soon. I will let you know as soon as I receive more positive news. *Fr Paul*

Musicians' Training Day at St Mary's: Saturday 11th March, 10am-5pm: A day of talks, seminars and practical workshops for all parish musicians (either active or wanting to start/improve). Followed by Mass and concert with the cathedral choir at the 11.15am Mass on **Sunday 12th March**. To sign up contact cathedralmusic@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 22nd February. Masses will be at 9.15am, 12 noon (old rite, sung Latin) and 6.30pm (sung English).

Can you help the Parish?

As you will appreciate, any parish needs a number of volunteers to help undertake the many liturgical functions and to carry out other responsibilities which are required by the Diocese and are often made necessary by the laws and administrative regulations. Without a significant number of volunteers to help carry out these voluntary tasks, no parish could function.

We have been most fortunate over many years to have had a significant number of parishioners willing and able to carry out these tasks, but since the Covid-19 pandemic, some have had to stand down and have not yet been replaced. Moreover, changing requirements have made it necessary to seek volunteers to carry out new tasks.

We very much need volunteers with experience in the following areas: **health and safety, book keeping, cash handling, cleaning services, premises management, fundraising.**

If you are able to help in any way, please let me know. Thank you. *Fr Paul*

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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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.

CAFOD: If you would like to find out more about how CAFOD support our brothers and sisters around the world and this year's appeal, please come to our Find Out More Session at Sacred Heart church, Loughborough, LE11 2HJ on **Tuesday 14th February** starting at 11.00am, followed by a shared lunch. For more details contact Will Cruddace, the Diocesan CAFOD worker, on 077100 94455 or nottingham@CAFOD.org.uk.

Syrian Earthquake disaster: Aid to the Church in Need is appealing for funds to support local Church partners helping those affected by the disaster. There will be a second collection this weekend in response to this emergency appeal.



From the Saints

"Conscience has rights because it has duties"

St John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Confirmation: There will be an initial meeting for candidates and candidates' parents this **Monday 13th February** at 7.00pm in the church hall.

Keeping Lent with

Matthew: Exploring this year's Gospel with Fr David. Tuesdays at 7pm through Lent, starting on **Shrove Tuesday 21st February** in the Church Library. Bring your Bible and come and join in.

Lent 'Walk with Me'

booklets: Lent begins on **Wednesday 22nd February**. These popular booklets with daily meditations are available for you to take from the back of the church. There is a suggested donation of £1.

Marie Brookes will be selling her cakes and preserves after Sunday Masses this weekend. The proceeds will be donated to SPUC.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £764 of which £61 was gift-aided

Standing orders: £788 @ 31/12, of which £648 was gift-aided

Attendance: 478

Thank you
