

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

NEWSLETTER

The Power and Glory of the Cross



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

Each year on the Second Sunday of Lent, we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the **Transfiguration**. This year we hear Matthew's (17:1-9). Our Lord had taken Peter, James and John up Mount Tabor, and there they saw Him in His glorified humanity for just a brief time. Peter was so enthralled by the beauty of the vision that he wanted to stay there with JESUS and the two Old Testament Prophets, Moses and Elijah. *"His face shone like the sun and His clothes became as white as the light."* Peter and the two other disciples soon realised, however, that this vision was transitory, and that Our Lord would have to undergo His Passion before His humanity was to be permanently glorified.

The Preface of today's Mass summarises beautifully this great event. *"For after He had told the disciples of His coming Death, on the holy mountain He manifested to them His glory, to show, even by the testimony of the Law and the Prophets, that the Passion leads to the glory of the Resurrection."*

The Passion leads to the glory of the Resurrection. This is what Our Lord was trying to teach them. Their faith would be tested to breaking point as they witnessed Him undergoing the most terrible tortures and then being put to death by crucifixion, the most gruesome form of Roman execution. Our faith is also tested when we have to face crosses. Many of us, like Peter, want to run away from them. Few go all the way to Calvary and stand there identifying with Christ to the end as John did. So hearing an account of the Transfiguration each year during Lent is meant to remind us that **we must climb the mountain with Our Lord if we wish to attain that glory with Him, the glory for which we were created.**

Through our own crosses and struggles offered in union with His, the fasting, the penances and mortifications we perform during Lent, these make us heirs to the promise to eternal life and heavenly glory. So stand firm in your faith. As St Paul says in today's Second Reading, *"Bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News"* (Timothy 1:8-10).

Sometimes we only learn lessons through pain and failure. Often we only learn the value of things when we lose them. And even now in

Continued on page 3



Ss Perpetua & Felicity

Please pray for those
who are sick

for those who have
recently died

Sr Mary Assunta

May she rest in peace

and for those whose
anniversaries occur at
this time

Winifred Howard

Suzanne Burdett

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 4th **Vigil Mass**
6.00pm For the Parish

Sun 5th **Second Sunday of Lent**
9.00am Deceased of the Monaghan & Kenyon Families
11.15am Cliff Brookes (RIP, Anniversary)
2.30pm *Baptism*
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

Mon 6th **Lenten Feria (Commem Ss Perpetua & Felicity)**
9.15am Teresa Frankow (RIP)

Tues 7th **Lenten Feria**
9.15am Greg O'Connor (RIP)

Weds 8th **Lenten Feria (Commem St John of God)**
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary*
6.30pm Henryka Abucewicz (RIP) (Latin, old rite)

Thurs 9th **Lenten Feria (Commem St Frances of Rome)**
9.15am Margaret Barson (RIP)

Fri 10th **Lenten Feria**
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm Vittorio Giorgio (RIP)
7.10pm *Stations of the Cross*

Sat 11th **Lenten Feria**
10.00am Constance Mavis Stanford (RIP) **NO PUBLIC MASS**
10.30am *Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*
-12.30pm *with Confessions 10.30-11.30am & Benediction 12.20pm*
6.00pm **Vigil Mass: John Saunders (RIP)**

Sun 12th **Third Sunday of Lent**
9.00am Ann Marie New (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish (Cathedral Choir in attendance)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

This week at St Mary's

Mon 6th First Confession Class - 4.15pm in the Hall
Weds 8th UCM - 2.00pm in the Hall
Thurs 9th Confirmation Class - 5.15pm in the Hall
Thurs 9th RCIA - 7.00pm in the Library

Continued from front page

this life, we can see the **fruit of our crosses** in that we have become better and stronger people. You have probably discovered gifts and abilities you never knew you had.

Finally, the majority today tend to make light of sin. This Lent, let us look upon the Crucifix and meditate on it, with Our Lord's head crowned with thorns, His lips parched with thirst, His body covered with dirt and spittle, His flesh torn from the scourges, and His hands and feet nailed to the Cross. **This is how seriously God takes sin. This is what it cost Him to redeem us.** May a spirit of atonement pervade us in the crosses and trials of our lives, so that one day we may experience the glory of the Resurrection.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

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 next **Sunday 12th March**. To sign up contact cathedralmusic@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

The Knights of St Columba are holding their next quiz in Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 7.30pm on **Saturday 11th March 2023**, with all profits from the evening going to a fund to for Angel Lynn, the 19 year old daughter of one of Sacred Heart's parishioners, who was left with severe injuries on the A6 in 2020. The cost remains at £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.

Come to Lourdes! Bishop Patrick invites everyone in our diocese to join him in coming to this beautiful Marian Shrine between **Saturday 15th and Thursday 20th July**. Travel will be by air from East Midlands Airport, and the five-night all inclusive prices (full board) start at £709. See the poster at the back of church for more details, or visit <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/diocese-of-nottingham>

God Save the King!

A concert in honour of His Majesty King Charles III on the eve of his Coronation. On **Friday 5th May** the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham is kickstarting the Coronation weekend with a concert in the King's honour, to be held at Nottingham Cathedral. Invited by Bishop Patrick McKinney, civic dignitaries from across the city, county, and diocese - including Nottinghamshire's Lord Lieutenant Sir John Peace - will be in attendance, with the evening promising to be a joyful musical celebration marking this new Carolean era.

Tickets for the event are now available from the Cathedral Office (0115 953 9839), priced £17.50 Nave; £15.00 Side Aisles; £10.00 Transepts.

The interval will be hosted in the beautiful Cathedral gardens, and all tickets include a complimentary drink of prosecco or sparkling elderflower cordial: Fizz fit for a King!

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.

The Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education

Service, on behalf of Bishop Patrick McKinney, is seeking to appoint foundation directors for the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (Leicestershire and Rutland). For an information pack and to arrange an informal meeting, please contact Peter Giorgio (Director of Education) through his PA, Julie Sweeney (julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk).

Family Fast Day (3rd March): This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Please donate, either today using the envelope handed out last weekend, or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

From the Saints

"The Cross is the ladder to Heaven."

(St John Marie Vianney, 1786-1859)



St Frances of Rome

Stations of the Cross:

Every Friday during Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross after the 6.30pm Mass, with the exception of **Friday 17th March**. Mass that day will be at 6.00pm followed by a Deanery Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions (five priests will be available) concluding with Benediction at 8.00pm.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £952 of which £108 was gift-aided

Standing orders: £793 @ 31/01, of which £648 was gift-aided

Attendance: 469

Thank you
