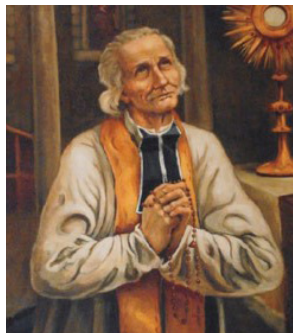


St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NEWSLETTER



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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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, OLV

Safeguarding Officer

jane.monaghan@

psrdioceseofnottingham.uk

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

St John Marie Vianney

This Friday 4th August, the Church celebrates the feast of one of its greatest priests – **St John Marie Vianney** (1786-1859). He is the Patron Saint of Parish Priests and is also known as the **Curé d'Ars** which means the Parish Priest of Ars.

He was born in the French town of Dardilly, near Lyons into a very devout Catholic family and was one of six children. It was a very turbulent time for the Church in France because of the **French Revolution**. Churches, monasteries and convents were either confiscated or destroyed, and priests and religious had to go into hiding for fear of their lives. Masses and the Sacraments had to be celebrated secretly in houses, in barns, in cellars and sometimes in the middle of the night. The Vianneys would often travel long distances to attend Mass, and John at thirteen years old made his First Holy Communion in a neighbour's kitchen. The Vianney family hid many priests in their own home and John came to love their company and to really admire the sacrifice they made. Through these extraordinary circumstances he came to see these priests as heroes for Christ.

John always wanted to be a priest, but struggled with his studies, and it seemed he would never be ordained. But a kindly priest took him in hand and he overcame the obstacles. He was finally ordained a priest on 12th August 1815 and celebrated his first Mass the following day. He was appointed assistant to his great friend and mentor Abbé Balley, and then three years later, despite the difficult times, he was appointed **Parish Priest of Ars** where he would spend the rest of his life.

Ars was a small town of around 230 people not far from Lyons, and due to the Revolution almost all the people there had stopped practising the Faith and were totally indifferent to their religion. There had been no priest there for years. Blasphemy, cursing, profanation of Sundays, gatherings and dances at taverns with immodest songs and conversation were commonplace, and so he wasn't well received. These things would be the subject of Fr Vianney's sermons and he never held back. But he fasted, did severe penances, went without sleep and used the discipline. He took only one meal a day which consisted of one or two boiled

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St Ignatius Loyola

**Please pray for those
who are sick**

**for those who have
recently died**

Linda Helm
Joan Hunt
Betty Couzens
May they rest in peace

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

Liberato Sepede
Norman Boyce
Andy T Tchorzewski
Pina Stanyard
Brian Mortell
Ruby Campbell
Bertie Bryne
Moyna McGlynn
Mary Comery-Lang

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 29th Vigil Mass
6.00pm Estrella Marti (RIP, Anniversary)

Sun 30th Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am Liberato Sepede (RIP, Anniversary)
4.00pm **No Italian Mass**

Mon 31st St Ignatius Loyola (Memoria)
9.15am Deceased Faulks & Hallam families

Tues 1st St Alphonsus Liguori (Memoria)
9.15am Weronika Kandula (RIP)
12.15pm *Funeral Service: Joan Hunt RIP*

Weds 2nd St Peter Julian Eymard (Memoria)
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary* **NO PUBLIC MASS**
6.30pm In Thanksgiving

Thurs 3rd FERIA
9.15am Anne Melley (RIP)

Fri 4th St John Vianney (Memoria) (First Friday)
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm For our Deceased Relatives & Friends

Sat 5th Dedication of St Mary Major (Five First Saturdays Devotion)
10.00am Crispin & Edith Castillo (RIP, Anniv.) **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:** Heather Saunders (RIP, Anniversary)

Sun 6th The Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast)
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am Cliff Brookes (RIP)
4.00pm **No Italian Mass**

Fr Simon will be moving to his new home at St Mary's, Derryswood in Guildford this Tuesday. I am sure we are all most grateful for his enormous contribution to St Mary's and the surrounding area over many years. He goes with our prayers and best wishes as he begins a new chapter in his life. *Fr Paul*

Continued from front page

potatoes and water. **He performed all these penances and mortifications for the welfare of his people and to convert them.** However, we must note that he was only able to do these things because he was given a special gift by God. Don't try and do these extreme penances yourselves!

After ten years of preaching and visiting his parishioners regularly he had converted and transformed the little town of Ars, and people were flocking there in their thousands from all over France to see this holy priest and to make their confession to him. Some of the other priests became jealous of Fr Vianney and forbade their own parishioners from going to see him. They even wrote letters to the Bishop saying he was too ignorant to be a Parish Priest and should certainly not hear Confessions. So they got a petition going to have him removed. The petition mistakenly came to Fr Vianney, and when he saw the signatures of so many priests, he signed it himself and sent it to the Bishop! His great humility moved the priest who had started the petition to great remorse and they became good friends.

He was like no other confessor, and thousands of people, including the nobility, would queue for three days to see him. Towards the end of his life, around one hundred thousand people were coming to Ars every year. **He could spend up to 18 hours in the confessional every day!** If people withheld certain sins he would admonish them, and often, to their astonishment would tell them what their sins were. **He also suffered violent personal attacks from the devil.** On the night before a really big sinner was going to come for Confession, the attacks would become more ferocious and the holy Curé would say, *"There's a really big fish coming tomorrow"*. He would hear howling noises, shouting and evil singing. On other occasions the devil would curse him, and on one occasion pulled him out of bed and set it on fire. The devil at one point even admitted to him, *"If there were three priests such as you, my kingdom would be ruined."*

After forty years, life had taken its toll on his physical and spiritual health and there were various times when he wanted to run away from the parish to prepare for his own death. He was never successful in this and he died on 4th August 1859. The Bishop presided over his funeral with three hundred priests and more than six thousand people in attendance. His body is preserved incorrupt above an altar in the Parish Church of Ars.

St John Vianney is both a shining and challenging example for us priests. The job description for the priest is very simple - **to save and to sanctify souls**. So please continue praying for all priests that we will both look to and be inspired by the example of St John Vianney.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

World Youth Day (WYD) takes place in Lisbon from Tuesday 1st to Sunday 6th August

For the first time in many years a group of Young Adults from the Diocese of Nottingham will attend WYD, accompanied by Bishop Patrick and Limnyuy. WYD is a gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope; a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, and a powerful expression of the universal Church.

Follow this historical journey of our young diocesan pilgrims by visiting www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/news/wyd which features links to live streams, reflections, schedules and more.

Evangelium - 2023 Conference for Young Catholics 18-35 18-20 August 2023, Oratory School, Reading

See the poster at the back of church for prices (including accommodation).

For further information call St Anthony Communications on 01834 812643

To book a place, visit www.saintant.com

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.

The great Feast of The Assumption of Our Lady is celebrated by the Church on **Tuesday 15th August** and is a Holyday of Obligation, which means we are obliged to attend Mass unless prevented by a serious reason. Masses will be at 9.15am, 12 noon (Latin) and 6.30pm.

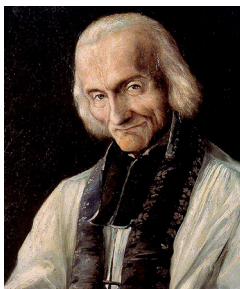
Fr Paul

Carer needed: The Sisters in Rosmini House, Garton Road are seeking a qualified carer for a small Care Unit in the Convent. If you have the ability to deliver an excellent standard of care and if you are willing to work as a member of a small team, they would love to hear from you. For more information, contact the Sister in Charge on 01509 631050.

From the Saints

"Offer your temptations for the conversion of sinners. When the devil sees you doing this, he is beside himself with rage and makes off, because then the temptation is turned against himself."

(St John Marie Vianney, 1786-1859)



Safeguarding at St Mary's

Within the next few weeks I will be distributing a registration form to all volunteers who do not meet the criteria for a full DBS check. It will be accompanied by a letter from Bishop Patrick. This is a one-off exercise enabling the Diocese to meet the standards outlined by The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency. Would you kindly return your forms to me or leave them in the sacristy labelled for my attention. Thank you all for your cooperation.

Jane Monaghan
Parish Safeguarding Representative

Latin Mass

Please note there will be no Latin Mass this coming **Wednesday 2nd August**.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £652 of which £112 was gift-aided

Standing orders: £773 @ 30/06, of which £703 was gift-aided

Attendance: 357

Thank you
