

# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

## 27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# NEWSLETTER



**St Mary of the Annunciation  
Catholic Church**

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*Served by the Rosminians*

**Parish Priest**

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

**On attachment**

Fr David Jones, OLW

**Safeguarding Rep**

Jane Monaghan

01509 262123

**Parish Catholic Schools**

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**Headteacher:** Miss P Jordan

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**Headteacher:** Mr C Maher

## Our Guardian Angels

October, as well as being the month of the Holy Rosary, is also the **month of the angels**, and we celebrated the feast of the **Holy Guardian Angels** last Monday. People today seem to have forgotten how important and how involved these angels are in our lives.

Angels are **spiritual beings** which means they don't have a body. One of the most common misconceptions people have is that if you die in a state of grace and get to Heaven you become an angel. No you don't! What happens is that you become a **disembodied spirit** – your soul is in Heaven but you're not an angel. But we get our bodies back at the final judgement.

It is the common teaching of the Church that every human being is given a **guardian angel** at birth. **St Padre Pio** (1887-1968) saw his guardian angel all the time, and he was quite surprised when at the age of 10 he realised this wasn't the case for everyone else. But it's not only people who have Guardian Angels. Countries, churches, parishes, dioceses and important buildings have them too. So there's a lot more going on in the angelic world than we realise. People often say their guardian angel doesn't help them very much. If that's the case it's probably because you don't ask for his help. The more you pray to him, the more you empower him to help you out. If you never speak to him he's not going to be able to do much for you. If you have particular weaknesses, you can ask your angel to help you. Good inspirations can often be from your guardian angel.

When God created the angels, they immediately grasped who they were, and that God had created each one with a specific task which is engrained into their very nature. So what this means is that **your guardian angel was created specifically for you**. God created something above you, but specifically for you. When the angels were created, they all had a choice to either do God's will or not, and those who didn't became **demons**. They either accepted what God wanted of them or they rejected it. The angels, being much more intelligent than we are, could foresee the consequences of their choice, and so

*Continued on page 3*



*St John Henry Newman*

**Please pray for those  
who are sick**

**for those who have  
recently died**

Maria Sparano  
Anna Cendrowska  
Frank Hately  
Paul Lallo  
*May they rest in peace*

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

Ted Betts  
Barbara Arden-Rowe  
John McEnergy  
Vincenzo Sozzo  
Kathleen Leakey  
Joe Elsner  
Phyllis Wood  
Tony Lanza  
Frank Mills  
Brian Dzudzewicz  
Anne Moore  
Allen Junio

**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**

<b>Sat 7th</b> <i>6.00pm</i>	<b>Vigil Mass</b> For the Parish
<b>Sun 8th</b> <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	<b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> John McEnergy (RIP, Anniversary) Intention for the living <b>Italian Mass</b>
<b>Mon 9th</b> <i>9.15am</i>	<b>St John Henry Newman (Feast)</b> Colm Fox (RIP)
<b>Tues 10th</b> <i>9.15am</i> <i>11.00am</i>	<b>St Paulinus &amp; the Anglo-Saxon Saints of the Diocese</b> Derek Whymark (RIP) <i>Requiem Mass: Paul Lallo RIP</i>
<b>Weds 11th</b> <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	<b>The Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> <i>Parish Rosary</i> Criselda Castillo (RIP, Anniversary) (Latin)
<b>Thurs 12th</b> <i>9.15am</i> <i>6.00pm</i>	<b>St Wilfrid (Memoria)</b> Catherine Fields (RIP) <i>Reception of Maria Sparano RIP</i>
<b>Fri 13th</b> <i>1.00pm</i> <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	<b>St Edward the Confessor (Memoria)</b> <i>Requiem Mass: Maria Sparano RIP</i> <i>Confessions</i> Greg Baker (RIP)
<b>Sat 14th</b> <i>10.00am</i> <i>10.30am</i> <i>-12.30pm</i> <i>6.00pm</i>	<b>St Callistus I (Memoria)</b> Fr Paul Gillham (GE) <b>NO PUBLIC MASS</b> <i>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am &amp; Benediction 12.20pm</i> <b>Vigil Mass:</b> For the Parish
<b>Sun 15th</b> <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	<b>Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Peter Allen (RIP, Anniversary) Piotr Abucewicz (RIP, Anniversary) <b>Italian Mass</b>
<b>This week at St Mary's</b>	
<b>Weds 11th</b>	UCM - 2.00pm in the hall
<b>Thurs 12th</b>	RCIA - 7.00pm in the library

*Continued from front page*

their will was fixed or locked forever. So this means that the first choice your guardian angel made was to love and look after you. Imagine that! He chose you above everything else. So on his side of things there is only love and desire for your salvation. From the very beginning of your existence your guardian angel has been concerned about you. He would have rejoiced the day you were born, and on the day of your **Baptism** he would have rejoiced further as you became a child of God. He would have grieved when you committed sin, but would have rejoiced again when you were restored to God's grace by making a good **Confession**. Imagine his happiness as you receive Holy Communion in a state of grace, and when you were made a soldier of Christ at your **Confirmation**.

Therefore, it must follow that he'd like to have a much more intimate relationship with you, but you have to make it happen by giving yourself over to him and allowing yourself to be guided by him. And he's doing more for you than you realise anyway. He's certainly always praying for you and wanting you to become more holy. If you're sensitive to it, he's whispering to you good and wise counsel, and he protects you from danger and evil attacks.

After your death it will be your guardian angel who will present you before the Throne of God and plead on your behalf. If you require purification in **Purgatory**, your angel will visit and console you there. And when that time of purgation is ended, he will take you from the flames of Purgatory and lead you up to the eternal bliss of Heaven. May we know the protection of our angel, and may they intercede and pray for us.

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

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### **Rosary during October**

During October, the month of the Holy Rosary, the Rosary will be recited in the church **after** the 9.15am Mass on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and **before** Mass on Wednesdays and Fridays beginning at 6pm.

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### **First Holy Communion 2024**

The application forms for next year's First Holy Communions are available this weekend from Fr Paul. The closing date for applying is **Sunday 28th October**. No applications will be accepted after this date.

### **Part-time Premises Officer for St Mary's**

In conjunction with the Finance Committee, I have decided to employ a part-time premises officer to work at the Parish for two weekday mornings each week.

The responsibilities of the post will be varied and will include day-to-day cleaning and tidiness of the Parish hall; supervision of the volunteer Church cleaners; minor maintenance within the buildings associated with the Parish; monitoring the serviceability of the security, fire and smoke alarms; routine health and safety recording, checking and reporting within the Parish; general security of the entire site; general property administration of the premises; and other related duties that are appropriate to the role of a premises officer.

Induction and other relevant training for the post will be provided.

If anyone is interested in the post, could you please ask me or Louise in the office for a Job Specification and an application form. The closing date for applications is **Friday 27th October 2023**.

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.

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**Invitation to all parishioners:** Everyone is invited to a Come And Meet Each Other (CAMEO) evening on **Friday 27th October**, after the 6.30pm Mass, in the Parish Hall. The evenings used to be held fairly regularly prior to Covid and were an opportunity for women of the Parish to meet each other. The invite is now extended to everyone and it would be wonderful to see as many as possible there. Please bring a plate of food (no meat please as it's Friday) to share and whatever you would like to drink. Tea and coffee will be provided. All welcome.

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**St Mary's News:** The next edition of the Parish News is now available. Included are the First Holy Communion and Confirmation pictures. The suggested donation is £1.30 to help cover print costs.

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## From the Saints

*"My holy Guardian Angel, cover me with your wing. With your fire light the road I'm taking. Come, direct my steps ... help me, I call upon you. Just for today."*

(St Thérèse of Lisieux, 1873-1897)

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**Mass Intentions** are now almost completely booked up until the end of the year. As I write there are just a few spaces left towards the end of December. A reminder that if you would like a specific date, it is advisable to book at least six months in advance. *Fr Paul*

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**We welcome children from St Mary's School who will read at the 11.15am Mass this weekend.**

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## CAFOD Family Fast Day, Friday 6th October

Dr Nasha's mobile medical clinic gets life-saving help to where it's needed most, fast – so when her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed. Donate to CAFOD so that more families can get the expert help they need. The envelopes will be collected this weekend.

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## Last Week's Finance

**Collection:** £716 of which £115 was gift-aided

**Standing orders:** £736 @ 31/08, of which £668 was gift-aided

**Attendance:** 497

*Thank you*

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