

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

CHRIST THE KING



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

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

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Headteacher: Mr C Maher

NEWSLETTER

The Reign of Christ the King

Today is the Feast of **Christ the King** and it is the last Sunday of the liturgical year. Next Sunday we begin the new year with the First Sunday of Advent. The Feast of Christ the King is not just some sentimental feast for Catholics and neither is Catholicism just one religion among many who happens to have this man "Christ" as its head. It is the one true Faith. **Christ is King of the whole universe, the whole cosmos, both in the supernatural and in the natural order because He is God.** And as such He is King and Lord of all, and therefore has **rights** over all.

Now it's true that throughout recent centuries, in what was once **Christendom**, revolutionaries have removed Christ from His rightful Throne. Those determined to establish the **New World Order** have decided to build their kingdoms without Christ. Today, politics wants nothing to do with God. They refuse to enthrone Christ and so they reject His Bride which is the Catholic Church. They seek to tear Him out of society for good. **They essentially reject Christ** when they think it's their place to determine the moral code and promote things like abortion, euthanasia, fornication, transgenderism, homosexual activities and so on. They define what is right and wrong and then try and impose it on us. Although some politicians may express religious belief in private, essentially we are atheistic. Courts today even try to prohibit public prayer and more recently even private prayer. To forbid public prayer to God is to violate His rights, because God has the right to receive public worship from every one of us. Furthermore, Christ's sovereignty is denied when people refuse to allow God into public discussion out of fear of offending others.

But God is God and so civil society must acknowledge Him and obey Him, because it is God's plan to bring the whole of humanity to Himself. This is why Christ came, so that we could be brought back to God through His Mystical Body, which is the **Catholic Church**. And societies must acknowledge this and Christ's Kingship. By doing so, our supernatural end (Heaven) is acknowledged.

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St Ralph Sherwin

**Please pray for those
who are sick**

**for those who have
recently died**

Norah McKeown
Tom Metson
Francesca Carmela Sepede
Barbara Morrison
Stephen Bowmer
May Sweetman
May they rest in peace

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

Lawrence Adkin
Michael Smith
Dominiko Horvathova
Bernardo Raffaele
Beverley Ryder

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 25th **Vigil Mass**
6.00pm John McDermott (RIP)

Sun 26th **Christ the King (Solemnity)**
9.00am Paola & Luigi Bellofatto (RIP)
11.15am Andy Newbold (RIP, Anniversary)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

Mon 27th **Feria**
9.15am For the Parish

Tues 28th **Feria**
9.15am Christopher Dover (RIP)

Weds 29th **Feria**
6.00-6.25pm *Parish Rosary*
6.30pm In Thanksgiving **NO PUBLIC MASS**

Thurs 30th **St Andrew, Apostle (Feast)**
9.15am Anne & Tony Wade (RIP)

Fri 1st **St Ralph Sherwin & Companions (Mem)** (*First Friday*)
12 noon *Requiem Mass: May Sweetman RIP*
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*
6.30pm For our Deceased Relatives and Friends

Sat 2nd **Saturday Mass of the BVM** (*Five First Saturdays Dev'n*)
10.00am Dec'd of the Myers Family **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:** Charles Connolly (RIP)

Sun 3rd **First Sunday of Advent**
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am Michael Smith (RIP, Anniversary)
4.00pm **Italian Mass**

This week at St Mary's

Tues 28th Bible Study - 7.00pm in the library

This Sunday we welcome Mr Chris Maher, Headmaster of de Lisle College, who will say a few words about the school at the end of the 11.15am Mass.

Please note there will be no Latin Mass this Wednesday.

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God also wills that Church and State, though they be distinct, are never to be divorced, but rather that they should **collaborate to bring about Christ's reign on earth**. This would be where the Ten Commandments, the Gospel and the natural law become the foundational guide of society and for legislators who write the moral law.

So we have an obligation to work for the Kingdom of God and to do our part in converting the world to Christ. That is the mission Our Lord gave to His Church. *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you"* (Matt 28:18-20). This is certainly very daunting, but with God all things are possible. After all, Christians converted pagan Rome in the past, so why not now? At the Last Judgment, God's Kingdom will be fully established, and all other religions and all secular governments will pass away. In the meantime, the reign of Christ the King must begin with each one of us. By trying to rebuild a truly Catholic culture in our homes and in our families, His reign will then flow out into society.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Advent begins next Sunday. Are you getting ready spiritually? Don't forget to get your copy of 'Walk with Me' with short daily meditations for Advent and Christmas. Suggested donation of £1. You'll find them at the back of the church.

Loughborough Food Bank/Your Store: The next collection will be on Saturday **16th December** between 10.30 and 11.00am in the car park. Further details later.

There will be a gathering of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Sacred Heart Church, Park Road, Loughborough on **Saturday 9th December**. There will be a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 2 to 3pm with an opportunity for Confession afterwards. Three priests will assist. All Extraordinary Ministers are encouraged to attend.

Funerals: The funeral of Barbara Morrison will be on **Tuesday 5th December** at 11.15am, of Carmela Sepede on **Wednesday 6th December** at 12.30pm and of Stephen Bowmer on **Friday 8th December** at 12.30pm. Tom Metson's funeral will be on **Monday 27th November**, 10.00am at Our Lady of the Angels, East Leake.

Carols at St Mary's

There will be a carol service with the 11.15am Mass choir on **Sunday 10th December** at 6.00pm. The usual parish carol service will be on **Sunday 17th December** at 6.00pm.

Christmas Masses

Please note that with Christmas Day falling on a Monday, Masses will be as follows:

Sunday 24th December
6pm Vigil Mass

Monday 25th December
Midnight Mass (preceded by carols at 11.30pm) and 10.30am Solemn Mass.

Warmer Welcome

Workshop : Monday 4th December, 7.00pm. As we head into winter Caritas is offering an online workshop for those interested in opening a hospitality and outreach project in the parish, or already running one. Join fellow volunteers from around the diocese for an informal and friendly opportunity to find support, ask questions and gather ideas. This session will focus on publicity available from the diocese, training that might be useful, and help with fundraising. To book visit bit.ly/WarmerWelcome.

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.

Retreat-Pilgrimage to Italy in the footsteps of Blessed

Antonio Rosmini, 13-23 May 2024, with Fr David Tobin IC

Visiting Roverto, Verona, Bergamo, Domodossola, Stresa and Lake Maggiore. £1,645.00. See leaflet at the back of the church for more information. For any further details, contact the retreat organiser, Dr Anthony Weaver: 0207 379 7273 - retreatsdover@gmail.com.

‘Synod and synodality’ - Wednesday 6th December. Caritas Leicester and Leicestershire invite all who are interested to Saint Wilfrid of York in Coalville (LE67 3JB) for an evening of reflection and discussion on the Synod and Synodality. Facilitated by Father Jonathan Cotton, it is a chance to talk about the Synod on Synodality and what it means for us. The evening will last from 7.00pm until 9.00pm.

From the Saints

“The state should take account of the commandments of God.”

(Pope Pius XI, 1857-1939)



Fatima and the First Saturdays study groups

The study group covers:

- the apparitions of the Angel of Peace
- Our Lady's six appearances at Fatima
- the three important appearances after Fatima
- additional crucial information found in Sister Lucia's memoirs, letters, and locutions up to 1945
- additional information up to the present time
- how all of this content is related to the First Saturdays Devotion.

Next groups start the week of **14th-18th January 2024.**

Meet on Zoom for an hour a week for 13 weeks. You can choose a time from various days and times.

To register for the English Study Groups, go to: <https://www.communalfirstsaturdays.org/study-groups>

Deadline 8th January 24.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £856 of which £172 was gift-aided

Standing orders: £717 @ 31/10, of which £650 was gift-aided

Attendance: 514

Thank you
