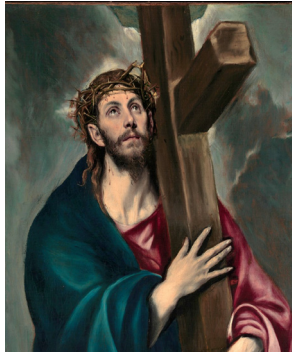


# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

FIRST SUNDAY  
OF LENT

# NEWSLETTER



**St Mary of the Annunciation  
Catholic Church**

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Loughborough LE11 3AB

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office@

stmarysloughborough.org.uk

*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

enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk

**Headteacher:** Mr C Maher

## Stations of the Cross

**L**ent has now begun, and the 'Via Crucis' or 'Way of the Cross' is a very popular Lenten devotion. **Stations or the Way of the Cross are celebrated at St Mary's every Friday during Lent after the 6.30pm Mass.** The story of the Stations goes right back to the first **Good Friday**, when the apostles, disciples and followers of Our Lord began to tread the very same 'Via dolorosa' or 'Way of Sorrows' Our Lord Himself walked to save us. In the early centuries, Christians from all over the world would come to Jerusalem to walk the same holy road. But then Jerusalem fell into the hands of the Muslims and so this devotion became very dangerous and eventually impossible. So the Church decided that the devotion could be performed in individual parish churches.

From the earliest days this devotion was promoted by the **Franciscans**. St Francis had a great devotion to Our Lord's Passion and was the first to bear the **stigmata** (the wounds of Christ). The Church attached **Indulgences** to making the Stations, at first only for the Franciscans, but then **Pope Benedict XIII** in 1726 extended this to the whole Church and it became commonplace to see the Stations of the Cross in all Catholic churches.

Traditionally there are **fourteen** Stations, and most of the episodes are described in the Gospels. A few are not, such as JESUS' three falls, His meeting with His Mother, and Veronica wiping His face. These incidents are part of **tradition** which is also a sound source of history.

Every time you make the Stations of the Cross you may gain a **Plenary Indulgence**. The Catechism describes an Indulgence as the remission of **temporal punishment** due to sin whose guilt is already forgiven in Confession (CCC #1471). Every sin has two consequences: **guilt** and **debt**. In the Sacrament of Penance we confess our sins, receive God's forgiveness and perform a penance. So through a good Confession the **guilt** of our sins is removed, and if we have committed **mortal** or **grave** sin which cuts us off from God, we are restored to God's grace and thus we avoid Hell. **But the debt still has to be paid.** That debt is paid either in this life or

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*The Chair of St Peter*

**Please pray for those who are sick**

**for those who have recently died**

Czeslaw Szychowski  
Kathleen Pagett  
*May they rest in peace*

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

Bishop Eugene Arthurs, IC  
Cliff Brookes  
Nina Juskiewicz  
Rosina Matthews  
Paul Want  
Les Prentice  
Audrey Wilbram  
Stephen Scott

**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**

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**Sat 17th Vigil Mass**  
6.00pm Family Intention

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**Sun 18th First Sunday of Lent**  
9.00am For the Parish  
11.15am Cliff Brookes (RIP, Anniversary)  
4.00pm **No Italian Mass**

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**Mon 19th Lenten Feria**  
9.15am Hedley Wilson (RIP)

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**Tues 20th Lenten Feria**  
9.15am Richard Hönl (RIP)

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**Weds 21st Ember Wednesday**  
6.30pm Intention for the living

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**Thurs 22nd The Chair of St Peter (Feast)**  
9.15am Catherine Carter (RIP)

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**Fri 23rd Lenten Feria**  
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*  
6.30pm Andy Newbold (RIP)  
7.10pm *Stations of the Cross*

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**Sat 24th Lenten Feria**  
10.00am Lamberto & Normalito Castillo (RIP, Anniv) **NOT PUBLIC**  
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:** Greg Baker (RIP, Anniversary)

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**Sun 25th Second Sunday of Lent**  
9.00am For the Parish  
11.15am Intention for the living  
4.00pm **No Italian Mass**

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*Rosary: Mon, Tues, Thurs after 9.15am Mass; Wed, Fri at 6.00pm; First Saturday of each month after 10.00am Mass*

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**This week at St Mary's**

**Mon 19th** SPUC Group - 7.00pm in the hall  
**Thurs 22nd** RCIA - 7.00pm in the library

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**A reminder** that every Friday of the year, except Solemnities, is a day of abstinence from meat.

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in **Purgatory** where God heals us and undoes the damage we have done. This is where Indulgences help us, because they help us to pay the debt of sin in this life. So it's a good idea to try and gain as many Indulgences as we can. We may also apply any Indulgences we gain to the **Holy Souls in Purgatory**.

So how do you gain an Indulgence by making the Stations of the Cross? The Stations must be lawfully erected, which they are in St Mary's. There must be fourteen crosses and we must meditate on the Passion and Death of Our Lord at each Station. **Those unable to come to church may also gain the Indulgence by spending 15 minutes in devout reading and meditation on Our Lord's Passion.** In addition to making the Stations, one must be in a state of grace, have a detachment from all sin, even venial sin, make a sacramental Confession within a week either before or after, receive Holy Communion, and pray for the Pope's intentions which we do at the end of the Stations anyway. If one doesn't fulfil all these conditions, the Indulgence is **partial**, but one must be in a state of grace. You can fulfil all these conditions on a Friday evening by making your Confession before the 6.30pm Mass, receiving Holy Communion at Mass, followed by making the Stations.

This devotion helps us to think of what Our Lord did for us and the great love He showed in doing it. By devoutly making the Stations, it helps us to return some of that love. Be sure to try and gain the Indulgence at least once this Lent.

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

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**Grub Club** will be open at the United Reformed Church on Frederick St between 11.00am and 2.00pm on the **20th and 22nd February**. Fun and Food for all. Free admission for primary school aged children and all their family, if the family have a low income and are experiencing hardship. If you know of a family that might benefit from this provision, please pass on this information.

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**Food Bank:** The next collection for the Loughborough Food Bank/Your Store will be on **Saturday 24th February** in the car park from 10.30 to 11.00am. Suggested items are canned soups, cuppa soups, tea bags, small jars of coffee, drinking chocolate, shower gels, shampoo, washing machine liquids, cleaning detergents. Thank you for your continued support. *Jane Monaghan*

## **Stations of the Cross**

There will be Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent after the 6.30pm Mass, for which one may gain a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions: Confession, Holy Communion and Prayers for the Pope's intention.

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## **Calling Catholic**

**Teachers:** If you are a Catholic teacher working outside of Catholic education and would like to find out more about working in a Catholic school within the Diocese of Nottingham, a virtual information session will take place on **Monday 4th March from 7.00pm – 8.00pm**. More information can be found on the poster at the back of church, or contact Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan education Service: [julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk](mailto:julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk)

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## **Community Mass at Loughborough Amherst Chapel, Thursday 22nd February, 4.15pm.**

All welcome. Please use the main car park on Gray Street.

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## **Last Rites does not mean**

**Last Minute!** As soon as a person begins to be in danger of death because of illness, injury or old age, the time for anointing has surely already come. *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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## CAFOD's Family Fast Day falls on Friday 23rd February

This Lent, CAFOD are sharing the story of their work with a fishing community in Liberia with parishes and schools in England and Wales. This is one example of their work around the world. By remembering our sisters and brothers like James and supporting them through CAFOD's Lent appeal, Catholics in England and Wales engage in encounters that show the face of Christ. Thank you in advance for your generosity, in prayer and in practical ways, of supporting once again CAFOD's appeal in Lent. Envelopes are available now and will be collected next weekend.

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## LACY Walk for CAFOD - Sharing in the 'Big Lent Walk',

**Sunday 17th March:** All welcome to join a short walk starting from St Mary's, Countesthorpe Road, South Wigston, LE18 4PG at 2.00pm. For details email [paulinepayne@hotmail.com](mailto:paulinepayne@hotmail.com).

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## From the Saints

*"Apart from the Cross there is no other ladder by which we may get to Heaven."*

St Rose of Lima, 1586-1617

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**SPUC:** There will be a meeting of the SPUC Group on **Monday 19th February** at 7.00pm in the church hall. If you are interested in the work of SPUC but not involved already, we urge you to come along and see how you can help with our work.

*Michael Murphy, Chair,  
SPUC Loughborough*

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## Year of Prayer Podcast:

the latest episode of the Diocese of Nottingham's Podcast Encounter Prayer is now live. Sister Susan Richert, a Presentation Sister working in our diocese, leads us in meditative prayer. You can download or stream it from Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts and more or by visiting [dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](http://dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer)

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## Last Week's Finance

**1st Collection:** £836 of which £225 was gift-aided

**SPUC White Flower Appeal:** £480

**Standing orders:** £736 @ 31/01, of which £631 was gift-aided

**Attendance:** 543

*Thank you*

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