

# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

## PENTECOST

# NEWSLETTER

## Come Holy Spirit and set us on fire!



### 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

#### 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

Today we celebrate the great Feast of **Pentecost** when the Holy Spirit, as Our Lord had promised, came down upon Our Lady and the Apostles, and the **Catholic Church** was founded. When Our Lord was on earth He laid the **foundations** for His Church, but the references were always in the future tense. ***"You are Peter and upon this rock I will build My Church"*** (Matthew 16:18). Neither did He say 'churches', but 'Church - in the singular. So there is only one Church and that is the Catholic Church, which He established and which enjoys divine rights over the Deposit of Faith and the Sacraments and which came to birth at Pentecost.

This is also a feast about fire which challenges us to come out of our sometimes lazy and tepid Christian lives. Our Lord said, ***"I have come to cast a fire upon the earth"*** (Luke 12:49). This is the fire of the Holy Spirit, which transforms us, refines us and purifies us and emboldens us.

What kind of men were the Apostles before Pentecost? They were rough, ignorant and timid, but also ambitious, because they were hoping for personal glory here on earth. Then the Crucifixion came, their hearts sank and they deserted JESUS. The Resurrection restored their faith but they still lacked courage and enterprise. So they gathered in the Upper Room in hiding for fear of the Jews, waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit Whom Our Lord promised would come to enlighten them, teach them all truth and give them the courage and ability to spread the Faith throughout the world. Then fifty days after the Resurrection on the Jewish feast of Pentecost, ***"they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from Heaven."*** There appeared "tongues of fire which settled on them" (Acts 2:1). From this moment when they received the Holy Spirit they were utterly transformed. Their minds were infused with supernatural light, their hearts were overflowing with love, and they received courage and strength to withstand all human opposition. Then they went out and began openly preaching the Gospel of JESUS Christ. Their preaching was heard by each listener in their own language

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Mary, Mother of the Church

**Please pray for those who are sick**

**for those who have recently died**

Arlinda Pinto

Sylvia James

Peter Massey

*May they rest in peace*

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

Jo Sparano

Ellen Ramsbottom

Harry Oakley

Lidia Orzeszek

Patricia Drane

Katie Mercer

Giovanni D'Amato

Noreen Glendon

Winnie Culley

Tadeusz Misiura

Barbara Finch

Eamon Johnston

St Mary Agatha O'Flaherty

Monica Davison

**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 18th Vigil Mass**  
6.00pm Rita & Rocco Acierno (RIP, Anniv.)

**Sun 19th Pentecost Sunday (Solemnity)**  
9.00am For the Parish  
11.15am Phyllis Harrison (RIP, Anniversary)  
4.00pm Italian Mass

**Mon 20th Mary, Mother of the Church (Memoria)**  
9.15am Sr Anna Patricia (RIP)  
6.30pm *Baptism*

**Tues 21st Feria**  
9.15am Michele Calabrese (RIP)  
12 noon *Funeral Service: Sylvia James RIP*

**Weds 22nd Whit Wednesday (Ember Day)**  
6.30pm 30th Wedding Anniversary (Latin)

**Thurs 23rd Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest (Feast)**  
9.15am Gordon Henry Mee (RIP, Anniversary)  
6.30pm *Reception*

**Fri 24th Feria**  
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*  
6.30pm Catherine & John Smith (RIP)

**Sat 25th St Bede the Venerable (Memoria)**  
10.00am Fr John Daley (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*  
2.30pm *Baptism: Nicholas David Spiller Herrera*  
6.00pm **Vigil Mass:** For the Parish

**Sun 26th The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)**  
9.00am Leslie Parkin (RIP)  
11.15am Phyllis Harrison (RIP, Anniversary)  
4.00pm Italian Mass

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

**This week at St Mary's**

**Mon 20th** First Holy Communion Class - 4.15pm  
**in the school hall**

**Weds 22nd** UCM - 2.00pm **in the library**

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so that the light of the Gospel could be given to all. Neither did they show any fear when they had to face the wrath of the Synagogue or Jewish officials. After this they went out into the whole world to win it for Christ.

The Holy Spirit accomplished in them what armies have never been able to do except perhaps in a very limited way. But God used these weak and ignorant men to conquer the world for Christ so it would be obvious that God's power was with them.

But what of today? We can become depressed when we see the state of the world and the state of the Church. We are constantly told the Church is dying, but the Church can never die, because Christ is alive, and His Mystical Body, the Catholic Church, is vivified by the eternal Spirit Who can never die. **The Spirit is the very soul of the Church which can no more be destroyed than the soul of an infant.** The Church throughout history has been attacked and betrayed from within and from without just as She is today. But the Church will never die because Christ can never die again. All the old heresies, errors and betrayals being regurgitated in the Church today will disappear again just as they did in the past, so that in the end He will be glorified in His Mystical Body just as He is now in His physical Body.

So what does this mean for us? Too many Christians are silent today out of fear, perhaps fear of being called names or of being unpopular or not being able to answer difficult questions. Sometimes we can be very comfortable in the "Upper Room" of the parish, but once outside we retreat into silence. The Holy Spirit wants to change that! Pray to Him and ask Him to light a fire in you! We need to win souls for Christ. The spread of the Gospel is in your hands. Be not afraid.

**Come Holy Spirit and enkindle in us the fire of Your love!**

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

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**Prayer for Peace:** On **Monday 20th May at 11.50am** you are invited to join Bishop Patrick in Prayer for Peace. This is a schools' response to the various conflicts affecting thousands of people across the world, especially in Sudan, Gaza and Ukraine. Please join with Bishop Patrick in praying the Angelus and CAFOD's Prayer, 'Peace is...'. This online event can be accessed via a link on this page of the parish website: <http://www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk/prayer-for-peace/>. Cameras and microphones will be automatically turned off to ensure the safeguarding of all students.

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**Calling Foundation Governors.** A virtual information session about being a foundation governor in one of our Catholic schools is taking place on **Thursday 27th June** from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. See the poster on the notice board, or contact: Julie Sweeney at [julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk](mailto:julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk)

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**The UCM Walsingham Pilgrimage** will take place on **Tuesday 2nd July.**

Come and join us. Please add your name to the list at the repository and leave £10 in an envelope with your name on to cover the Pilgrims cost for the day. The coach cost will be collected later. Please see the article "Changes to the UCM National Pilgrimage 2024" on the notice board at the back of the church. Note: the whole day will be spent at the Basilica.

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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*

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## 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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**Parish hall:** Work on the refurbishment of the parish hall has now begun and is likely to take up to another two weeks to complete. The project will include the replacement of the kitchen area and toilet, a new floor, new light fittings and blinds, and the redecoration of the entire room. This means that the hall will not be available for any meetings, post-Mass coffee sessions or other events while the work is in progress. Please accept our apologies for any disruption this will cause.

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**The Repository (Church Shop)** has a plentiful supply of **First Holy Communion and Confirmation** cards and gifts. Cash and card payments accepted.

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## From the Saints

*“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”*

St Catherine of Siena  
(1347 - 1380)



## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

**Day: Saturday 22nd June**  
at St Peter's, Hinckley.

For further details email  
bernardmonaghan@  
btinternet.com.

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**New look website:** Elvira has been working on a new design for the parish website, which she will launch in the next week or two. The transition from the old site should be smooth, but there may be a short period of down time.

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Scan the code to visit the parish website



## Last Week's Finance

**1st Collection:** £871 (£106 gift-aided)

**Catholic Communications:**  
£225

**Standing orders:** £698 @  
30/04 (£635 gift-aided)

**Attendance:** 580

*Thank you*

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## St Mary's bank account details for online donations

*Bank:* Lloyds

*A/c name:* St Mary of Annun Lough RCP

*Sort code:* 30-95-21

*A/c no:* 00481028

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