

# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

14th SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

# NEWSLETTER

## The St Benedict Medal



This Thursday 11th July is the Feast of **St Benedict** (480-547), the great Founder of the Benedictine Order which is the largest religious order in the Church, and the Father of Western Monasticism, who personally founded twelve monasteries. During his life Benedict worked many **miracles** using the **power of the Holy Cross**, and he also became known for his power over the devil, with the Cross of Christ being an efficacious means to frighten him off.

### 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, OLV

#### 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

There is a special **St Benedict Medal** which is once again becoming very popular. It is thought to have originated shortly after St Benedict's death, but the medal, as we know it today, was made in 1880 to commemorate the **fourteenth centenary** of St Benedict's birth at **Monte Cassino**. Many miracles are attributed to it, but it's neither magic or a good luck charm. The medal in itself has no power (as Catholics we may not be superstitious), but as a **sacramental**, its effectiveness lies in the faith and devotion of the wearer and is a constant silent prayer of strength in times of temptation and a rejection of all evil. The medal should be blessed using a **special formula** which you may ask any priest to do.

On the front side of it there is an image of St Benedict holding a cross and the Rule of his order, also known as "**The Rule of St Benedict**". On either side of him are two pedestals: one with a cup of wine and the other with a raven about to take flight. The **cup of wine** recalls a famous incident. Following the death of an Abbot, Benedict was invited to take over the rule of this particular monastery. The monks, who were very lax and unholy, found Benedict much stricter than they had expected and refused to change their way of life, so they poisoned his wine. At the beginning of the meal St Benedict made the sign of the cross over the wine, and the cup holding it immediately shattered into pieces. When they witnessed this miracle they repented, Benedict forgave them and they reformed their lives.

The second pedestal with the **raven** recalls another incident. Benedict was in the habit of feeding a raven by his window from his own portion of bread at mealtimes. Once again an enemy had poisoned the bread. Knowing what had happened, Benedict charged the raven with disposing of the bread so that no one would be

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## Vocations Month



*Blessed Antonio Rosmini*

Please pray for those  
who are sick,

for those who have  
recently died:

Costantino Lallo,  
Ellen Smith,  
Sarah Gallagher,  
Sr Bronagh Rice,  
Sr Mary Imelda Holley  
*may they rest in peace*

and for those whose  
anniversaries occur at  
this time:

Derek Whymark,  
Joan Hunt,  
Barbara Watkins,  
Gerrard Nicholson,  
Christopher Pacynko.

### PLEASE NOTE

Due to government regulations regarding personal data (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 6th** **Vigil Mass**  
6.00pm Intention for the living

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**Sun 7th** **Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
9.00am For the Parish  
11.15am Derek Whymark (RIP, Anniversary)  
4.00pm Italian Mass

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**Mon 8th** **Feria**  
9.15am **Linda Helm** (RIP, Anniversary)

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**Tues 9th** **Feria**  
10.00am Derek Whymark (RIP)  
**St Mary's School Hall**

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**Weds 10th** **Seven Holy Brothers & Ss Rufina & Secunda**  
6.30pm Intention for the living (Latin)

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**Thurs 11th** **St Benedict, Patron of Europe (Feast)**  
9.15am Rev Peter Astill (RIP)

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**Fri 12th** **Feria**  
6.00-6.25pm *Confessions*  
6.30pm Sr Theophila (RIP)

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**Sat 13th** **St Henry**  
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:** For the Parish

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**Sun 14th** **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
9.00am Romana Ronchetti (RIP)  
11.15am Intention for the living  
4.00pm 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

**Tues 9th** Catch-up cafe – 2pm in the hall  
**Weds 10th** UCM – 2pm in the hall

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contaminated by it. The raven obeyed and flew off with the poisoned bread. We see from these two incidents that God always protected Benedict against evil people who were trying to kill him. Similarly the medal has proven itself very effective in frightening off Satan and his minions. St Benedict performed many exorcisms during his life.

Around the outside of the medal is inscribed in Latin, “**May we be strengthened by his presence at the hour of our death.**” St Benedict is regarded as a **patron of a happy death**, because six days before he died he asked for the grave prepared for him to be opened. On the sixth day he asked to be carried to the chapel where he received Holy Communion, lifted up his hands to Heaven and passed away. For this reason his intercession is invoked for a happy death.

On the reverse side of the medal, there is a cross with the initials of a Latin prayer: “**May the Holy Cross be my light! May the dragon never be my guide!**” This is a prayer to be protected from the snares of Satan through the intercession of St Benedict. The letters around the outside of the medal are the initial letters of another traditional Latin exorcism: “**Begone Satan! Never tempt me with your vanities. Evil are things you offer. Drink your own poison.**”

This medal may be worn around the neck or attached to your Rosary or carried in your pocket. The St Benedict medal is on sale at the Repository.

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

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**LACY ask you to save the date!** A date for your diaries from **Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth!** After last year’s success “The Big Sing” will be here again on **6th October 2024** at 4.00 p.m. at The Immaculate Conception Church, Oadby. We are inviting all young people, families, friends and parishes with their own music groups and choirs, to come along and be involved in the liturgy with their voices and instruments. Our posters and full information will come out to you all at the end of August but **SAVE THE DATE TO YOUR DIARIES!** Contact information: Pauline Payne 07885 187374 paulinepayne@hotmail.com or Jo Shearer – joshearer@hotmail.com.

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**Please note** that Mass next **Tuesday 9th July** will be at **10am in St Mary’s School**. It’s the Year 6 Leavers Mass. All are welcome. Please use the main entrance on Hastings Street. There will be no 9.15am Mass that day.

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**March for Life UK** will take place in London on **Saturday 7th** September. There will be a coach from St Mary’s if enough people would like to go. Please sign up on the SPUC noticeboard at the back of the church. The theme for this year’s march is ‘Abortion isn’t Healthcare’. Find out more at [marchforlife.co.uk](http://marchforlife.co.uk).

## **Confirmation 2025:**

Those wishing to be confirmed in 2025 should be in at least Year 7 by September 2024. This is advance notice that anyone applying should be attending weekly Mass **now**. Those not already attending weekly Mass for a considerable time by the time the application forms are available will be asked to postpone their application until such a time as they are.

*Fr Paul*

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## **Family Pilgrimage Day at Mount Saint Bernard’s Abbey. Sunday 1st September.**

Mass at 2pm in the guest house garden, family picnic. Marian procession followed by adoration and Benediction.

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**Catch-up cafe** will take place this **Tuesday 9th July** from 2 - 4pm. As it’s the last before the summer holiday break we will be hosting afternoon tea. A voluntary donation of £2.50 p.p would be greatly appreciated.

*Dorothy Hutchings*

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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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Jesus Youth UK presents to you the 2024 National Teens Conference, 'IGNITE' to be held from **August 23rd**, 2024 to August 26th, 2024 at Worth Abbey. The conference is intended to be a joyful celebration centred around 2 Timothy 1:6 – *'I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you'* with a specific focus on teenagers that are in Year 9 to Year 13 (as of September 2024). The four-day programme is planned with awesome music, theatre, sessions, testimonies, fellowship and amazing fun all along. Register now at [JesusYouth.co.uk](http://JesusYouth.co.uk). For more information email [teensministry@jesusyouth.co.uk](mailto:teensministry@jesusyouth.co.uk) or contact Jitsy Judathadevus (IGNITE General Coordinator) +44 (0) 7384 579728.

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**Contactless payments** can now be made for the weekly offertory, and for donations. Terminals are situated at the back of the church.

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## From the Saints

*"The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."*

(Pope Benedict XVI, 1927-2022)

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## Vocations month:

The Father General of the Rosminians, Fr Marco Tanghetti, has asked that we dedicate the month of July to praying for vocations to the Rosminian Order, who have ministered in Loughborough for almost 200 years. The month begins with the Feast of Blessed Antonio Rosmini on 1st July and we will have extra prayers and Holy Hours for this intention throughout the month. This is the intention for the parish daily Rosary.

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## Last Week's Finance

### 1st Collection:

£891 (£183 gift-aided)

### 2nd collection

**Peter's Pence:** £285

(£10 gift-aided)

### Standing orders:

£704 @ 31/05

(£636 gift-aided)

**Attendance:** 507

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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Scan here for standing order, and gift aid forms.