

# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

18th SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

# NEWSLETTER

## Olympics Blasphemy



I'm sure by now most of you are aware of the obscene and blasphemous opening ceremony of the **Olympics** that took place in Paris just over a week ago. Among other things, **JESUS, the Last Supper, the Mass and the Apostles** were mocked in a highly sexualised, debauched and perverse manner in an act featuring drag queens and demonic looking figures, and all done in the presence of children. The opening ceremony broadcast worldwide was a blatant attack on Christianity and in particular on Catholicism and her moral teaching. While shocking in its brazenness, perhaps we shouldn't be all that surprised. Satan knows which is the true Church, and will therefore always attack it.

There has since been a massive backlash against it from Christians and non-Christians alike. **Bishop Robert Barron**, the popular American media bishop hit the nail on the head when he said that **we now know who they think their enemy is**. The woke leftists feel threatened by Christ and the Catholic Church, because the Catholic faith is a total repudiation of their agenda. But how demoralising it must have been for the many devout Christian and Catholic athletes taking part in the Games who have spent years preparing for it, to then have their faith mocked and blasphemed in this way at the opening ceremony, and in Paris, the eldest daughter of the Church and city of so many saints. The organisers of the Olympics have since apologised and said they never intended to offend anyone. Let's not be naive. They knew full well what they were doing.

However, God decided to let us know what He thought about it, because hours after the opening ceremony, Paris suffered from a power cut that lasted several hours, and the only building not affected was the **Basilica of the Sacré-Coeur**, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of JESUS, which continued to shine brightly on the hill of Montmartre. Darkness can never prevail against the light of Christ. The Sacré-Coeur was built in the 1880s in reparation for the horrors of the **French Revolution** (1789-94), when churches and altars were desecrated, priests and nuns put to death, and a prostitute was enthroned on the High Altar of Notre-Dame and worshipped

*Continued on page 3*

### 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



*St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross*

**Please pray for those who are sick**

**for those who have recently died**

Melanie de Castro

Dennis Webb

Guy Nash

*May they rest in peace*

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

Moyna McGlynn

Mary Comery-Lang

June Gibson

John Bradshaw

Terry Fitzpatrick

## MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

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**Sat 3rd**

**Vigil Mass**

*6.00pm*

Heather Saunders (RIP, Anniversary)

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**Sun 4th**

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*9.00am*

For the Parish

*11.15am*

Pietro Lallo (RIP)

*4.00pm*

**No Italian Mass**

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**Mon 5th**

**Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major (Mem)**

*9.15am*

Intention for the living

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**Tues 6th**

**The Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast)**

*9.15am*

Fr Krzysztof Zalewski & Polish Community of L'boro

*6.30pm*

Holy Hour of Reparation

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**Weds 7th**

**St Cajetan, Confessor**

*6.30pm*

Irena Prusaczyk (RIP) (Latin)

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**Thurs 8th**

**St Dominic (Memoria)**

*9.15am*

Geraldine McCauley Intention

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**Fri 9th**

**St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Feast)**

*6.00-6.25pm*

*Confessions*

*6.30pm*

Intention for the living

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**Sat 10th**

**St Lawrence (Feast)**

*10.30am*

*Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*

*-12.30pm*

*with Confessions 10.30-11.30am & Benediction 12.20pm*

*2.30pm*

*Baptism*

*6.00pm*

**Vigil Mass:** For the Parish

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**Sun 11th**

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*9.00am*

John & Andrew Marples (RIP)

*11.15am*

Fr Jan Bloch (RIP, Anniversary)

*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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### 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.

*Continued from front page*

as the “goddess of reason”. The Sacré-Coeur has had uninterrupted Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration since 1885 to make reparation for these crimes against God.

So what can we do about this blasphemy today? Firstly we can make our protest heard, because we rightly feel offended, and the social and moral order has been further undermined. I hope that you might protest by clicking on the following link: [www.olympics.com/ioc/contact-us](http://www.olympics.com/ioc/contact-us) Of course, Christ being God is not **hurt** by these outrages, but He does expect us to defend His Name among the pagans - **for their sake**, that they might be converted, but also **for our sake**, that we may be strengthened by doing so, as well as giving witness to Christ, thereby strengthening others.

Secondly, and even more importantly, we must make **reparation**, because **God’s honour has been attacked**. Therefore, next **Tuesday 6th August**, the Feast of the Transfiguration, we will have a **Holy Hour of Reparation at 6.30pm**, during which we will pray for the perpetrator’s conversion. I hope as many of you as possible will come. Spend some of the time when you may have been watching the Olympics to make reparation instead. The more people who come, the more graces will be bestowed. This is an opportunity for you to make a public stand and say, “I will not have God mocked!”

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

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**This Tuesday 6th August at 6.30pm, there will be a Holy Hour** in reparation for the blasphemy and mockery against the Our Lord, the Holy Eucharist and the Mass at the opening of the Olympic Games. It will conclude with Benediction. Please support this important act of reparation for this offence against God and His Church.

*Fr Paul*

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**The Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady falls on Thursday 15th August and is a Holyday of Obligation.** Masses will be at 9.15am and 6.30pm. The 6.30pm Latin Mass on **Wednesday 14th August** will be of the Vigil of the Assumption and also fulfils the obligation.

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**The SPANNED annual Mass** is being celebrated by Bishop Patrick at St Peter’s Church, Leicester Road, Hinckley, on **Saturday 21st September** at 2.30pm with our five diocesan groups and their friends. For more details contact Fr Frank Daly after 25th August on 01455 634443 or at [hinckleypriory@gmail.com](mailto:hinckleypriory@gmail.com)

## VACANCIES

**The Diocesan Youth Service has vacancies for two roles based at The Briars, Crich: Centre Manager** (37.5 hours per week; £35-45k) and **Programme Director** (40 hours per week, some evenings and weekends; £28-34k). Application deadline: **Friday 16th August**. Full details and application forms are available at [ndcys.com/job-vacancies/](http://ndcys.com/job-vacancies/)

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### 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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**March for Life UK** will take place in London on **Saturday 7th September**. Find out more at [marchforlife.co.uk](http://marchforlife.co.uk). Unfortunately transport from St Mary’s will not now be possible.

## 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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**Food Bank Collections:** We will be collecting items for the food bank on **Saturday 10th August and Saturday 7th September** between 10.30 and 11.00am in the car park. Items requested: small cans of fruit, tea bags, small jars of coffee and sachets of drinking chocolate, washing machine products, shampoo, shower gel, long life milk and small tubes/bottles of factor 30/50 sun cream. Thank you for your continued support. *Jane Monaghan*

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**Pilgrimage in honour of Blessed Cyprian Tansi, Mount St Bernard Abbey, Saturday 31st August, 10.30am:** This annual event is resuming for the first time since the pandemic. Last year marked 25 years since Blessed Cyprian's beatification and this year it is 60 years since he died in Leicester Royal Infirmary. All welcome to experience a day of great blessings.

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## From the Saints

*"For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places."*

St Paul to the Ephesians, 6:12



## Our Parish now has Contactless Giving

Your donations will maintain our beautiful church building and support the work, mission, and ministry of our parish.

### Contactless giving is simple:

Select your amount and hold your card against the card reader. For donations of £100 or over, Chip & Pin can be used

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## Last Week's Finance

**Collection:** £370 (£85 gift-aided)

**Standing orders:** £832 @ 30/06 (£705 gift-aided)

**Attendance:** 282

*Thank you*

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**Please consider switching your weekly offering to Standing Order and adding Gift Aid if possible**

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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

Alternatively, scan this QR code to donate securely from your phone

