

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

19th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



St Mary of the Annunciation
Catholic Church

97 Ashby Road
Loughborough LE11 3AB

01509 262123

office@

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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

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Loughborough LE11 4SQ

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enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr C Maher

NEWSLETTER

The Assumption and the empty tomb

If you visit Jerusalem, inside the old city walls near Gethsemane is the **Church of the Assumption**, which is the traditional location of Our Lady's tomb. But something is missing. There is no body!

Unlike the tombs of Saints Peter and Paul and countless other saints and martyrs, we have no bodily relics of Mary. Why not? **Because there are none.** And this is what we celebrate every year on 15th August: the Assumption of Our Lady, her being taken up **body and soul into Heaven.** This is different from the Ascension of Our Lord. He went up to Heaven by His own power, whereas Mary was taken up or **'assumed'** into Heaven by God's power.

Why would Mary be granted this privilege? It's because of who she is. Mary was chosen to be the **Mother of God**, and therefore was **preserved from Original Sin from the first moment of her existence.** It's what we call the **Immaculate Conception.** This is not to say that Mary didn't need a Saviour. She herself proclaimed in the Magnificat, *"My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour"* (Luke 1:47). But God applied the merits of the **future** Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ to Mary at the moment of her conception. In other words, instead of being pulled out of the pit of sin, she was prevented from falling into it.

And when you think about it, this is all very fitting. God prepared Mary to be the **Ark of the New Covenant**, meaning she carried in her womb God Himself in the flesh. It is simply unthinkable that the Son of God could dwell in a vessel and take His human flesh from a soul stained by sin. This is why He made Mary immaculate, and since she was without sin, **her body was not subject to decay.** Death had no claim on her. This is why, according to the earliest tradition, when the Apostles returned to her tomb a few days after she had died, they found it empty. Her body and soul were already reunited in Heaven. Incidentally, when **Pope Pius XII** defined the dogma of the Assumption on 1st November 1950, he left open the question of whether Mary died or was simply taken up to Heaven. However the Eastern Churches call this Feast of the Assumption the **"Dormition of the Mother of God"** or the **"Falling asleep of the Mother of God."**

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St Maximilian Kolbe

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died:

Sheila Mary Monaghan
Matilda Abeysekara
May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Terry Fitzpatrick
John Marples
Elizabeth Mallon
Anna Madge
Norah Fay
Maria Camara
Billie Cadwallader
Colm Fox

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 9th Vigil Mass
6.00pm For the Parish

Sun 10th Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am Francesco & Rosina Guarasci (RIP)
11.15am Tommie King (RIP)
4.00pm No Italian Mass

Mon 11th St Clare, Virgin
9.15am Matilda Abeysekara (RIP)

Tues 12th St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious
9.15am John Marples (RIP, Anniversary)

Weds 13th Feria
6.30pm Vu Van Thuong (RIP) (Latin)

Thurs 14th St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest & Martyr
9.15am Marian Kotarba (RIP)

Fri 15th The Assumption of the BVM *Holiday of Obligation*
9.15am Billie Cadwallader (RIP, Anniversary)
6.00-6.25pm Confessions
6.30pm Holy Souls

Sat 16th Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
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: Keith Newton (RIP)

Sun 17th Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am John & Andrew Marples (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm No Italian Mass

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

The next Italian Mass will be on **Sunday 31st August** at 4.00pm

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How does all this concern us? The answer is, **what God did for Mary, He wants to do for us.** At the end of time, when Christ returns in glory for the Last Judgment, every soul will be **reunited with its body** – some to eternal life, and others to eternal separation from God. But those who die in God's grace will receive **glorified bodies**, free from all pain and sickness, and of course, death. As St Paul writes, *“and the dead shall rise again incorruptible, and we shall be changed”* (1 Corinthians 15:52). So the Assumption of Our Lady is a **foreshadowing of our own resurrection.**

So this Friday, don't just think of it as a Holyday of Obligation. The Assumption is a reminder that even though your body will one day rest in the tomb, if you are faithful, that tomb will not be your final destination. Remain in Christ, and ask Mary to pray that we will share in the glory she now possesses.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Organ Restoration Update: The organ has now been dismantled, and its parts have been taken away for repair and cleaning. As part of the project, there will be a general restoration and an upgrade of the electric action. The console will also be relocated from the Lady Chapel to the choir gallery. In the meantime we have the use of an electric keyboard while the work is being carried out. *Fr Paul*

Petitions for Lourdes: Joan Baxter and Molly will be going to Lourdes on 13th August and will be taking with them written petitions to Our Lady, which they will place on the Grotto. If you would like them to take a petition from you, please put it in the box labelled 'Lourdes Petitions' at the back of the church **before the end of the 9.00am Mass this Sunday 10th August.**

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes will begin soon. These classes are intended primarily for adults who are interested in becoming Catholic, but it is also open to Catholics who simply want to know more about their faith, and for Catholics over 18 who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We meet every other Thursday at 7pm in the library. The first class will be on **Thursday 25th September.** Application forms are available from Fr Paul.

Please note that signing up for the course does not commit you to becoming Catholic. It is a journey of exploration and discernment, allowing you to learn more and decide at your own pace.

'Walk to Rome': To assist places for the eight young people joining the Parish Pilgrimage in October, I am organising a collective 'Walk to Rome' - a distance of 1220 miles. Everyone taking part will track how far they walk and then come together for a planned (historical treasure hunt) walk of about 3 miles around Loughborough on **Saturday 13th September.** We will meet outside Olivia's Café in Queens Park at 12.30pm (after Adoration). Do please support if you can. There will be sponsorship forms at the back of church leading up to 13th September. *Liz Abell*

The Martyr-Saints of the North-West, Friday 12th until Sunday 14th September:

A weekend studying some of the Reformation-era martyrs of the North-West region. Part-retreat, part-biographical, the weekend will be led by Monsignor John Allen of Salford Diocese, who has recently published a history of the diocese with a foreword by Eamon Duffy. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-martyr-saints-of-the-north-west/>

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.

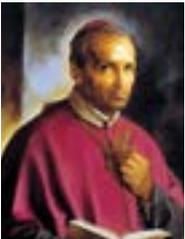
Prayer to Saint Michael

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.

March for Life 2025: On **Saturday 6th September** the annual UK March for Life will take place in London. Join with thousands of others from all over the UK as we march through the streets of London to the Houses of Parliament. There will be a coach from Nottingham, picking up from Good Shepherd Arnold and Cathedral Derby Road, costing adults £30, unwaged including students £15, under 16s £10. To book on the coach or for more information contact Marie (marielangford@live.co.uk, 07948 151264)

Friday 15th August is the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady, body and soul into Heaven, and is a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be at 9.15am and 6.30pm.

Marie Brookes would like thank those who helped her last weekend with the cake and jam stall, and all those who supported it for their generosity. £203.40 was raised for SPUC.



From the Saints

“JESUS did not wish to have the body of Mary corrupted after death, since it would have redounded to His own dishonour to have her virginal flesh, from which He Himself had assumed flesh, reduced to dust.”

St Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787)



The Diocese is looking to appoint an IT and GDPR Administration Assistant based at the Diocesan Curia Office. For more details visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers. Send application forms to: Christa Wardle, HR Officer: office@dioceseofnottingham.uk by 9am on **26th August**.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £528 (of which £88 was Gift-Aided)

Standing orders: £879 @ 30/06 (of which £732 was Gift-Aided)

Attendance: 443

Thank you

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

