

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

NEWSLETTER

21st SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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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

Acting on Good Inspirations

God speaks to us in various ways. While the beauty of nature and the cosmos speak to us of the *existence* of the Creator Himself, the **voice of God** can also be heard in things like sermons and instructions, in the lives of the saints, in the advice from those whose task it is to guide us, and hopefully even in the newsletter! But we must also understand the importance of **good inspirations** and that they come from the **Holy Spirit**. These inspirations can be a **thought or desire or even an impulse which leads us towards God and away from sin**.

You might, for example, feel a sudden urge to say the Rosary, to read a little from the Bible or a spiritual book. You may suddenly feel prompted to go to Confession, or you might be moved to do an act of kindness for someone, or to resist a temptation you normally give in to. All of these can be inspirations from God, and they are one of the **ordinary means** God uses to help us grow in holiness, because every time we follow them, we grow in grace. If we ignore them, they are **missed opportunities for spiritual growth** and the chance to merit a higher degree of glory in Heaven.

The saints tell us we should **act promptly** when we receive a good inspiration. It is dangerous to delay. How many times have you thought, *"I'll pray later"* and then not done it? **Grace is for the present moment, and if God gives you the inspiration now, He wants you to act on it now**. If you put it off you risk losing the grace altogether. How many prayers have not been said because we put it off and then we're too tired to pray at all? **Delay is the enemy of fidelity!**

There is a story about **St Philip Neri** (1515-1595), the 16th century "Apostle of Rome." One day a young man came to him and admitted that he had ignored a prompting he had received earlier in the week to go to the church and pray, and he had thought it was *"just an idea."* St Philip looked at him and said, *"My son, that was the Holy Spirit whispering in your heart. You turned Him away. Next time He calls, you must not delay."* So God doesn't usually speak to us in thunder, lightning or visions. He speaks to us gently through quiet

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Blessed Dominic Barberi

Please pray for those
who are sick

for those who have
recently died:

Fr Jim Gordon IC
Sheila Mary Monaghan
May they rest in peace

and for those whose
anniversaries occur at
this time:

Irene Elsner
Kyle Rooney
Sr Mary Anthony Popple
Mary Durning
Richard Newton
Giovanni D'Amato
Des Scrivens

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 23rd	Vigil Mass 6.00pm For the sanctification of priests
Sun 24th	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.00am Gino, Salvatore & Annamaria Romano (RIP) 11.15am For the Parish 4.00pm No Italian Mass
Mon 25th	St Louis, King & Confessor 10.30am* Sheila Mary Monaghan (RIP)
Tues 26th	Blessed Dominic Barberi, Priest 9.15am For lapsed Catholics of the Parish
Weds 27th	St Joseph Calasanctius, Confessor 6.30pm Rupert de Lisle (RIP, Anniversary) (Latin)
Thurs 28th	St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor 9.15am Garth Rhodes (RIP)
Fri 29th	The Beheading of St John the Baptist 6.00-6.25pm <i>Confessions</i> 6.30pm Criselda Castillo (RIP)
Sat 30th	Dedication of our Cathedral (Feast) 10.30am <i>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i> -12.30pm <i>with Confessions 10.30-11.30am & Benediction 12.20pm</i> 2.30pm <i>Baptism</i> 6.00pm Vigil Mass: For the Parish
Sun 31st	Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.00am For peace in the world 11.15am Michael Boakes (RIP) 4.00pm Italian Mass
Rosary	<i>Mon, Tues, Thurs after 9.15am Mass; Wed, Fri at 6.00pm; First Saturday of each month after 10.00am Mass</i>

*** Please note that with Monday being a Bank Holiday, Mass will be at 10.30am.**

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movements of the heart or in thoughts that come into our mind.

We must also understand that **not all impulses come from God**, but how can we tell the difference? A good inspiration will never contradict the teaching of the Church. Neither will it lead us into sin or cause us to neglect our duties. So the thought to go to Mass in the week, or to be nice to someone who annoys us is clearly an impulse from God, whereas an impulse to break one of the commandments, such as missing Sunday Mass because *“it won't matter this once”* is clearly not from God. That would be a temptation. God never inspires us to sin or to abandon our duties.

The above story of St Philip Neri reminds us that **God knocks gently at the door of our hearts** and will never force His way in. But if you open that door **promptly**, Christ will enter and bless you. If you dilly dally or ignore Him, the moment will be lost. Our constant and prompt response to these graces will ensure our safe arrival in Heaven.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

A gentle reminder: It might be prudent for ladies to keep their handbags with them when coming forward for Holy Communion, rather than leaving them in the pews. This is simply a precaution, as we all wish to keep our belongings safe and avoid any unnecessary worry. Thank you.

Fr Paul

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.

March for Life 2025: On **Saturday 6th September** the annual UK March for Life will take place in London. 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)

‘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 Mary Potter Heritage Centre is taking part in this year’s Heritage Open Days Festival. Visit the Centre at 32 Regent Street, Nottingham NG1 5BT, on **Saturday 13th September**, from 12.00 noon to 5.00pm. It’s a wonderful opportunity to learn, discover and explore the life and mission of Venerable Mary Potter and The Little Company of Mary Sisters through interactive screens, quotations, and artefacts.

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.

Grub Club: During the summer break, Grub Club opened for seven sessions, providing a total of 449 hot meals and gallons of ice-cream to 39 adults and 84 children. On average there were 15 volunteers per session. Then, on 14th August, 67 Grub Clubbers and three volunteers had a day out at Twin Lakes. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time.

From the feedback we get we know how much Grub Club is valued and appreciated. On behalf of the management committee, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, energy and enthusiasm to make life a little better for some of the people in our local community. We are also grateful to the United Reformed Church for allowing us to use their premises. We hope to be open again at October half-term.

Eileen Smith



From the Saints

"As soon as we know the Will of God, we ought without delay to follow it."

St Paul of the Cross (1694-1775)

SPUC Meeting: Save the Date. The next meeting of the Loughborough SPUC Branch will take place on **1st September** at 7.00pm in the parish hall. All welcome.

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: £695 (of which £140 was Gift-Aided)

Standing orders: £831 @ 31/07 (of which £710 was Gift-Aided)

Attendance: 475

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

