

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

NEWSLETTER

33rd 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, 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

The End Times?

We are approaching the end of the liturgical year, and so once again we turn our attention to the end – that is the **end of the world** and the **end of our own lives**. These are not things we like to dwell upon very much, but the Church, ever the good Mother, won't let us escape so easily!

In today's Gospel (Luke 21:5-19), Our Lord speaks clearly: ***"Nation will rise against nation ... there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences."*** These signs are meant to awake us from spiritual sleep. The Catechism doesn't shy away from these realities either. **"Before Christ's second coming, the Church must pass through a final trial that will shake the faith of many believers"** (#675). This time of testing will involve deception, persecution, apostasy and suffering – not to destroy us, but to **purify us**. The Church, like the Divine Master, must pass through her own Passion before entering into glory. The Catechism goes on to teach that **"the Kingdom will be fulfilled ... not by a historic triumph of the Church through a progressive ascendancy, but only by God's victory over the final unleashing of evil"** (#677). So things will get much worse before they get better. **It will appear as if evil has won**. Yet don't be fooled. God permits this only to manifest His power and His justice, because **Christ has already won the victory**.

But it's not the end of the world yet. Other prophecies have to be fulfilled first. Without a doubt, the times coming are going to be a **great test of our faith**, but don't be tempted to think God doesn't care, that He doesn't exist, or that the Church's claims to be the true religion are false. We have to see what is happening now from a **spiritual perspective**. And these things *have* to happen to **test our faith, to purify us and the world**.

Just as Our Lord rose from the dead, this will lead to the **glorious resurrection of the Church**. Our Lady of Fatima prophesied in 1917, there will be trials and tribulations, wars and persecutions of the Church – even from within the Church, but in the end, when it seems as if everything is lost, **then her Immaculate Heart will**

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St Hugh of Lincoln

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died:

Beatrice Murton
Eleuterio Jesus
Concetta O'Rourke,
May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Roger Galvin
Everard Hurt
Carmela Giancola
Norah McKeown
Vincenzo Caruso
Lidia Buttarazzi

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 15th <i>6.00pm</i>	Vigil Mass Deceased members of the Giorgio & Corbo families
Sun 16th <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Domenico Romano (RIP) For the Parish No Italian Mass
Mon 17th <i>9.15am</i>	St Hugh of Lincoln, Patron of the Diocese (Feast) Gino Romano (RIP, Anniversary)
Tues 18th <i>9.15am</i>	Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss Peter & Paul Roger Galvin (RIP, Anniversary)
Weds 19th <i>10.30am</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	St Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious <i>Requiem Mass: Concetta O'Rourke RIP</i> Noreen Slowey (RIP) (Ordinariate)
Thurs 20th <i>9.15am</i>	Feria No Public Mass
Fri 21st <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary <i>Confessions</i> Vincenzo Caruso (RIP)
Sat 22nd <i>10.30am</i> <i>-12.30pm</i> <i>6.00pm</i>	St Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr <i>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am & Benediction 12.20pm</i> Vigil Mass: Mathew Abraham (RIP, Anniversary)
Sun 23rd <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	Christ the King (Solemnity) For the Parish Emily Houston (RIP) 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>
THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S	
Mon 17th	Christmas Fayre meeting - 7.00pm in the hall
Tues 18th	Bible Study - 7.00pm in the library
Thurs 20th	RCIA - 7.00pm in the library

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triumph. A period of peace will be granted to the world, and then the Church will rise and be more glorious than she has ever been in her entire history. That's what we're looking forward to. But what we're living through now is the time of **testing**, and it's going to be very difficult for all of humanity.

So be prepared. Our Lord tells us in today's Gospel, *"By your perseverance, you will secure your lives."* This means **holding fast to the truth** when the world mocks it, **keeping the faith** when others abandon it, and it means **staying faithful to the teachings of the Church**, when those around us, and sometimes even those high up in the Church, seem to abandon it. Trust in God that all these prophecies will lead to the greater good.

So as the year comes to a close, let us **recommit to Christ**. Prepare yourself for whatever is coming. Attend Mass whenever possible, pray the Rosary daily, offer sacrifices for the conversion of sinners, and confess your sins. **Live as if this day may be your last** - not in fear, but in faith. Our Lady promised her Immaculate Heart will triumph. Let's be sure to be among those who share in it.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

School admissions to Catholic Primary Academies (Reception Year) - Children born between 01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022. The deadline for submitting an application for a school place is 15th January 2026. Application forms are available on your 'home' Local Authority website. For every Catholic school you apply for if you wish your child to be considered and ranked under a faith criterion you should also complete a supplementary information form, and return this form to the school by the deadline, (forms are available from the LA and the school). You must also include the supporting evidence* as required with this form, ie a baptism certificate (photocopies are acceptable; contact the parish of baptism if you don't have a copy); failure to supply the required supporting evidence will mean your child is ranked in a lower criterion which may affect your chance of a place.

Holy Water: Maria Simma (1915-2004) the Austrian mystic, who for over 60 years had visions of the Holy Souls in Purgatory, said, *"Holy Water is an important means to help the Poor Souls, if we use it with faith and confidence ... It is best to frequently sprinkle a drop with a short prayer for the Poor Souls. It is very regrettable that in many homes one can no longer find a Holy Water font, as thus the Poor Souls have to miss this great help."* Holy Water is available to take from the urn by the Sacred Heart altar.

Bake Off Comes to St Mary's! Get your aprons ready - it's time for The Great Mince Pie Bake Off at this year's Christmas Fayre! Think your mince pies could be crowned the best in the parish? Entry forms are available at the back of the church - just £5 to enter. All entries will be anonymously judged by our Fathers, with a special prize for the winning pies. All details are on the entry forms (and yes, we'll be keeping an eye out for any soggy bottoms!).

The Walk with Me booklets with daily meditations from Advent to the Epiphany are now available with a suggested donation of £1.

Stand up for religious freedom! Consider signing Aid to the Church in Needs' global petition supporting persecuted Christians. By signing this petition, you can help urge world leaders to act on behalf of those who suffer simply for practising their faith. Click the link or use the QR code below. acnuk.org/article-18-petition-religious-freedom-human-right-not-privilege



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.

Organ recital: To celebrate the Centenary of the present church and the restoration of the organ, Colin Walsh, organist emeritus at Lincoln Cathedral, will be giving a recital here on **Monday 8th December** at 6.45pm, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It will be preceded by Mass at 6.00pm.

The Jesuit Institute is offering an Advent Online Retreat between Sunday 7th and Thursday 11th December, giving participants an opportunity to spend more time with God and listen to how God is at work in their lives in the lead up to Christmas. Details, and booking information, is at: www.jesuitinstitute.org/events/online-individually-guided-retreat---advent

From the Saints

"The Bride (the Church) now all deformed and clothed in rags, will then gleam with beauty and jewels and crowned with the diadem of all virtue. All believing nations will rejoice and have such excellent and holy shepherds, and the unbelieving world, attracted by the glory of the Church, will be converted to her."

St Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)



Our annual Mass for the Bereaved will be on Thursday 27th November at 6.30pm. All parishioners are invited to attend.

The next edition of the Parish News is now available. The suggested donation is £1 to help cover print costs. The magazine features the Consecration of the Church, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and lots more. Thank you for your support.

Please note there will be no Mass on Thursday 20th November.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £837 (of which £123 was G/A)

Standing orders: £852 @ 31/10 (of which £730 was G/A)

Attendance: 654

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

