

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

12th Sunday in
Ordinary Time



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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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

NEWSLETTER

The Wisdom of God's Commandments

You may have noticed some of the signs around the university recently, referring to exhibitions and forthcoming graduations. It reminded me about an event in 2024, the emotional story of Lorenzo Monfardini, a story that went viral around the world. It was the video of his graduation. It transmits a simple but increasingly rare message: *sincere gratitude to parents for the sacrifices they make for their children.*

Monfardini was 22 years old at the time. Receiving his degree in production engineering from the Federal University of Ouro Preto in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais, the young man walked across the stage carrying a heavy gas cylinder on his back. The object was far from being a simple prop. It represented the 26 years of work and dedication of his father, Jefferson Gomes Monfardini. His father built his career in the commercial sector of a gas company to guarantee better opportunities for his family. Visibly moved, Monfardini transformed that instant into a public homage of gratitude. Explaining the meaning behind the gesture, he said, *"Dad, there are no words to express how grateful I am for everything you do for me. This cylinder represents your dedication."* The scene moved family members, colleagues, and thousands of internet users, who rapidly shared the video on social media.

The story resonated deeply because it speaks directly to the reality of millions of families. Many mothers and fathers face exhausting work hours, financial difficulties, and countless challenges to provide education and opportunities for their children; Monfardini's gesture gave visibility to this frequently *silent sacrifice*. Behind every diploma, degree and college course, there are often years of self-denial, effort, and hard work by parents, who put their *children's dreams* above their own.

For us Christians, the young man's attitude particularly brings to mind the *Fourth Commandment: "Honour your father and your mother."* More

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Ss John Fisher & Thomas More

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died:

Giovanni Lallo

May he rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Katarzyna Hönl

Agnes Husser

Marina De Silva

Brenda Rooney

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 20th Vigil Mass
6.00pm Ann O'Rourke (RIP, Anniversary)

Sun 21st Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am For the Parish
11.15am In Thanksgiving
4.00pm Italian Mass

Mon 22nd Ss John Fisher (Bishop) & Thomas More, Martyrs (Feast)
9.15am Phyllis & Aislabie Harrison (RIP)

Tues 23rd St Etheldreda, Abbess
9.15am Intention for the living

Weds 24th Nativity of St John the Baptist (Solemnity)
6.30pm Fr Paul Gillham (GE) (Latin)

Thurs 25th Feria
9.15am Andrew Marples (RIP, Anniversary)

Fri 26th Feria
5.00pm Baptism
6.00-6.25pm Confessions
6.30pm Gerard Devlin (RIP)
Confirmations

Sat 27th 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: Patrick Hollingsworth (RIP, Anniversary)

Sun 28th Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles (Solemnity)
9.00am Andrew & John Marples (RIP)
11.15am For the Parish
4.00pm Italian Mass

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

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Weds 24th UCM - 2.00pm in the parish hall

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than just using words, Monfardini chose to express his gratitude through a concrete action; he publicly recognized the love and dedication he has received throughout his life. The sacrifices from which he benefited.

Our society is often marked by individualism and the constant search for personal recognition. In this context, his tribute is a reminder of the importance of **gratitude**, respect, and valuing our family and benefactors. **Gratitude for all that we daily receive.**

Not by chance, thousands of comments praised the beauty of the gesture. One message summarized the feelings of many: *“Honouring your father and mother is the first step to becoming a human being of stature.”* The phrase echoes the lesson left by the young graduate: Personal achievements gain an even greater meaning when we recognize the people who walked by our side and made each step of the journey possible. Those who prayed and worked to support our dreams. How true that is for all of us. **God’s wisdom in His Commandments bearing fruit.** Two years later, the story continues to move people. This is because it speaks to universal values that never age: *love, sacrifice, gratitude, and family.* In times filled with so much difficult news, Lorenzo Monfardini’s gesture remains a powerful testimony that recognizing the efforts and sacrifices of others, is still one of the most beautiful ways to honour them, and honour God.

Fr David Jones, OLV

RCIA: The new RCIA programme will begin in September for adults (over 18) who are interested in becoming Catholic. It is also suitable for adult Catholics who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, as well as for those who would simply like to know more about the Catholic faith. Classes will take place in the parish library at 7pm on alternate Thursdays, beginning on Thursday 24th September. For further information or to request an application form, please contact the parish office, or speak to one of the priests.

Confirmation 2027: Those wishing to be confirmed next year should be in at least Year 7 by September 2026. This is advance notice that anyone intending to apply for the course should be attending weekly Mass now. Those who have not already been attending weekly Mass by the time the application forms become available will be asked to postpone their application until such a time as they are.

Fr Paul

KSC Quiz: The Knights of St Columba are holding their next quiz in Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 7.30pm on **Saturday 4th July**, with all profits from the evening going to CAFOD, a cause well known to all of us. The cost remains just £7 a head, £3 for children and students, to include a cheese supper, wine and soft drinks. Recent quizzes have been very well attended, so if you would like to go please call Will Holland on 07811 353 248 to help plan the catering.

Young people aged 14-18 are invited to the ASCENT’s Alpha Holy Spirit Day on Saturday 11th July, from 12.30pm until 6.30pm, at The Briars Retreat Centre, Matlock, DE4 5BW. The cost of the Day is £3, and more details are available from esther@theascentuk.co.uk

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.

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.

Concert at Nottingham Cathedral, 18th July at 3.00pm: The Cathedral Children's Choir and Lay Clerks, accompanied by local instrumental ensemble saraBande, will perform Haydn's Missa Sancti Johannes de Deo and Vivaldi's Gloria. Following the concert tea and cake will be served in the Cathedral Hall. Admission by donation to the Cathedral Music Fund. No need to book in advance.

Concert at St Mary's in the Lace Market Nottingham, 23rd July at 7.00pm: *Cappella Lavensis*, The Chamber Choir of Maria Laach Benedictine Abbey in Germany, present 'Bach and Mendelssohn: The Eternal Legacy'. Suggested donation of £10.



From the Saints

"In the twilight of life, we will be judged according to how we have loved."

St Aloysius Gonzaga (1568-1501)

The second collection this weekend will go towards the Day for Life Fund, which distributes grants to organisations that promote respect for life from conception until natural death. You can also donate online via the Day for Life website www.dayforlife.org.

Last Week's Finance

1st collection: £582 (of which £130 was G/A)

Aid to the Church in Need: £304 (of which £489 were G/A commitments to ACN)

Standing orders: £899 @ 31/05 (of which £721 was G/A)

Attendance: 553

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

