

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

18th 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

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Loughborough LE11 5AX

01509 212621

office@stmarys-rc.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss P Jordan

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Headteacher: Mr C Maher

NEWSLETTER

JESUS: the New Moses

In today's Gospel (Matthew 14:13-21), we hear the well-known miracle of JESUS **feeding five thousand people** with just five loaves and two fish. The crowd, of course, was amazed, but this is about much more than just filling people's hungry stomachs. This miracle shows us **Who JESUS really is**.

As Catholics, when we read the Bible, we always have to **read the New Testament in the light of the Old**, because the events and miracles of the Old Testament **all point to Christ**. The Church has always recognised **Moses** as a "type" or "pre-figuring" of Christ. The early Fathers of the Church called JESUS the "**New Moses**" but infinitely greater than Moses, because He is not just God's servant – **He is God Himself**. Fifteen hundred years before Our Lord was born, Moses foretold Our Lord's coming: "*The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you*" (Deuteronomy 18:15). **St Peter** declared that this prophecy was fulfilled in Christ (Acts 3:22). And the Father Himself confirmed this at the Transfiguration when He said, "*This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased; listen to Him*" (Matthew 17:5).

The similarities between Moses and Our Lord are very striking. Moses rescued the Israelites from the **slavery of the Egyptians** to take them to the **Promised Land**, a land flowing with milk and honey. Christ rescued us from the far greater **slavery of sin** and the devil. Through His Passion, Death and Resurrection, JESUS has opened the way for us to the **true Promised Land** – not any earthly dwelling, but **Heaven itself**. As a baby, Moses escaped the **murderous decree of Pharaoh**, and the infant JESUS escaped the **death decree of Herod**. Moses passed through the waters of the **Red Sea**, and JESUS sanctified the waters by His Baptism in the **River Jordan**. Moses **fasted forty days on Mount Sinai**, and JESUS **fasted forty days in the wilderness**. Moses **received the Law** on Mount Sinai, whereas JESUS **proclaimed the New Law** in the **Sermon on the Mount**. Whereas Moses spoke on **God's behalf**, JESUS spoke with **God's authority** when He said, "*You have heard that it was said ... but I say to you ...*" (Matthew 5:21-22). Only God can speak like that.

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St Dominic

Please pray for those who are sick:

for those who have recently died:

May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Pina Stanyard,
Brian Mortell,
Moyna McGlynn,
Mary Comery-Lang,
John Bradshaw

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 1st <i>6.00pm</i>	Vigil Mass Heather Saunders (RIP, Anniversary)
Sun 2nd <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i>	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 50th anniversary of ordination For the Parish
Mon 3rd <i>9.15am</i>	Feria Intention for the living
Tues 4th <i>9.15am</i>	St John Mary Vianney, Priest Intention for the living
Weds 5th <i>6.30pm</i>	Dedication of St Mary Major Editha & Crispin Castillo (RIP, Anniversary) (Latin)
Thurs 6th <i>9.15am</i>	The Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast) For the people of Sloviansk
Fri 7th <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	Feria: Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart <i>First Friday</i> <i>Confessions</i> For our Deceased Relatives & Friends <i>Followed by Benediction</i>
Sat 8th <i>10.30am</i> <i>-12.30pm</i> <i>6.00pm</i>	St Dominic, Priest <i>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am & Benediction 12.20pm</i> Vigil Mass: For the Parish
Sun 9th <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i>	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time John & Andrew Marples (RIP) Private Intention
Rosary	<i>Mon, Tues, Thurs after 9.15am Mass; Wed, Fri at 6.00pm; First Saturday of each month after 10.00am Mass</i>
Family Mass and Picnic, Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, Sunday 13th September. All welcome. Bring a chair or picnic blanket, and arrive for Mass at 2.00pm, plus Marian Procession and Adoration. More details from jnoakes@englishmartyrs.com	

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One of the greatest signs that JESUS is the New Moses is the **miracle of the feeding of the five thousand**. Moses prayed in the desert and God fed the Israelites with the miraculous bread or manna from Heaven (Exodus 16). JESUS simply took five loaves and two fish, blessed it, and fed the multitudes. **This was to prepare them for the still greater miracle of the Holy Eucharist**, when He gave us the true Bread from Heaven – His own Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. **“The bread that I shall give, is My Flesh, for the life of the world”** (John 6:51). The manna in the desert sustained life for a day. The bread of the Holy Eucharist gives **eternal life**.

Let us never forget that every time we come to Mass, **we meet the same JESUS who fed the five thousand**. He still feeds His people today, not with ordinary bread, but with Himself. That is why we should come to Mass every Sunday, prepare carefully - with Confession if necessary - to receive Holy Communion, and never take this wonderful gift for granted. And this miracle also reminds us that JESUS is far more than a great teacher or a miracle worker. He is the **New Moses, the Promised Messiah, God Himself**, Who leads us out of sin, feeds us with the true Heavenly Bread, and guides us to the true Promised Land, which is Heaven.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Oppose Assisted Suicide. As you may have seen, the proposal to legalise assisted suicide which was rejected by the Lords in the last parliamentary session is returning to the Commons in exactly the same form on **Friday 11th September**. Our Bishops have asked us to oppose this legislation, on the grounds that it undermines respect for the innate value of life; that it could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives; and that it risks putting many hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. The Bishops have asked us to contact / write to our MPs once again, to express our opposition to this bill. They have provided materials to help us to do this on their website (www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/). SPUC also offers advice on what to say to your MP ([SPUC.org.uk/Fight the Terminally Ill Adults \(End of Life\) Bill](http://SPUC.org.uk/Fight the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill)). There is only a short time before the bill is debated on 11th September. Please contact your MP as soon as possible.

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

Mature Adults group:

The next meeting of the Mature Adults group will be on **Monday 3rd August** at 2pm in Sacred Heart Church Hall. All Welcome. The church is next to Tesco on Park Road and the hall is next to the church. There is a £1 charge to cover tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes. This month Will Holland will give a talk on “Being a first responder” He will also demonstrate CPR (cardiac resuscitation) The group meets for about one and a half hours every month and is very welcoming. For any further information please talk with Emily after Mass.

Golden Jubilee of

SPANNED Our diocesan agency supporting people with additional needs (SPANNED) is 50 years old this year and will be marked by a Golden Jubilee Mass celebrated by Bishop Patrick at Saint Peter’s Church, Hinckley, on **Saturday 26th September** at 2.00pm. All are very welcome to share this wonderful milestone. If you are contemplating coming please contact Father Frank Daly, on 01455 634443, or hinckleypriory@gmail.com by 31st August, to help with catering arrangements.

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.

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.

Fr Paul

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



From the Saints

"Recognise in the Bread what hung upon the Cross, and in the Chalice what flowed from His side."

(St Augustine of Hippo, 354-430)

Ride+Stride, 12th

September 2026:

Cycle, walk, jog, run, or drive your mobility scooter round some of the 225+ Leicestershire historic churches, including St Mary's, registered for this event. You will be helping raise funds for their repair and improvement.

Sponsorship forms are available from Elvira.

For more information, see the poster at the back of the church, or visit <https://lhct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

Last Week's Finance

Collection:

£644.18
(of which £140 was G/A)

Standing orders:

£942 @ 30/06
(of which £736 was G/A)

Attendance: 490

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

