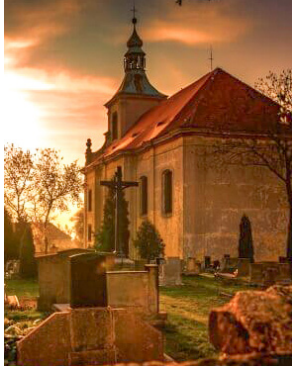


St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

30th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

97 Ashby Road
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

Reclaiming the Catholic Meaning of Halloween

Next Saturday, 31st October, millions will be celebrating **Halloween**, which for most will mean fancy dress, pumpkins, sweets and parties. For others it has become associated with ghosts, witches, the occult and a fascination with the dark side of the supernatural world. But I wonder how many people, how many Catholics, realise that **Halloween has its roots in the Catholic Faith**, and that Halloween is an abbreviation of All Hallows Eve which is All Saints.

For centuries, the Church has set aside **1st November** to honour all the saints in Heaven. Not only canonised saints, but all those men and women in Heaven who have fought the good fight, kept the Faith and now enjoy the eternal reward of Heaven promised by Our Lord. In days past, the evening before this great Feast was a time of preparation for All Saints. And Halloween means **“the evening before All Saints.”**

As Catholics we believe that Heaven is real, and that the saints there are alive in Christ. We hope to join them there one day in eternal happiness. The saints are not remote, pious figures who have nothing in common with us. On the contrary, they were men and women who **struggled against sin, overcame temptation, suffered for the Faith and persevered in difficulties**, and they are of all ages and from **all walks of life**. So they remind us that holiness is not an impossibility, but the very purpose for which God created us. Even the scary costumes of skeletons and ghosts remind us that death is not the end. **The body dies, but the soul is immortal.** The person, in other words, does not cease to exist. Every human being has an immortal soul, and Our Lord promises resurrection to eternal life and happiness to those who remain united with Him.

However, **it is anti-Christian to be dabbling in the occult**, Ouija boards, consulting mediums, attending séances, trying to communicate with the dead, or joking around with things like witchcraft and demonic powers.

Continued on page 3



Ss Simon & Jude

**Please pray for those
who are sick:**

**for those who have
recently died:**

Barbara Heath,
Pasquale Di Lena

May they rest in peace

**and for those whose
anniversaries occur at
this time:**

Margaret Stanford,
Vince Guarasci,
Mario Sepede,
Fr Ted Cody IC

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 24th <i>6.00pm</i>	Vigil Mass Barbara Heath (RIP)
Sun 25th <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Giovanni di Niro (RIP) Pat Balintine (RIP) <i>Italian Mass</i>
Mon 26th <i>9.15am</i>	Ss Chad & Cedd, Bishops Zuzanna Kowalska (RIP)
Tues 27th <i>9.15am</i>	Feria Intention for the living
Weds 28th <i>6.30pm</i>	Ss Simon & Jude, Apostles Deceased members of the Lallo family (Latin)
Thurs 29th <i>9.15am</i>	Feria Allen S Junio (RIP)
Fri 30th <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	Feria <i>Confessions</i> Rose Magrath (RIP)
Sat 31st <i>10.30am</i> <i>-12.30pm</i> <i>2.30pm</i> <i>6.00pm</i>	Vigil of All Saints <i>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am & Benediction 12.20pm</i> <i>Baptism</i> Vigil Mass: For the Parish
Sun 1st <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>3.00pm</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	All Saints (Solemnity) Stephen Bowmer (RIP, Anniversary) Deceased members of the Giorgio & Mancini families Blessing of Graves, Loughborough Cemetery Italian Mass at the Mausoleum
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

Tues 27th	Bible Study - 7.00pm in the parish library
Weds 28th	UCM - 2.00pm in the parish hall

Continued from front page

They can open the door to evil, and if engaged in, they need to be confessed and absolved.

So how should Catholic families celebrate Halloween? Well, there's nothing wrong with dressing up, but why not dress up as **saints or angels instead?** And parents, take time to tell your children **stories from the lives of the saints**. If you don't know them, there are plenty of good books out there to help. Children love these stories and it can be a wonderful family event at which you can tell them what Halloween is *really* about. Don't miss the opportunity! I particularly recommend "**All Hallows' Eve**" a fairly new book by **Anthony DeStefano**. It's for younger children and beautifully illustrated with a very good Catholic story. Adults would also enjoy it.

So on 1st November we celebrate the **saints in Heaven**, and on 2nd November we remember the **faithful departed in Purgatory**. These feasts remind us of the **Communion of Saints**: that is the **Church Triumphant** in Heaven, the **Church Suffering** which are the souls being purified in Purgatory, and the **Church Militant**, which all of us still making our pilgrimage here on earth.

So this year, let us really try and recover what the world has long forgotten. We do not belong to the kingdom of darkness. **We belong to the kingdom of light, which is JESUS Christ, the true Light of the World**. And let us teach our children that the greatest adventure is not to dabble with evil, but to become a saint.

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

Relics of St Gerard Majella: On **Tuesday 10th November**, Fr Royston Price, a Redemptorist missionary from Clapham, London, will be bringing the relics of St Gerard Majella, a Redemptorist saint, to St Mary's. This will consist of an evening Mass at 6.30pm, with the church open for private prayer before the relics an hour beforehand, and an opportunity for individual or family blessings with the relics afterwards. St Gerard is known as the patron saint of mother's, couples trying to conceive and childbirth. Several priests will be available for confessions from 5.30pm. We need a full church for this. Please put the date in your diary.

Fr Paul

The fundraising for the Enabling Our Mission campaign is drawing to a close throughout the diocese. With pledges surpassing £5 million, the Diocesan Team would like thank all who have made this possible.

First Holy Communion application forms are available after Mass. The closing date is **Sunday 1st November**. Classes will begin in the New Year.

Holy Souls: The November Blessing of Graves and Rosary at Loughborough Cemetery will be on **Sunday 1st November** at 3pm, meeting in the car park just before.

Next Monday 2nd November is All Souls Day, Masses will be at 9.15am, 12 noon (Sung Latin), and 6.30pm.

'Novena for the Relief of the Poor Souls in Purgatory' booklets are available to buy from the repository.

Catechist Formation: The Diocese of Nottingham is offering three courses about being a catechist: if you are interested in being a catechist, are just starting out, or have been a catechist for a long time, there is a course for you. All courses are on Zoom on Thursday evenings, with the first course, Encounter Catechesis, exploring four big questions about the foundations of catechesis, from **Thursday 5th November**. Speak to your parish priest, or email formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Thank you for your continued support of the Your Store Food Bank. The next collections from the car park (10.30-11am) will be on **7th November and 12th December**.

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.

Safeguarding - Enhanced DBS holders: A number of these are up for renewal and over the next few weeks I'll be distributing the relevant forms to you. Kindly note that once the Diocese has your completed forms you will automatically be sent a further link to be completed and there is just a two week window to do this. Thank you for volunteering in our parish and completing the process of DBS screening.

Jane Monaghan PSR

The Diocese is looking to appoint a DBS Administrator and Safeguarding Support as a one-year fixed-term full time (37.5 hours) appointment. The salary is £29,000 per annum, based at the Diocesan Office, Castle Quay, Nottingham, NG7 1FW, with hybrid working considered. To request an application form and job description, email office@dioceseofnottingham.uk. The closing date is **Sunday 1st November**.

Mature Adults Group meeting, 2nd November, Sacred Heart Church Hall, 2.00pm-3.45pm. All welcome. This month's talk is by Tom McNally on walking The Camino de Santiago in Spain. Usual donation £1. Parking available at Tesco nearby. For more information please talk to Emily.

From the Saints

"Let us become saints, that we may be with the saints."

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897)



CELEBRATE has produced an online family pack for All Saints, and celebrating saints throughout the year. It's full of ideas on how to get to know the saints with suggestions for crafts and activities, prayers, books and videos. It's free to download with a suggested family donation of £3, and is available at www.celebratetrust.org/shop/walkingwiththesaints

Job Vacancy: Exaireo are looking for a Support Worker, please see the noticeboard for details.

Last Week's Finance

1st Collection: £757.37 of which £165 was G/A

World Mission Sunday: £352.23

Standing Orders: £926 @ 30/09 (of which £741 was G/A)

Attendance: 646

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

