

St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

28th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

NEWSLETTER

Why “come as you are” isn’t okay for God’s banquet

It’s true that everyone is **welcome** in Jesus’ house. But just **showing up** won’t cut it.

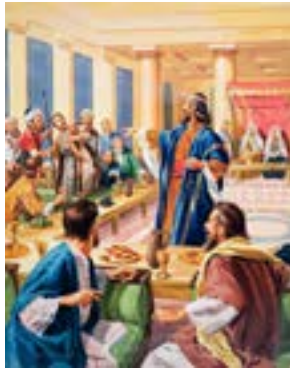
The king said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called (invited), but few are chosen.” (Matthew 22:12-14)

In this passage, Jesus tells the story of a king who is hosting a wedding banquet for his son. Even though the invitation is from the king, the invited guests decline to attend. The king tries again. This time, the servants are told to tell the invitees about the menu as a further enticement. And yet, the response is the same: **“Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business.”** Others of those invited took things a step further by abusing the servants. What was the king to do? His son was still to be married, and the banquet tables had been set. He orders his troops to punish the people who attacked his servants. But, more significantly, he told them to go out, “into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.”

The king abandoned custom and convention. He defied the expectations of the culture and was prepared to welcome into the royal banquet hall anyone who would accept the invitation. This message from Jesus would have been remarkable enough. He was telling a story that subverted the expectations of the culture. But Jesus doesn’t stop there. Although the king would have known that the rich and poor, local people and foreigners, the well and sick would have been in the banquet hall, he still singles out a man whom he feels is not appropriately dressed for the occasion and he has him thrown out of the hall into the dark of night.

This certainly doesn’t seem fair. No conditions were given and the servants did exactly what they were told to do. But, as he does in other parables, Jesus is pulling the rug from beneath our feet. Remember, this isn’t just a nice story. **Parables are intended to throw us off**

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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



St Teresa of Avila

Please pray for those who are sick

for those who have recently died

Andrew Faiers
May he rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Phyllis Wood
Frank Mills
Brian Dzudzewicz
Rich Fabol

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 10th <i>6.00pm</i>	Vigil Mass Gregory Baker (RIP)
Sun 11th <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time For the Parish Zuzanna Kowalska (RIP) <i>Italian Mass</i>
Mon 12th <i>9.15am</i>	St Wilfrid, Bishop John & Pat McGee (RIP)
Tues 13th <i>9.15am</i>	St Edward, Confessor Cresilda Castillo (RIP, Anniversary)
Weds 14th <i>6.30pm</i>	St Callistus I, Pope & Martyr In Thanksgiving for the defeat of Assisted Suicide Bill (Latin)
Thurs 15th <i>9.15am</i>	St Teresa of Avila, Virgin & Doctor Intention for the living (60th Wedding Anniversary)
Fri 16th <i>6.00-6.25pm</i> <i>6.30pm</i>	St Margaret Mary Alacogue, Virgin <i>Confessions</i> John & Pat McGee (RIP)
Sat 17th <i>10.30am</i> <i>-12.30pm</i> <i>1.00pm</i> <i>6.00pm</i>	St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr <i>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions 10.30-11.30am & Benediction 12.20pm</i> <i>Rosary Rally</i> Vigil Mass: Zuzanna Kowalska (RIP)
Sun 18th <i>9.00am</i> <i>11.15am</i> <i>4.00pm</i>	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Intention for the living For the Parish <i>Italian Mass</i>
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 13th Bible Study - 7.00pm in the parish library
Weds 14th UCM - 2.00pm in the parish hall

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balance. What's at stake in this Sunday's Gospel are the same themes of the end of time and judgment that we found in last week's Gospel. And, like last week's Gospel, this parable was originally intended for the religious leaders of Jesus' day. But there is a message here for all of us: in accepting the invitation, the guests are still expected to **ready** themselves for the feast. And, as our First Reading demonstrates, this is **God's feast** and the banquet is the **Kingdom of Heaven**. This is a feast to which **all** are invited, rich and poor, local people and foreigners, the well and the sick. But, by accepting the invitation, the guests - **representing each of us** - are expected to be **dressed** appropriately for the celebration: in garments of **virtue and right living** (cf. Colossians 3:12; Romans 13:14; Galatians 3:27). As Jesus says, *"Many are called (invited), but few are chosen."*

Although the invitation to come together into the banquet hall is extended to people of all times and places and ways of life, we are being reminded in this Sunday's liturgy that we are asked to do more than just **"show up"** at the banquet to which we have been invited. We are being asked to **prepare** ourselves for the feast of heaven by living lives of **faith, hope, forgiveness, humility, and love - faith seen in our actions, words and deeds - our 'Wedding Garments.'**

Let's not get thrown out!

Fr David Jones, OLV

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 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 also be available for confessions before the Mass. We need a full church for this. Please put the date it in your diary.

Fr Paul

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

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

This Sunday the Catholic Church marks Prisoners' Sunday. We remember Jesus' words: "I was in prison and you visited me". We pray for individuals in prison, their children, and families who often face stigma and isolation.

Rosary intention for October: As requested by the Holy Father, our particular intention for the Rosary during the month of October is to pray for peace in the world and an end to war.

Knights of St Columba quiz, Saturday 17th October at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Parish Hall.

Cost: £7 for adults, £3 for children and students, to include a cheese supper, wine and soft drinks.

Please call Will Holland on 07811 353 248 to book (this helps with catering).

SPUC will be holding a cake sale after both Masses this Sunday.

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.

Rosary Rally, Saturday 17th October, starting at 1 pm: everyone welcome to attend.

There is a petition box for you to post your personal intentions at the back of the church, and these will be offered on the day. Refreshments will be available afterwards in the parish hall. Please invite all your family and friends and let us unite our prayers as we ask for the Virgin Mary's intercession for world peace, as requested by Pope Leo. Thank you

Parenting course: a new online course run by the parish for families or expectant families. Next session: Weds 21st Oct, 8.00-9.00pm. Course topics include: making time for your children; meals and celebrations; living your faith as a family; praying as a family; dealing with difficulties in family life; moral values and family life; smartphones, screentime and social media; education, school, and special needs. To receive the link to join via Teams, email: rita.hicklinPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

From the Saints

"Whatever can this wedding garment be? The purpose of our command is to arouse the love that springs from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and a genuine faith."

St Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

www.stmarysloughborough.org.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**

Next Sunday (18th October) is World Mission Sunday when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for world mission. To donate, please use a Missio envelope, call 020 7821 9755 or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift or set up a Direct Debit. Please Gift Aid your donation if possible.

Last Week's Finance

Collection: £524.85 of which £85 was G/A

Standing orders: £879 @ 31/08 (of which £725 was G/A)

Attendance: 662

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

