



ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH, LEICESTER

St. Joseph's Church, Uppingham Road : The Rosary Church, Armadale Drive

Priest serving the parish : Father John Daley I.C.

Parish House, 12 Goodwood Road, Leicester LE5 6SG : Tel. 0116 241 5159

Website: www.stjoseph-leicester.btck.co.uk. Use the "Contact us" form on our website to email us (Contact us, also, via the parish website for Hall Bookings - or ring the Parish House)

(Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity number 234064)

Watermead Apostolate, St. Joseph's, 12 Goodwood Road, Leicester LE5 6SG : Telephone 0116 220 7881

Sisters of St. Joseph, The Convent, Uppingham Road, Leicester LE5 6RA : Telephone 0116 241 6255

Schools : St. Paul's Comprehensive, Spencefield Lane, Leicester LE5 6HN : Telephone 0116 241 4057

and St. Joseph's Primary, Armadale Drive, Leicester LE5 1HF : Telephone 0116 241 6197

Dear People,

February 2nd is the feast of The Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple, the Purification of Our Lady and the last day of the 40 days of Christmastide.

"Forty" is a powerful symbolic number in the Bible. It carries the force of God's eternity within our time - days, weeks, years. It is not calendar time, it is symbolically time's relating us to God's etenity, outside of time.

The Church celebrates 40 days of Lent (Ash Wednesday - Holy Saturday), Eastertide (Easter Sunday - Ascension) and 40 days of Christmas (25th December - 2nd February).

The Presentation and the Purification' are in the Old Testament Law - 40 days after the birth of a boy, 80 days the birth of a girl. The purification was considered necessary because of the shedding of blood in the giving of birth. The mother, newly purified, was welcomed back into the prayer community.

The Catholic Church echoed that ritual in a ceremony call "Churching" and I remember my puzzlement when my family talked about new mothers needing to be "churched" after childbirth. I thought motherhood was wonderful - why did the mother need to be purified/blessed before being welcomed back to church? "Blood" was the disappointing answer. The Christian Church had carried Old Testament ritual into the New Testament. Childbirth, somehow, made a woman unclean! No, it makes her even more wonderful.

The ceremony does not now exist. Peculiar thinking saw Old Testament uncleanness in childbirth. Now we celebrate the birth of a child and mother and fatherhood in the baptism ceremony.

There is more, you say. Our Lady did not need to be purified. She did not shed blood in the wonderful giving of birth to Jesus. Hers was a virgin birth - a second miracle to complement the virginal conception nine months before. That is the teaching of the Catholic Church: "Before, during and after giving birth you remained a virgin, O glorious mother" is a prayer in the Church's prayer book for Our Lady's feast days. Before, during, after. Explain that to our Christian brothers and sisters in the other Churches - and then the virginal marriage she and Joseph lived lovingly. Be careful how you explain. It is the Church's teaching.

God bless us to understand what we say we believe,

Fr. John

10th February 2019 (Prayer Week 1)
"Love makes people lovely"

Mass Times and Intentions

5th SUNDAY OF YEAR (C)

(Saturday) 6.00 pm at St Joseph's

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm)

9.00 am at Rosary Church

10.30 am and 6.00 pm at St Joseph's

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm)

(Intentions for Sunday Mass)

for *Kathleen McGettigan, Bridget Hickey, Julita Sopha, Robert Freestone, Suren Da Silva*

MONDAY 11th FEBRUARY

(Our Lady of Lourdes)

7.00 pm at St Joseph's: Service of Word & Communion

TUESDAY 12th FEBRUARY

10.00 am at St Joseph's: Service of Word & Communion

WEDNESDAY 13th FEBRUARY

10.00 am at St Joseph's: Service of Word & Communion

THURSDAY 14th FEBRUARY

(St Cyril & St Methodius, Patrons of Europe)

10.00 am at St Joseph's: Service of Word & Communion

FRIDAY 15th FEBRUARY

7.00 pm at St Joseph's for *Cosy Rodrigues*

6th SUNDAY OF YEAR (C)

(Saturday) 6.00 pm at St Joseph's

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm)

SUNDAY 17th FEBRUARY

9.00 am at Rosary Church : 10.30 am at St Joseph's

6.00 pm at St Joseph's

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm)

(Intentions for Sunday Mass)

Anne Da Silva, Patrick Bishop, Family Blessing

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

open every day this week from 10.30 am - 4.30 pm.

CONFESSIONS EACH WEEK

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 5.15 pm at St. Joseph's
(in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel)

WELCOME TO

Fr Ted Mullen and Fr Tony Furlong who
will be celebrating the mass this week.

The Parish on Sundays



Hot (and cold) drinks after mass on Sunday mornings at both our churches. (The Parish Library, Lourdes Garden, Watermead Shop open at St Joseph's).

Parish Diary This Week

Tuesday 12th February

St JOSEPH'S TABLE open today from 10.45 am - 3.30 pm. (See details below).

Parish library, Home from Home shop, Watermead shop and garden are also open.)

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm

Wednesday 13th February

St JOSEPH'S TABLE open today from 10.45 am - 3.30 pm. (See details below).

MEDITATION in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 10.50 am. Quiet prayer, meditation, intercessions. All welcome.

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm

Thursday 14th February

PARISH OPEN MORNING - hot drinks in Coffee Shop after the morning service (Library/ Garden also open). All welcome.

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-1.30 pm

Friday 15th February

THE MIRIAM PRAYER GROUP meet at 6.30 pm for faith sharing and Rosary. Entry via the church. All welcome.

St Joseph's Table

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MENU
'Special' Meal of the Day Menu

Soup - Carrot & Parsnip

Lunchtime specials - Mince Beef Gratin served with potatoes & fresh vegetables

(Please come before 2.45 pm to avoid disappointment)

Dessert - Apple Pie

(served with custard, cream, ice-cream)

Tuesday & Wednesday Snack Menu

Soup, Quiche (with new potatoes), Salads, Jacket Potatoes, Sandwiches, Toasties, Hot Sweet & Assorted Cakes, etc.

NB Until volunteers are found the 'Specials' meal can only be made available on Tuesday. All help is welcomed. Training given.

Watermead shop

Mass & Greeting Cards, Books, Religious DVDs, CDs, Gifts/Resources
OPENING TIMES

Tuesday and Wednesday, from 10.30 am-3.30 pm
Thurs. 10.30 am - 1.30 pm and Sun 11.45 am-12.15 pm
Information from from 0116 220 7880

Last week's collection was safely counted and banked. **£1,056**

*(Special RASH Collection £104)

Thank you. *Counters: TBA*

(Next week: Tony)

*RASH stands for our regular giving for Leicester's Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Homeless.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

A reminder for class next weekend as usual.

Prayer Box

Please pray for:

**Families of the parish
and our loved ones living and dead**

Declan, Bridie, Jonathan, Chris, Maria,
Jennifer, Mary, Anna, Patrick, Olven, Sheila

Prayers for: Mary B, Rosemary, Clare, Chris,
Vincent, Alfred, Amrit

The McCann family and all missing children

The peoples and countries of the world, especially,
VENEZUELA, YEMEN, EL SALVADOR

POSTBAG

Dear People,

Thank you for comments on the homily on Sunday about life in the womb. The child is the child of God. Some of you loved the image of the mother's singing a lullaby to her lost child as God holds her child - and praised Pope Francis for a beautiful image.

Praise for all that he is trying to do. He is full of loving mercy and compassion and wants the Church to reflect that to the world.

God bless him, Fr John

Holy Water

A reminder that the holy water in the large vessel at the back of St Joseph's church is available to take home. Water from Lourdes and the River Jordan, brought back by parish pilgrims, is added to the water.

HAVING A CLEAROUT! Donate your unwanted items to LOROS and/or AgeUK. Collections can be arranged.

LAST ORDERS

Did you know that those aged 45-64 are the most likely to drink, while those aged 16-24 are the least likely to drink? Problem drinking is more about the elderly than the young - which is why AgeUK is working with Turning Point on the Last Orders Project. The aim is to help the individual affected by alcohol, themselves or their loved ones.

Contact Hollie Hughes on 07738 820 978 or hollie.hughes@ageuk.leicester.org.uk

ROAD CLOSURE SUNDAY 17th FEBRUARY

Please note that Goodwood Road will be closed on Sunday 17th and Monday 18th February for resurfacing. Other roads in the area will also be affected - Westmeath Avenue, Wicklow Drive and possibly Greystone Avenue, amongst them. The A47 entrance to our car park will be open and accessible, but if there is no room in this area, please park safely and please be considerate to our neighbours.

CHURCH ROTAS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. 6.00 pm	Edward	Sal
Sun. 9.00 am	TBA	-
10.30 am	John	Anne G / Sr Lelia
6.00 pm	TBA	Vincent

Children's Liturgy at next weekend's 10.30 am Mass

Dates for Diary

Sharing our Stories of Faith

A DAY FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

(practising & non-practising)

at St Joseph's, Leicester, on

Saturday 23rd February

10.00 am - 4.30 pm. More details from Alison on 0116 220 7881 and notice boards.

Please complete a booking form (available at back of church & Watermead Shop)

FLAME

National Catholic Youth Event, Wembley Arena

Saturday 2nd March 2019

LACY are planning to take a coach from Leicester to the Flame event and tickets are £30.

Contact, tickets Deacon Séamus on 0116 2414057 (solooskan@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk)

ST PETER'S SPRING FAYRE

Sunday 3rd March, 12.30-2.30 pm

at St Peter's, Hinckley Road, Leicester LE3 0TA

All proceeds go to Menphys, Sound Cafe and the Parish. See notice board for details

LACY Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth

Dates for Diary - more information later

Next Working Group : Thursday 14th March

at the Franciscan Convent, Melton Mowbray

Countryside Stations of the Cross

Sunday 7th April at Mount St. Bernard Abbey

LEICESTER IRISH SOCIETY PRESENT

St Patrick's Day Sunday

17th March

Devonshire Place. 1.30 pm until early evening

See notice board.

FAURE'S REQUIEM : COME AND SING!

Sunday 14th April

at St Mary's Church, Humberstone

Workshop 2-5 pm followed by concert

Details from dp.cant@btopenworld.com

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

14th-19th July

By train from £639 : By air from £739

Details and leaflets on notices boards

Parish Pilgrimages 2019

LOURDES 10th - 16th May

Friday to Thursday, £495 approximately
(price includes flights, all travel and full board at hotel)
32 have booked. Places are still available.

ASSISI with visits to FLORENCE, PISA, SIENA

September 17th-27th

We shall be making this pilgrimage in 2 overlapping groups

All places have been taken. There is a reserve list.

ROME 8th-14th November 2019

(Details later. 38 people already booked)

Marriage Preparation Courses 2019

The Diocese recommends that all couples preparing for marriage attend a course. Our local course is a full-day one and will be held this year: Saturdays **9th March, 18th May, 6th July, 7th September**. Details from Fr John.

Bereavement Support

For Help and Support, call David,

a qualified and registered Counsellor.
Tel: 01163183185 Mob: 07591308287

For further information, or for an initial discussion, to hear how he can help.