

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.*

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

Dear People,

Over the years I have heard the following story occasionally. This week it is from the author Maurice Baring:

"One doctor said to another doctor: 'About the termination of a pregnancy, I want your opinion. The father suffered from syphilis and the mother from tuberculosis. Of the four children born, the first was blind, the second died, the third was deaf and dumb, the fourth also suffered tuberculosis. What would you have done?'

'I would have ended the pregnancy.' 'Then you would have killed Beethoven.'

The power of the story seems to be that a great composer was born into such a family, but I always feel uneasy that the story seems to suggest people should not die if they are gifted and any child in the womb might be wonderfully gifted. But surely the value of life is not in the giftedness of the person but rather in the child being a child?

I write this as a consequence of the storm that you might have caught from Professor Dawkins' talking about children in the womb being diagnosed with Downs Syndrome. The secular and religious press have criticised him for suggesting that such a diagnosis should lead to an abortion: "It would be immoral to bring it into the world if you have the choice," he said.

Many people from the pro-choice community, and those with loved ones who have the genetic condition, were enraged by what Dawkins said. The professor has since posted a lengthy explanation on his personal website, including "I apologise for impugning the morality of the aproximately 10% of women who deliberately choose NOT to abort a Downs' fetus."

From the beginning of the arguments about the life of the child in the womb we have heard many opinions. What is yours?

I remember my aunt looking after a young girl who was pregnant. I was too young to understand then but later I did: her family wanted her out of the house and she would only be able to return home if she gave the baby for adoption. I'm grateful for the loving example of my aunt but disturbed that families were so cruel. A child in the womb is alive and loved. We all were. God was there.

God bless us,

Fr. John

31st August 2014 (Prayer Week 2) "Who's to say who's to live?"

Hass Times and Intentions

23rd SUNDAY OF YEAR A

(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 at St. Joseph's 6.00 pm at St. Joseph's (Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm) (Intentions for Sunday Mass) for Jasper O'Connell, Daniel & Annie McPhillips, Frank Gallagher, Derek & Monica & Philip Mobbs, Domenica Baily, Jose Pedro Fernandes, Kizito Pedersen Women & children hostages, Family Blessings

> MONDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 7.00 pm at St. Joseph's *for Sorca Bowley*

TUESDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 10.00 am at St. Joseph's *for Special Intention*

<u>WEDNESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER</u> (St Gregory the Great, Pope) 10.00 am at St. Joseph's *for Catherine Jones*

THURSDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 10.00 am at St. Joseph's Service of Word & Communion

FRIDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

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

<u>SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER</u> No Service at The Rosary Church today

24th SUNDAY OF YEAR A

(Saturday) 6.00 pm at St. Joseph's (Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm)

SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER

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)

for Michael Keaveny, Robert D'Souza, Maud Pallack,

CONFESSIONS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY 5.15 pm at St. Joseph's SATURDAY 10.00 am at the Rosary Church and 5.15 pm at St. Joseph's

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL open every day this week from 10.30 am - Dusk

The Parish on Sundays at st jused to ta DRINKS, LIBRARY, FAIR TRADE

at the Rosary Church DRINKS, CAKE STALL, FAIR TRADE

Parish Diary This Week

Monday 1st September QUESTION OF FAITH. We have our meeting after mass as usual. Do come.

Tuesday 2nd September MALTA "DROP IN", 7.00-8.30 pm in the parish hall. Jo, who looks after us so well in Malta, is coming to England for a short holiday. All pilgrims who have been to Malta, or are planning to join us next year, are welcome to come to say "hello". Jo will be delighted to see you. Please do bring photographs and memories from our pilgrimage holidays and we shall make it a real Malta evening to share.

Wednesday 3rd September **MEDITATION** at the Convent today. 10.45 am: Exposition, adoration, quiet praver, meditation and intercessions. All welcome.

Thursday 4th September

PARISH OPEN DAY at St Joseph's ~ Hot drinks in the Coffee Shop! Parish Library, Fair Trade Stall, "HOME FROM HOME" Garden and Watermead Shop are all open after the morning Service.

MEETING FOR PRIESTS AND PEOPLE AT HOTHORPE HALL. Please pray for a successful meeting.

260 Club This Months Winners!

No. 49 wins £75; No. 98 wins £50; No. 226 wins £50: No. 143 wins £50: No. 214 wins £35.

Confirmation

For those been coming to mass regularly we begin the final course of meetings on **Tuesday 9th September** 5-6.00 pm or 5.30-6.30 pm (time to be confirmed). We shall meet in the parish hall.



The sick and housebound, those in hospital and in nursing homes - especially:

Jack Laing, Declan, Fabian Sweeney, Christina Flynn, Ed James, Pat Aitken, Jenny Aitken,

Kath Collins, Jonathan Lockwood, Lucia & Lina Lobo

Prayers for: Fr John Doman

The McCann family and all missing children

The peoples and countries of the world, especially UKRAINE & ISLAMIC STATE

Postbag

Dear Family.

I remember so many great family times that take me away from this prison. Dreams of family and friends take me away and happiness fills my heart.

I know you are thinking of me and praying for me. And I am so thankful. I feel you all especially when I pray. I pray for you to stay strong and to believe. I really feel I can touch you even in this darkness when I pray.

This letter was memorised by a fellow captive for James Foley, the American photojournalist beheaded last week. It was James' last letter home to his family. We discover that he loved saying the Rosary and that he saw his journalism as a way of serving God and the world - sharing the truth of suffering as far as he could.

We know that Pope Francis telephoned the Foley family to comfort them and John and Diane, James Foley's parents, said how comforted and supported they felt.

A horrifying incident and yet we learn of love and faith and compassion. Fr John

CONFESSIONS

When people ask for appointments I often suggest straight after morning mass - because I am there. But several times recently I have been asked to hear confessions at that time and I had already promised appointments, so had to say no. Would it be good to make the time after mass on Tuesdays/Thursdays (Wednesday I always go to the school) a time for confessions? I value your opinions. Fr John

Deanery News Fr Philip McBrien leaves Immaculate Conception this week and the church will now be linked with St Thomas More. We wish Fr Philip happiness in his new appointment and pray with the two parish communities now linked. This is the "Living Stones" programme in action.



Sunday 7th September Next Sunday consider joining us after the morning mass at St Joseph's for food & fun. We would appreciate bottles for a bottle stall. cakes and lots of HELP on the day please!



We welcome craft stalls if anyone has a craft they wish to promote. Stalls cost £10. Contact Theresa on 0116 2416317

Dowry of Mary **Pilgrimage to Walsingham** Sunday 7th September

Mass at noon (See poster on notice board)

Walking the Little Way Discipleship with St Therese Saturday 27th September

A talk by Canon John Udris St Mary's, Countesthorpe Rd. South Wigston

"TEN 2 ONE" Retreat

here at St Joseph's 10.30 am -1.00 pm (hot drinks from 10.00 am) Saturday 27th September Our theme is "Our Lady"

Talks, Music, Prayer led by Fr John £2.50 donation : Tel. 0116 2415159 to book

PILGRIMAGES 2014

ROME / ASSISI with the Parish 6th - 14th November (B&B) £398 + cost of flight on day of booking We now have 2 days in Assisi and 6 in Rome 8 places left.. Contact Fr John

Malta Pilgrimage 2015 17th-24th February (8 days) £399 All places have gone, there is now a waiting list 17th-28th February (12 days) £535 Depending on flight price on day of booking (There are 7 places left) Malta price covers flights, airport transfers (East Midlands and Malta)

half board at the 4 star Preluna hotel. Please tell Fr John if interested. £25 deposit secures place.

catholic press

Every week the Catholic press serves us well - but this week it is dynamic. It covers world stories as well as Church stories and still has time and space for family matters. We are blessed with a good Catholic press. Please bless them by buying and reading one or all of them. At the end of the week they offer much better value than the chatty newsy secular press.

Last week's collection was safely counted and banked. £962 Thank you. Counters this week : Margaret (Next week: John & June)

PARISH ROTA FOR NEXT WEEKEND Readers Sat. 6.00 pm Francis Ann B Sun. 10.30 am TBA Anne G / Mary 6.00 pm TBA Vincent

Eucharistic Ministers Children's Liturgy None next week