

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 Email: stjoseph-leicester@ntlworld.com Website: www.stjoseph-leicester.btck.co.uk Hall Bookings Email: stjosephs-hall@hotmail.co.uk or ring the Parish House (Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity number 234064)

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,

Are you enjoying the election campaign? Are you praying for the wisdom to use your vote well, encouraging others to pray before they use their votes? An election in which everyone voted selfishly would be an exercise of power, not democracy.

Before we vote we know that most of our votes have no value. The majority of places in our parliament are already settled. The so-called "safe" seats will return the same party that they always do. Even if the candidates swopped sides people would vote for the party, not for the candidate. Do you vote party or candidate? Do you know the names of the candidates who will be on your ballot paper?

A small number of voters make all the difference. They are in the "swing" seats, where margins are small. A strange democracy we have. The real power is with the local party which chooses the candidate we vote for. The local parties, thus, choose most of our members of parliament. We simply vote "party" and we choose those already chosen by the local (under orders from the national) party. The value of our vote depends upon where we live. A majority of 20,000 says much about the political party and nothing about the local candidate. A donkey would be elected on that system, and sometimes is.

The child in the womb has no vote. Which candidates speak for children in the womb? Would you stand for parliament on moral isssues? (1) No child in the womb be killed by abortion. (2) No indiscriminate killings by nuclear weapons, Trident or any other. (3) More generous aid to poorer countries. Which party would select you on those stands? Who would vote for you?

Would you vote for a religious party if you could -Catholic, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, etc? Would you like to see a government like the Vatican in Rome or as in Iran? Religious men ruling the country and, if possible, the world? There would be no women. There is nothing in the history of the powerful Catholic Church to want us to be ruled by such absolute power, nor in the present regimes in the Islamic countries. There are butchers in the dictatorships of other countries. No votes there.

How good is our democracy, yet only about 60%-65% of the electorate will bother to vote. Millions won't, they never do. The number of non-voters is depressingly high at every election, and especially at local elections.

Are all our candidates the same - idealistic, hardworking, approachable, people of integrity - or are they self-seeking, corrupt, greedy, ambitious and immoral? That's what the parties say about themselves and their opponents. Why is there so much unpleasantness in election campaigns? How do you react? God bless us. F_{Y} . J δf_{W}

19th April 2015 (Prayer Week 3) "My political views are in the Our Father"

Mass Times and Intentions **3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)**

(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 Leo Lobo, John & Sarah Kearney, Family & Friends, Special Intention (H)

MONDAY 20th APRIL 7.00 pm at St. Joseph's for William & Mary Thompson

TUESDAY 21st APRIL (St Anselm, Bishop) 10.00 am at St. Joseph's for The Hennessy Family

WEDNESDAY 22nd APRIL 10.00 am at St. Joseph's for The McCormack Family

THURSDAY 23rd APRIL

(St George of England : St Adalbert of Prague) 10.00 am at St. Joseph's for Maria D'Souza and for Veronica Fernandes

FRIDAY 24th APRIL

(St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest) 7.00 pm at St. Joseph's for The Colley Family

SATURDAY 25th APRIL (St Mark, Evangelist) 9.30 am at The Rosary Church for Petal O'Hea

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

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

SUNDAY 26th APRIL

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) The Kearney Family, Sheila Walsh, The Hamlin Famliy

CONFESSIONS EACH WEEK SUNDAY 5.15 pm at St. Joseph's JRDAY 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 - 7.00 pm.

The Parish on Sundays

Hot (and cold) drinks after mass on Sunday mornings at both our churches. The Lourdes Garden, the library

and Watermead Shop open at St Joseph's. ON FAMILY DAY, the first Sunday of each month at St Joseph's, the "Home from Home" shop is also open - we welcome ideas to complement this regular event. Do get in touch and suggest.

Parish Diary This Week

Tuesday 21st April CHOIR PRACTICE in the parish hall at 7.30 pm.

<u>Wednesday 22nd April</u> MEDITATION at the Convent on Wednesdays, 10.45 am: Quiet prayer, meditation, intercessions. Welcome.

Thursday 23rd April

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

Saturday 24th April BARN DANCE and Ploughman's Supper, 7.30 pm, in the parish hall. Tickets £7.50 each : Children £5.00 (Family £20 = 2 adults & 2 children) See Mags or Kerry for tickets.

Watermead shop

The "Old Stable" Centre (at the back of St. Joseph's Car park) SHOP OPENING TIMES Tues, Wed, Thur from 10.30 am-3.30 pm Sat 5-6 pm & Sun 11.45 am-12.45 pm Information from from 0116 220 7881 / 0 www.watermead-apostolate.com

"OPEN HANDS"



DONATION "BIN" Please help the homeless and refugees. The black dustbin for your donations of non-perishable foodstuff is at the back of St Joseph's church, under the staircase.

(See details on bin for acceptable items)

260 Club

Most of you have renewed your membership. Thank you. There is room for new members. Please ask Fr John. Members pay £2 a month for the draw with

prizes of £75 (x1), £50 (x3), and £35 (x 1).

Last week's collection was safely counted and banked. £1,140 Thank you. *Counters this week : Tony (Next week: Terry)*



Please pray for: Families of the parish and our loved ones living and dead especially for those who have recently died:

Anne Skipper (RIP), Sheila Walsh (RIP)

The sick and housebound, those in hospital and in nursing homes - especially: Jack Laing, Declan, Fabian Sweeney, Christina Flynn,

Jenny Aitken, Jonathan Lockwood, Ed James, Pat Aitken, Lina Lobo, Mary Rayner, Patrick

Prayers for: Barry Midgley The McCann family and all missing children The peoples and countries of the world, especially for PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Postbag

Dear People,

Today you will receive two parish forms - the one for details of your family and the other to invite you to play a fuller part in the life of the parish. How welcome you will be.

Both forms are downloadable from the parish website. God bless you, Fr John

First Holy Communion Meeting on Tuesday 28th April in St Joseph's church at 7.00 pm

In St Joseph's church at 7.00 pm

March for Life 2015 Saturday 16th May

begins at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham Coach from Leicester, **£11 return** (9.30 am from St Joseph's). Contact Sr Lelia on 0116 241 6255

God's Boxes of Love I had in my hands two boxes. given me by God to hold. He'd said "Put all your sorrows in black and put all your joys in the gold." I heeded his words, and in boxes both my joys and sorrows I'd store. But though gold became heavier each day, the black stayed as light as before. With curiosity I opened the black box -I wanted to find out the why: and I saw, in the base of the box, a hole which my sorrows had fallen out by. I showed it to God and I said "I wonder where my sorrows could be?" He smiled and gently gave answer "My child, they're all here with me." I asked "God, why did you give me the boxes, why the gold and the black with the hole?" "My child,

the gold was for you to count blessings the black for you to let go." (attributed to Limin Hong - sent in by Marian) Dates for Diary LEICESTER CATHOLIC ACTIVE YOUTH "VIA LVCIS" STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION Saturday 25th April 3.00- 9.00 p.m. St Francis Primary School, Melton LE13 OBG Year 7's upwards with Friends and Families Details on notice boards : £3.00 per person There will be a coach from Leicester. Details from Pauline on 07885 187374

Annual Beauvale Pilgrimage in honour of St John Houghton & St Robert Lawrence Sunday 3rd May (Details on notice boards)

The Brians Big Bike Ride **3rd - 5th July** The ride covers 150 miles of beautiful Derbyshire scenery. Accommodation provided at Alton Castle and Hartington Hall Youth Hostel. Participants are expected to raise a minimum of £1,000 each in sponsorship for the Diocesan Catholic Youth Service. The Briars will host training days. Contact Angela Gillespie, angela@ndcys.com

Pilgrimage to Lourdes & Nevers 6th-13th June 2015 : £470 Overnight in Orleans and Nevers (both ways) Full board at Hotel Irlande in Lourdes. Contact Fr John McCay on 0115 9810320 or jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk

ROSMINI CENTRE DATES Saturday 25th April, Afternoon Retreat, 3.00-

7.00pm; *"Praying Alone and with Others"*, includes Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary, Talk, Adoration, Confession and Mass.

Saturday 9th May, "The vow of poverty in the world today" presented by Fr. Ted Mullen, 11am to 2pm; shared lunch (Mass,10 am). Saturday 30th May - Day of Prayer for Intergeneration, Healing Mass, 'Healing of Family Tree' (details soon).

Please telephone 01509 813078 or email rosminicentreinfo@gmail.com. Donations appreciated to cover costs and stipends.

PILGRIMAGES 2015

Lourdes 17th - 23rd September We are going for a week. The cost is very good: £495 to cover all travel (and by air) and full board at the Hotel St Louis de France where we stayed in 2013 We have begun booking (28 so far) but room for

more. Deposit of **£160** to secure place.

PARISH ROTA FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Sat. 6.00 pm Sun. 10.30 am 6.00 pm **Readers** Doreen John TBA Eucharistic Ministers Children's Liturgy Caroline Sister Lelia Lynn & Faith Marie