

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,

Pope Francis was caught by surprise on his return flight from the UAE. He admitted he knew of the sexual abuse of religious sisters by bishops and priests in India. He knew!

At last the Church has admitted at the highest level the sexual abuse of women. We, the Church, must together end this abuse - just as we are ending the abuse of children by paedophile priests.

You may not know the term 'negative celibacy'. It is applied to countries and cultures where priests are not expected to be celibate (celibacy is a promise not to marry, but to live a single life for God). Negative celibacy came to prominence in 1971 before a Synod in Rome when bishops were being urged to take an honest look at priestly celibacy and admit where Church dishonesty and failures were. Pope Paul VI cut celibacy from the Synod agenda and it has never since been raised at an official level.

One of my brethren told me of a letter in our archives from a priest working in an overseas seminary where, he said, the students were urged to choose one woman and be faithful to her - because the scandal in such countries/cultures is in a priest's "having" a number of women. This is not love. This is appetite. The Church refuses the priest permission to love and marry but allows him to satisfy his sexual urges.

The Church, like all societies and families, likes to keep scandals hidden. The first whispers of child sex abuse by priests began to be heard in the 1980's. The storm broke in the 1990's, is still raging, and the horrors of the abuse are still being uncovered. Cardinals, archbishops, bishops and priests have been criminally guilty in what they have done and what they have tried to hide so that the scandal would not ruin the Church's name - but the covering up allowed ever more children to be abused. The numbers are frightening. Sick pathetic evil men continued their abuse of children, protected and hidden from justice by conniving Church authority.

In recent years religious sisters have courageously spoken out about their being abused by bishops and priests and been condemned for causing scandal. It is the abusing priests and bishops who are the scandal. Church authorities have failed. Rather than face the reality of negative celibacy they have tacitly allowed their priests to live without love but to satisfy their sexual appetites with children, women and like-lustful men. What witness is this? **17th February 2019** (Prayer Week 2) "Who will throw the first stones?"

Hass Times and Intentions 6th 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 Anne Da Silva, Marian Mulcahy, Patrick Bishop, Jo Bradbury, Joy Leggett

> MONDAY 18th FEBRUARY 7.00 pm at St Joseph's *for Stephen Beck*

<u>TUESDAY 19th FEBRUARY</u> 10.00 am at St Joseph's *for Val Phillips & family*

<u>WEDNESDAY 20th FEBRUARY</u> 10.00 am at St Joseph's *for Eileen Cromwell*

<u>THURSDAY 21st FEBRUARY</u> (St Peter Damian) 10.00 am at St Joseph's *for Theodolina Fernandes*

FRIDAY 22nd FEBRUARY (Chair of St Peter, Apostle)

7.00 pm at St Joseph's for Family & Friends

SATURDAY 23rd FEBRUARY (St Polycarp)

7th SUNDAY OF YEAR (C)

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

SUNDAY 24th 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) for May Seddon, Lucy Okpalefe, Pamela Cates

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)

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).



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(Continued...) To bring these frightening abuses to an end Church authority needs the balance of the human partnership God created - male and female - with the women of the Church given a shared place in its authority. Abused women and children should be offered the chance to speak to women who hold such shared responsibility and authority, and who will co-operate with the good men who acknowledge Church failures. They must work together to end these scandals and bring healing.

Good bishops and priests understand, and may even know, the pain of celibate love which makes holy** a love which cannot be fulfilled because of a promise made and being lived. Many married people know this sacrifice when they become aware of a new love that could threaten and even destroy their already promised love: the new love is made holy, is sacrificed, in the blessing of God and the prayerful understanding of those involved.

We do not want the blusterers, the frigid, the hypocrites. We have seen and heard too many of them. We need bishops and priests and our Pope Francis to listen to the women whose sisters are being abused and whose sisters' and brothers' children have been abused. Authority in the Church is service. Here is a service of authority that women would fulfil better than even good men. Let them be invited, be listened to and given power to act. Sincere celibate priests and bishops will know how to listen. Sham celibates do not. They don't know love, they only know appetite.

May God bless us to bring healing where there has been so much wrong and hurt. Fr. \bigcirc

**("makes holy" is from the Latin "sacrum facere" from where we have the word "sacrifice". Thus to sacrifice the love is to make it holy.)

Parish Diary This Week

Tuesday 19th February <u>St JOSEPH'S TABLE</u> 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 20th February St JOSEPH'S TABLE open today from 10.45 am - 3.30 pm. (See details below). <u>MEDITATION</u> in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel,10.50 am. Quiet prayer, meditation, intercessions. All welcome.

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm

Thursday 21st February <u>PARISH OPEN MORNING</u> - hot drinks in Coffee Shop after the morning service (Library/ Garden also open). All welcome. <u>WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm</u>

Friday 22nd February THE MIRIAM PRAYER GROUP meet at 6.30 pm for faith sharing and Rosary. Entry via the church. All welcome.

Saturday 23rd February <u>DAY FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN</u> is here at St Joseph's (see "Dates for Diary"). We are being joined by women from around the diocese and other parts of the country, so please let Alison, on 2207881, know if you are intending to come (we need to know numbers for catering purposes). Booking forms are available at the back of church.

CHURCH ROTAS FOR NEXT WEEKEND		
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. 6.00 pm	Francis	Susan
Sun. 9.00 am	TBA	-
10.30 am	Paul	Gerry / Sr Lelia
6.00 pm	TBA	Marie

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

→ 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)

St Joseph's Table

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MENU <u>'Special' Meal of the Day Menu</u> <u>Soup</u> - Carrot & Corriander <u>Lunchtime specials</u> - Fish Pie served with potatoes & fresh vegetables (Please come before 2.45 pm to avoid disappointment) <u>Dessert</u> - Cherry Bakewell Sponge (served with custard, cream, ice-cream)

<u>Tuesday & Wednesday Snack Menu</u> Soup, Quiche (with new potatoes), Salads, Jacket Potatoes, Sandwiches, Toasties, Hot Sweet & Assorted Cakes, etc.

NB Volunteer helpers always welcomed!



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