



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,

On 8th December we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady. Could you explain if someone asked you sincerely? See it this way.

The first time we do wrong is our original sin. We know there was a first time because we can remember other times. *We are guilty of our own original sin.* More, reason tells us there must have been a first time in the history of the world that someone did wrong. We don't know any details. The Bible tells a story, a myth, of a man and woman (no names) who taste the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They chose to know evil. The first sin had been committed. *We are not guilty of that original sin.*

Soon after that event Adam and Eve come into the story. Do understand: the first three chapters of the Bible are about man and woman, not Eve and Adam. They come later.

There are thus *two original sins*: the *first in my life* and the *first in the history of humanity*. St Paul writes (Romans 5:12) that our first (original) sin links us to the sins of the world going back to the very beginning. We all are guilty of sin and are in need of God's loving forgiveness which we see given in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ.

We are not guilty of the first original sin, we are guilty of our own original sin and share in the guilt of the sin of our world. We are not born *with* original sin but *in* original sin.

"God saw everything he had made and it was good." says the Bible, "God is the giver of all life, human and divine" says the baptism ceremony. We are made in the image and likeness of God. We are all good. Original sins soil the goodness in which we are created, all sin adds to that spoiling.

The mother of Jesus, says the Church, lived a life, untouched by sin. Although born in original sin, like all of us, she never shared in that sin by any personal wrong-doing. The Church calls that lovely truth "The Immaculate Conception". Mary was untouched by the sin of the world, her life always beautiful: she suffered the sin, above all in seeing her son crucified and die, but she did not share in it. Her beautiful life was full of grace.

Jesus says he came that we might have life and have it to the full. As a consequence of that new life we are redeemed from our sins. The *purpose* of his coming was new life, the *consequence* of the new life is redemption. We live in God's love and blessing, always.

Fr. John

15th December 2019 (Prayer Week 3)

"Boris it is, dear Lord. What now?"

Mass Times and Intentions

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (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 and 6.00 pm at St Joseph's

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm)

(Intentions for Sunday Mass)

for May Seddon, Reg & Eileen Day, Carmela Alonzi,

The Crewe and Bown Families, Holy Souls

MONDAY 16th DECEMBER

7.00 pm at St Joseph's for Audrey Brown

TUESDAY 17th DECEMBER

10.00 am at St Joseph's for Sister Olivia

WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER

10.00 am at St Joseph's for Frances Cassidy

THURSDAY 19th DECEMBER

10.00 am at St Joseph's for Absent Friends

7.00 pm Reconciliation Service for Christmas

FRIDAY 20th DECEMBER

7.00 pm at St Joseph's for Helen Kenny

SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER

(St Peter Canisius)

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

(Saturday) 6.00 pm at St Joseph's

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm)

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

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 Joan & Charles Woods, The Callaghan Family,

Patrick Commins, The Murphy Family, Thomas Kenny

CONFESSIONS EACH WEEK

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

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

open every day this week from 10.30 am - dusk.

This Sunday

Leicester Charnwood Lions Club is a charity, part of the International Lions, and is joining us at **Sunday's 10.30 am mass (15th December)**.



Following mass The Lions invite all parishioners to tea and refreshments in the parish hall where there will be a raffle draw.

The Parish Library, Lourdes Garden, and Watermead Shop open at St Joseph's.

Parish Diary This Week

Tuesday 17th December

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-7.00 pm

"MOTHER MARY" THE MUSICAL

7.30 pm in St Joseph's Church

If you like singing the great songs of ABBA then you will be welcome to do so in an unusual setting - here in St Joseph's Church!

"Mother Mary" is a musical version of the Christmas story with new words written to ABBA's songs, which was first presented in 2010 in Hinckley and has raised over £11,000 for local charities in its previous four productions.

The musical is a serious reflection on what has happened to Christmas and what we might do about it, and the audience are invited to join in with the beautiful and joyous songs.

Tickets are £5 for Adults and £4 for concessions. All proceeds will be donated to local charities. Tickets are available at church and in the Watermead Shop all week and at door on night.

(NB There is a performance at St Peter's, Hinckley, on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th December)

Wednesday 18th December

MEDITATION in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 10.50 am. All welcome.

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm

CHOIR PRACTICE tonight, 7.30 pm (note change of usual day owing to "Mother Mary" musical in church last night).

CAROL SERVICE at St Paul's School at 6.00 pm. All are welcome to join them.

Thursday 19th December

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

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION in St Joseph's Church at 7.00 pm. A beautifully prayerful and peaceful service in preparation for our Christmas celebrations. All welcome.

Friday 20th December

THE MIRIAM PRAYER GROUP meet at 6.30 pm for faith sharing and Rosary. Please note - Enter via the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. All welcome.



Watermead

**Advent Calendars
Christmas Cards, Cribbs,
Gifts, Books, CDs, DVDs
PLUS RESOURCES FOR
"The Year of the Word"**

SHOP OPENING TIMES

Tues, Wed, Thur from 10.30 am-3.30 pm

Sunday 11.45 am-12.15 pm

Information from 0116 220 7881 / 0
www.watermead-apostolate.co.uk

Prayer Box

Please pray for:

Families of the parish

and our loved ones living and dead

especially for those who have recently died:

Geraldine Ryan (RIP), Paul O'Brien (RIP)

Declan, Bridie, Jonathan, John, Chris,

Maria, Kath, Mary, Anna, Patrick,

Olven, Sheila, Cristiano

Prayers for: Rosaria, Margaret, Peter

The McCann family and all missing children

The peoples and countries of the world, especially

ZIMBABWE, KENYA, LEBANON,

SCOTLAND, NORTHERN IRELAND



POSTBAG



Dear People,

What skills the pollsters show when they predict the result of the election by their exit polls - amazing close to the actual result we learn 12 hours later. A sample of thousands, cleverly selected, can reveal how the millions have voted. Perhaps we could forgo elections altogether, with all their noise and costs, and just have exit polls? The results would be almost as good and with great saving in time, effort and money.

Scotland's has proved the loudest voice - remaining in Europe and their independence seem to be their calls. Can we refuse them when we have demanded a British exit from Europe? Sauce for goose and gander? Northern Ireland has more national MPs than Loyalist for the first time. Shall we hear a louder cry for independence? Wales is quiet just now. Shall we see Great Britain shrink in our lifetime?

We have a strong government and hope it will be a good one. We don't look to have a strong parliament, and that 's not good for democracy. We hope the new speaker will not be frit by the power on the Conservative benches. God bless our people and countries.

Dear Father John,

Thank you for your prayers. I struggled a lot in my final year, but with the grace of God I was able to overcome my fears. Romans 8:31 says "She who kneels before God can stand before anyone." After three years of hard work and struggle God has helped me to graduate. so, I want to give some money from my first salary for you to give to any charity.

Thank you. Yours sincerely, T.

*** Our Children's Advent Project ***

Come to the Manger Please put your names of family and friends on the list which will be on the table in the narthex, so we can make sure all your loved ones who are not here with you at this Christmastime for whatever reason, are remembered here at St Joseph's.

CHURCH ROTAS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

| | Readers | Eucharistic Ministers |
|--------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Sat. 6.00 pm | TBA | Sal |
| Sun. 9.00 am | TBA | - |
| 10.30 am | Ann | Steve / Sister Lelia |
| 6.00 pm | TBA | Vincent |

Christmas Services

THURSDAY

19th December

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

7.00 pm at St Joseph's

WEEKEND

21st/22nd December

Mass times as usual (and on Monday)

TUESDAY

24th December

CHRISTMAS EVE

6.00 pm Mass for Children (Traditional)

9.30 pm Carols followed by

10.00 pm Christmas (Midnight) Mass

WEDNESDAY

25th December

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00 am Mass at The Rosary Church

10.30 am Mass at St. Joseph's

THURSDAY

26th December

St STEPHEN'S (Boxing) DAY

10.00 am Mass at St Joseph's

Parish Pilgrimages

MALTA 2020

4th - 13th February (Tuesday-Thursday)

£625 (approx.) covers flights, airport coaches, our excellent 4 star hotel, half board.

RESERVE LIST ONLY AS ALL PLACES TAKEN

LOURDES 2020

7th-13th May (Thursday - Wednesday)

£540 (approx) covers flights, airport coaches, and full board at our hotel. (32 booked so far)

Please book a place with £200 deposit.

STRESA & LAKE MAGGIORE 2020

13th - 19th and 20th - 26th August

Full cost. **£675** (approx.) covers flights, airport coaches, our excellent lakeside hotel, half board.

RESERVE LIST ONLY AS ALL PLACES TAKEN



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

There will be a collection in both our churches at the end of mass this weekend towards the Christmas Flowers. Thank you in advance for all your kind support and contributions.

Candlelight Carols & Entertainment Eve

THANK YOU to all who came, prepared, served, entertained and helped in anyway to make the evening a success. **£128.10** was raised through the the donation boxes and will be shared with the homeless charities the parish supports.

260 Club

December's Winners!

No.21 wins £75; No.146 wins £50;
No.108 wins £50; No.250 wins £50;
No.92 wins £35.

Last week's collection was safely counted and banked. **£906**

*(Special RASH Collection £52)

Thank you. Counters : John & June

(Next week : TBA)

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