



**CHRIST
IS RISEN**

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

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

Dear People,

Last week, at mass, I shared with you the sadness of people who know that when they die faith in the family will die. Children, grandchildren, great grandchildren do not attend church and many have not been baptised. Nothing to be done, they reflect, except pray and hope and keep on loving.

For many years I have seen this. Families know nothing about the prayers and responses at the Requiem mass. They are glad to be here for the sake of the one they loved, this mass was what (s)he wanted, but they are here out of love and not in faith. The love is a blessing but they cannot share the prayer. That's one of the reasons I try to arrange Requiem mass at 10.00 am so that our regular mass-goers will give a sense of community in sharing the prayer and singing the hymns.

It's been happening for a long time. In 1962 there were 72,000 regularly at mass in our diocese, in 1992 there were 37,000, and in 2016 there were 29,000 - and you know how many mass-goers now come from other parts of the world.

Seeking to blame is futile. People choose to believe in God or not, to attend church or not, and no one can touch that freedom of choice. Example is best, persuasion will rarely work and forcing young people to come looks to be counter-productive.

One awful man told me "It's because people don't believe in hell". What a motive for loving and serving God, for praying, to be frightened by the threat of hell! Only the most timid and fearful would fall for that.

Love of God is our message, always has been, and love cannot be forced. Love is always invitation. We are all invited, but fewer people accept the invitation than used to. Those of us blessed with a living faith, weak though we feel it might be, uninspiring as we seem to be told it is, we still want to love and serve God as best we can. If the children, small or adult, follow our example, good: if not we still continue because we know it is the right way to be.

Religion and Church are not numbers, but faith and love. In other parts of the world the Church is showing tremendous growth. We seem to have lost it here. God bless us,

Fr. John

14th May 2017 (Prayer Week 1)
"Lead, kindly Light"

Mass Times and Intentions

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER (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 Peggy Keely, Tony Pinchbeck, Thanksgiving,
In honour of Our Lady of Fatima

MONDAY 15th MAY

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

TUESDAY 16th MAY

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

WEDNESDAY 17th MAY

(St Paschal)
10.00 am at St. Joseph's: Service of word & Communion

THURSDAY 18th MAY

(St St John I, Pope)
10.00 am at St. Joseph's for Family Blessing

FRIDAY 19th MAY

(St Dunstan)
7.00 pm at St. Joseph's for Family Blessing

SATURDAY 20th MAY

(St Bernardine of Siena, Priest)
9.30 am at The Rosary Church for Horan Family

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

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

SUNDAY 21st MAY

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 Jack Laing, John Sellaars, Fr John Abbott,
Thanksgiving

CONFESSIONS NEXT WEEKEND

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

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

open every day this week from 10.30 am - 5.00 pm

The Parish on Sundays



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

Parish Diary This Week

Tuesday 16th May

St JOSEPH'S TABLE open today from 10.40 am - 3.30 pm. Special menu of the week (see below), along with all the usual hot/cold food and homebakes. A warm welcome awaits all. (Library, Home from Home shop, Garden, Watermead) will also be available during opening hours.

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm

Wednesday 17th May

St JOSEPH'S TABLE open again today 10.40am-3.30 pm (for detail see Tuesday). **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 18th May

PARISH OPEN DAY - hot drinks in Coffee Shop after the morning service (library, Home from Home, Garden). All welcome.

WATERMEAD SHOP OPEN 10.30 am-3.30 pm

Friday 19th May

THE MIRIAM PRAYER GROUP meet in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 6.00 pm for faith-sharing, Scripture readings and the Rosary. All welcome.

March for Life

Saturday 20th May, Birmingham

This day is almost here, and we would like as many people as possible to come. If you are struggling to afford the £10 cost for the bus please don't let this put you off! If you're unwaged or otherwise unable to afford the ticket please be assured you'll still be welcome on the bus. We ask £10 donation for the coach ticket from those who can afford it to cover transport costs. Please contact me, Francisca, for further information on 07943 711549.

St Joseph's Table

This Week's Specials

Soup - Mixed Vegetable
served with a white or wholemeal bap

Main dish of the day - Beef Cobbler
served with mashed potatoes/assorted vegetables

Pudding Choice - Apple Pie
served with hot custard, ice cream/cream

Last week's collection was safely counted and banked. **£1,089**
*(Special RASH Collection £230)

Thank you. *Counters: TBA*

(Next week: *Gail & Keith*)

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

Prayer Box

Please pray for:
Families of the parish
and our loved ones living and dead

Fabian, Declan, Jenny, Jonathan,
Jennifer, Pat, Mary, Patrick

Prayers for: Fr John Bland, Margaret
The McCann family and all missing children

The peoples and countries of the world,
especially of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

St Paul's School Damascus Project

The school invites a volunteer
to work within the school chaplaincy
for the year 2017-18 (18-25 years).

Please contact
solooskan@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk

POSTBAG

Dear Father John,

Thank you for the encouraging way you spoke about vocation in the Church on Sunday. It is for the people to take a greater share in the ministry, such as the funerals and baptisms and weddings you mentioned.

In the Mission Churches that service has long been for the people to do and we can learn from their good example.

God is with us in every age. We learn to adapt to new situations and we won't find the answers by trying to do things the old way when conditions have changed.

We pray for our bishops who must lead us to new understanding, even if we, sometimes stubbornly, don't want to follow.

Some people, not always the same ones, will grumble at every change. If only they could see the changes as development - a greater share for the women and men of the Church in the ministry.

God is blessing us. We are learning to serve in new ways. Count me in. My husband is all for it, too. Perhaps you could count us both in. Me first, though!

Yours sincerely, Ann Onimus

Watermead shop

Now on display - a large selection of
Holy Communion Gifts and Cards



OPENING TIMES

Tues, Wed, Thur from 10.30 am-3.30 pm
Sun 11.45 am-12.15 pm (closed Sunday 14th May only)
More information from 0116 220 7880
www.watermead-apostolate.com

CHURCH ROTAS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. 6.00 pm	Kate	Sal
Sun. 9.00 am	Bob	-
10.30 am	Gail	Steve / Sister Lelia
6.00 pm	TBA	Marie

Dates for Diary

DEMENTIA AWARENESS WEEK

Thursday 18th May

at Spencefield Grange, Davenport Road
10.00 am - 2.00 pm. Join us for this national week

INTERNATIONAL DANCE AND FOOD EVENT

here at St Joseph's
for the Retired Priests' Appeal.

Saturday 20th May

Tickets £2 (or £5 Family Ticket) (See "Postbag")
Details on notice boards and from 07878924190

Thanksgiving Mass for Jesus Youth

Saturday 20th May

11.00 am at All Nations Centre, Frog island.

A Day with Mary at Walsingham

Sunday 21st May

The day begins at 11.40 am with the crowning of Our Lady at the Shrine. Details on notice board

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Saturday 17th June

For many years the pilgrimage has been on a Sunday but this year we are trying a Saturday. We shall organise a coach if enough people want to come. Please tell Fr John if you are interested.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

10th - 15th July 2017

By air: £649, by train: £569

Details on notice board

Retreat for Young Adults

21st-24th September

at Minister Abbey in Kent. More information from sraelrederwin@gmail.com

"TWILIGHT" RETREATS

Our evenings of talks, prayer and music

Wednesday 14th June

Wednesday 12th July

Wednesday 13th September

Wednesday 18th October

Fatima Prayer

Most holy Virgin Mary,
you were pleased to appear to
the three little shepherds of Fatima
and reveal a glorious message.
Inspire in our hearts a fervent love for
the resitation of the Rosary.
By meditating on the mysteries
of our redemption
may we obtain the graces we ask
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mother of Peace. Lynn is home from Zimbabwe with an inspiring story to share . . .

Pilgrimages 2018

The suggestions so far are:

Winter - Malta, 8 or 12 days

Autumn - Rome, 7 days

Late Spring or Summer:

(a) Rome & Assisi, 7 days, or

(b) Padua, Venice & Assisi, 8 days

Malta Note: recently we have flown from East Midlands with Ryanair, but the price has gone up considerably for 2018, £100 more than flying EasyJet from Gatwick. Both flights are afternoon flights and I strongly suggest we fly EasyJet. Please tell me if you are interested.