

ENGLISH MARTYRS, Alvaston. Tel: 01332 574474 and St GEORGE's Derby . Tel: 01332 767038

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Assistant: Canon Alan Burbidge Emeritus

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5th May 2024

6th SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 04 May	5.30 pm	SG	People of the Parish
Sun 05 May	9.30 am	SG	Marie Fitzgerald RIP
	11.15 am	HS	The Doherty Family
Mon 06 May	9.30 am	SG	For the repose of the soul of Dermot Owens RIP (in Ireland)
Tues 07 May	9.30 am	SG	Donor's intention, in thanksgiving, St Anthony
Wed 08 May	9.30 am	SG	For all who are sick in our parish (names given)
Thu 09 May	9.30 am	SG	Ascension Day Mass
	12.00 noon	SG	Requiem for Kathleen Mary Mulligan RIP
	7.00 pm	HS	Ascension Day Mass
Fri 10 May	11.00 am	SG	For world peace, for all the deceased and for families
Sat 11 May	9.30 am	SG	Deceased clergy (names given)
	5.30 pm	SG	People of the Parish
Sun 12 May	9.30 am	SG	For Pope Francis and all the Catholic clergy
	11.15 am	HS	James F Burbidge RIP (64 years)

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

Mass times for St George's as above.
Mass times for English Martyrs,
please consult their website, for the time-being.

On the name for our area of "ENGLISH MARTYRS and ST GEORGE'S",
this is in line with the simplification of parish titles
eg St Mary's, Allestree, Mackworth is now "Ralph Sherwin".

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The Christian life is about many things, but perhaps ultimately and most of all it's about remaining in God's love and knowing God's joy.

Perhaps too, when all is said and done, it's about having a deep sense of being loved by the Father. Do you live and move in a living sense of God's love?

After St Teresa of Calcutta's death it was revealed that she experienced God as remote and distant although this hadn't always been the case. It would appear that the more she dedicated her life to the poor and grew in holiness, the greater this sense of God's absence and distance intensified. Many commentators were quick to say that this proves there is no God – at times her suffering meant that she was tempted to believe this, too. Her faith, however, taught her to cling to the Lord, because Christianity has a long tradition of holy men and women undergoing a 'dark night of the soul', when they feel as though God has abandoned them.

Not many of us will undergo this kind of suffering but many of us can feel that God is remote, when in fact he is closer to us than we are to ourselves. Knowing the love of God is not a passive process – it is about remaining in God's love. And we remain in God's love by constantly recalling and reminding ourselves of it. This is why prayer is really at the heart of our relationship with God. In prayer we engage in this process of remaining, recalling and reminding ourselves of God's love for us. Here are two texts of Scripture which will help us today to remain in God's love: 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life'. (John 3:16); 'But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us'. (Rom.5:8).

Lord, teach me to walk in your love and daily remind myself of the love of God poured out upon me by the Holy Spirit.

THE BEAUVALE PILGRIMAGE in honour of the Martyrs of Nottinghamshire, Ss John Houghton and Robert Lawrence and others, will take place at Beauvale Priory ruins today, Sunday, 5th May at 3 pm. Assemble for the procession for 2.30 pm at Beauvale.

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY ONLY: 10:15 – 10:45

ADORATION before the Blessed Sacrament daily before the 9.30 am Mass and then other times as announced.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Thurs 9th May: The Ascension of Our Lord into heaven.
A Holy Day of Obligation

Sat 11th May: Saints John Houghton, Robert Lawrence, priests and companions, Martyrs of Nottinghamshire

SECOND COLLECTION at all Masses next weekend is for Catholic Communications, to support the work of the spreading of the Gospel.

Jesus' Love for Us

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13

We can always discover a deeper meaning of Scripture text when we read it within its context. These words of Jesus about loving one's friends were spoken at the Last Supper. That was the momentous night before he would lay down his life for his friends to be nailed to the cross. These words about laying down one's life were extremely personal to Jesus at that precise time. The statement gives a clear insight into his mind the day before his crucifixion. Jesus explains that there is no one who has more love for one's friends than one offering one's supreme self-sacrifice.

In this same chapter of John, Jesus explicitly says that we – all of us – are the friends he has chosen and loves beyond description. We need to bow our heads with profound humility, realising Jesus' intense love for us exceeds even his intense pain on the Cross. Fr James McKarns.

'The Ascension'

'You Will Be My Witnesses'

....you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth. ACTS 1:8

We might think of the feast of the Ascension as the time when Jesus said goodbye to his disciples. But today's readings make it quite clear: This is not a "Bye, bye, Jesus" feast. It is a "Get ready to welcome the Spirit" feast and a "Go out to all the world" feast.

The readings tell us that Jesus is still present with his followers – though in a new way. Immediately after Jesus "left" them, the disciples "went forth and preached everywhere while the Lord worked with them..."

(Mark 16:20). Jesus is not gone! Not then. Not now. The Alleluia antiphon echoes Jesus' presence in our midst. Jesus promises all his followers – including us: "I am with you always, until the end of the age". (Matthew 28:20).

Jesus help me to continue your work of spreading the Gospel in my particular circumstances. I trust in your presence and the power of the Holy Spirit.
Sr Melannie Svoboda. S.N.D.

MOST RECENT DEATHS:

Please pray for Eddie O'Rourke of Grange Ave. who died peacefully at his home recently with family members with him. Eddie, together with his deceased wife, Eileen, was an active member of St George's parish for many years. His funeral is delayed until Friday, 31st May at 10.30 am for family reasons.

We extend our sincere sympathies and prayers to all his family.
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

FORTHCOMING FUNERALS:

For Kathleen Mulligan, Thursday, 9th May, 12 noon
For Kate Toolan, Tuesday, 14th May, 11 am.
For Bill Hill in Market Harborough, Monday, 13th May
For Eddie O'Rourke, Friday, 31st May, 10.30 am.