

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

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Mark Brentnall

**Assistant:** Canon Alan Burbidge Emeritus

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number 1134449 Registered Office: Willson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham. NG1 5AW

12<sup>th</sup> May 2024

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

Sat 11 May	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)
Mon 13 May	NO MORNING MASS		
Tues 14 May	11.00 am	SG	Requiem for Kate Toolan RIP
Wed 15 May	9.30 am	SG	P Calladine RIP
Thu 16 May	9.30 am	SG	For all who are ill especially for Paul Rolson and in Ireland Paul McAleavey
Fri 17 May	11.00 am	SG	Lourdes Watters RIP
Sat 18 May	9.30 am	SG	For conversions to the faith and for peace and the end of wars.
	5.30 pm	SG	For Bill Hill and the deceased of the family
Sun 19 May	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
PENTECOST	11.15 am	HS	Mass in thanksgiving and welcome
SUNDAY			Ezra Christopher, great grandson to Glenda

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**

Jesus' focuses his high priestly prayer on us, his disciples and we do well to note its emphasis. True, some of these passages seem abstract and inaccessible but if we take time to mediate on them, slowly reading and re-reading them and allowing the words to penetrate like soft rain on the sometimes hardened 'soil' of our hearts, we begin, little by little, to be drawn into the Paschal Mystery of Christ's life, death and resurrection. In doing this we experience Jesus as the Vine and we as the Branches – staying in union with God so that we receive his love and peace. We live out our faith in the world. Satan is the Prince of this World, and Jesus prays that we be protected.

Indeed, we pray for this protection every time we say the *Our Father* 'Deliver us from evil' isn't just a theory: it's a real prayer against a real enemy. The goal of the Christian life is to be holy. To be sanctified. To be set apart. Perhaps as Leon Bloy said, 'The only real tragedy in life is not to be a saint'. True, not many of us will be declared venerable, blessed or canonised but that doesn't prevent us from being holy and being saints.

How are we sanctified and made holy? Through God's grace and by opening ourselves up to receive this blessing. Through reading the Scriptures, prayer and receiving the Eucharist we build a foundation for holiness and learn to walk the royal road. This call to holiness is lived out (for most of us) in the heat of the day, the banality of everyday living, the cut and thrust of everyday life. This kind of holiness isn't reserved for the few, it is our calling, to put into practice the Sermon on the Mount, to witness to the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

*'Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from you. (Anima Christi)*

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:**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> May: Our Lady of Fatima

Tues 14<sup>th</sup> May: St Matthias, Apostle

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> May: St John I, Pope & Martyr

**SECOND COLLECTION at this weekend Masses is for World Communication to support the Church's work in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.**

**FORTHCOMING FUNERALS:**

For Bill Hill, Fr Alan's brother-in-law, Mon, 13<sup>th</sup> May, in Market Harborough.

For Kate Toolan, Tues, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 11 am St George's

For Eddie O'Rourke, Fri, 31<sup>st</sup> May 10.30 am, St George's

**Loving as God Loves**

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another.

1 John 4:11

St John's logic is simple: If God loves us so much that he was willing to give up his own Son for the chance at reconciling us to himself, how can we then refuse to extend that same love and mercy to others? It would be the height of hypocrisy for me to accept the salvation won for us on the Cross but refuse to forgive those who has wronged me or fail to help those in need.

Indeed, refusing to forgive others, to see Christ in the poor, to act as disciples, is tantamount to refusing God's offer of love and mercy. In the Lord's Prayer, we ask God to "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us." Our own salvation is sealed, as it were, by our willingness to love others.

Lord, give me today an open and loving heart.

Jonathan F Sullivan.

**PUBLICATIONS**

The free papers, Catholic News and Catholic Post are available at the Church. Please take a copy. You can read news of the Diocese and wider church in these papers.

Also, copies of My Day by Day for May, with the bible headings for each day of the month. A donation in the box at church helps to cover the cost of provision.

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