

St. George's & Holy Spirit RC Parish Newsletter Sunday 8th November 2020.

Psalm "My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God"

Parish Priest : Canon Alan Burbidge With, Fr Peter Peterken & Fr Jude Ebere Eze

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32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A

Sacramental Enquires :contact the parish office by email or phone Karan on 07968059768, stgeorges.holyspiritderby@gmail.com to begin the initial



Year of the Word "The God who speaks Reflection"

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of Wisdom 6:12-16 and cites watchfulness as the key to a faithful religion and understanding of wisdom. The **second reading** is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18 where he addresses a practical and doctrinal problem faced by the community. Paul had preached to them and

left them with the impression that the second coming of Christ was imminent. Some died before the *paruosia* and their concern is what has happened to them. Paul states firmly that what matters is that they interpret these events because of their faith and hope in the Lord. **The gospel** this Sunday reminds and asks us to get ready and prepare at a much deeper level. We are not simply waiting for the bus to come; we are asked to prepare for Jesus. What does the mean for us to be watching and waiting for Jesus? The question that is implied in the parable of the wise and foolish wedding guests, is what are we actually doing *while* we are waiting for Jesus? Are we sitting around with no thought or concern for ourselves and others, or are we actively living our daily lives with meaning and purpose?

Second National Lockdown We shall open the church off St Georges & All Soldier Saints from 11am to 12noon each Monday, Wednesday & Saturday during this period of Lockdown. Private Prayer, Adoration will take place and Confession will also be available during each hour. A priest will be present you can also bring Mass request & Weekly offerings or envelopes please place in collection plate.

When I need a neighbour- where you there ?

I ask all parishioners to keep contact with those you know to be on their own during this time. If you know of anyone who is in need of help or support then please contact the Parish. Let us help one another to stay safe and well. *Kind words may be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless. St Teresa of Calcutta*

Blessing of Graves Chellaston Cemetery at 3pm Sunday 8th November

Due to Covid Restrictions, we will be unable to gather for a service or for the rosary. So we invite people to arrive at the graveyard at 3pm to stand at your loved ones Graves then Fr Alan will come to each grave to bless them and to pray for your loved ones. **For your safety and that of others, and to comply with the law, please do not congregate with others not within you COVID restricted groups at the cemetery**

Daily Mass *will be said Privately each Day. Intentions this week.*

Monday 9th Evelyn Girvan RIP 🕊️.

Tuesday 10th For Rita, Teresa and Niece for improved health and peace 🙏.

Wednesday 11th Trevor McCandless Birthday Memories 🕯️.

Thursday 12th Margaret & John McClelland RIP 🕊️

Friday 13th Bernadette O'Riordan RIP 🕊️.

Saturday 14th Hilary Crosbie for Good Health 🙏

Sunday 15th November For the people of the Parish. 🕯️

SANCTUARY LAMP: Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for Rose O'Connor and all people who suffer from Cancer and those who have died recently. John Walker , Micheal Maloney , Evelyn Girvan & Matthew Wragg. *Eternal rest grant to them of Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them May they rest in peace. Amen.*

SACRAMENTS



FUNERALS and REQUIEM MASSES will still take place during National Lockdown. Maximum 30 persons.

MARRIAGE only in extreme circumstances.

BAPTISMS not now taking place during National Lockdown.

CONFIRMATION will resume with online lessons & remote Learning

from 1st December



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2020 AT 11AM.

Each year it is important that the country comes together to remember the sacrifice of those who have died in the service of our country. On Remembrance Sunday pause & remember by joining the National Service of

Remembrance <https://dcmsblog.uk/2020/10/remembrance-and-armistice-2020/>

Weekly Message from Fr Alan



What are we to make of the gospel reading today ? The parables of Jesus are easy to remember, but not always easy to understand, harder still sometimes to apply. We can imagine these ten young women, excited at being bridesmaids, half of them so excited they forget to bring oil with them for their lamps, and all of them so excited they fall asleep with exhaustion and have to be wakened when the bridegroom comes. We can imagine, perhaps, the wedding customs of the time: the

bridegroom coming to the bride's house to claim her from her father and take back her to his home. Only he's late. In this society, apparently, it is the bridegroom's privilege to be late for the wedding not the bride. But the ending of the parable doesn't quite fit. It talks about keeping awake; but that was not the problem. All the bridesmaids fell asleep. The real problem was that some were unprepared. o what is the parable about? It is clearly a moral tale, but what is the moral? What are we to take from it today? If it is about being ready, ready for what? We can all think of situations where we or our friends have been 'caught napping'. I imagine we have all had those moments when guests have arrived earlier than expected and the table is not laid, or when deadlines have been advanced and the work was not done. So has the world been caught napping (is that phrase an echo of the parable?) by this pandemic , we are still struggling to cope with, and in the last few months we have seen a second wave and again our ministers apparently caught napping by the sudden change. Contingency plans and forward thinking make a difference to coping with a crisis. But could anyone have been prepared for what we a experiencing. The parable of the bridesmaids includes the call, 'Come to meet the Bridegroom.' The parable says to us, we meet Christ the Bridegroom every day - in our daily encounters with other people, especially with those in need, and more particularly in those encounters we don't remember and whose significance we don't understand. Preparedness for dying is to be seen in the way we live from day to day by the grace of God. Preparedness is in our sense of accountability for our neighbour and those who depend on us, in our response to the needy, who may not appear to us to be at all Christ-like. Preparedness is to be seen too in those other daily and weekly encounters with Christ, in prayer and worship and Bread and Wine. That, we may say, is the oil that will keep our lamps alight at the critical time .

Stay Safe and Blessings for the coming week Fr Alan

LockDown information

As you will have seen in the news last week in , the country has gone into a second national lockdown. Despite the efforts of the Bishops, Members of the House of Lords and MP's, the Government has not agreed to allow Churches to remain open for the celebration of Mass. This is extremely disappointing because so many people have put so much effort in to making our Churches some of the safest places to go in during the current pandemic. However they were successful in ensuring that during this period of lockdown the churches will remain open for Private Prayer.

St Georges will be open for private prayer on Mondays , Wednesday and Saturday 11am -12 noon, you are welcome to come along to join us a priest will be present at all times. We shall continue with the thorough cleaning of shared spaces, face mask must be worn , hand cleansing at entry and exit and asking worshippers to bring their own items such as a prayer books or religious text instead of sharing or using communal ones.

Keeping the church open for private prayer enables us to still come to church to support and maintain our spiritual life and to be prepared for when we return to our churches being fully open again for the celebration of Mass and other sacraments. We await that time with deep longing but we should be patient and understanding. It is most important that the protection of the health of us all , especially of the most vulnerable is protected.

Stay Safe What we do know about this Virus is it's unpredictability we must all pray that soon this pandemic will be over with minimum loss of life. We have made great strides in the treatment and understanding and with Gods help that will continue. Many will be worried as we again enter a lockdown. However, we have got through it before and hopefully this lockdown will only last Four weeks. Please keep yourselves safe and also keep an eye on any friends or neighbours who might be vulnerable and need support.

If anyone needs anything or just wants to chat with someone, you are welcome to give me a call on [01332 767038](tel:01332767038) or office mobile 07968059768

Mass links :

St Albans – Fr David www.derbycatholiclive.co.uk.

St Josephs – Fr Neil

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgfxBWFA1ef8WTBfY8LKK7Q>