ST GEORGE'S, 40 Village St, Derby DE3 8SZ Tel: 01332 767038 and HOLY SPIRIT, Redwood Rd, Sinfin, Derby

Parish Priest: Canon Alan Burbidge **Assistant Parish Priests: Fr Peter Peterken & Fr Jude Ebere Eze** **NRCDT a registered charity**

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MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 20 Feb	5.30 pm	St George's	People of the Parish
Sun 21 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	Rose Green RIP
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Elizabeth O'Toole RIP (Anniv)
	6.00pm	St George's	Jean Booth-Isherwood RIP
Mon 22 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	Brendan Macklin RIP (in Ireland)
Tue 23 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	Holy Souls
Wed 24 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	Peter Broderick, for good health
Thu 25 Feb	9.30 pm	St George's	Priest's own intention
	11.00 am	St George's	Requiem: Eoghan (Owen) Glynn RIP
Fri 26 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	For Covid 19 victims
Sat 27 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	For Parish benefactors
	5.30 pm	St George's	Tony McCandless RIP, 20th Anniv.
Sun 28 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Michael & Ann Scanlon RIP
	6.00 pm	St George's	Michael Donovan RIP

GOSPEL REFLECTION – FR. ALAN:

Today's concise Gospel leads us firmly into Lent. The Holy Spirit has driven Jesus into the wilderness for forty days following his Baptism, and for forty days we are led to reflect on our Baptismal vows, in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. In the desert Christ the Son of Man shows us that, looked after by God and his angels, it is possible for us to resist the temptations of Satan! But if we think of temptations only as gossip, sloth, adultery and so on, we are mistaken. The more subtle and most dangerous "empty promises" are the insidious creeping attractions of wealth, status, power. These desires prevail in secular society, which treats all of God's beloved creations as commodities for ownership and personal gain. It can feel like we are a long way from the Kingdom of God.

In Lent we have a 40-day "retreat" in which we are invited to examine our actions and priorities, to concentrate precisely on assuming the ways of Christ through fasting, prayer and almsgiving. We "Repent, and believe the Good News", and help others to do the same.

In repenting we re-orientate our lives to God. To believe the "Good News" is to believe in who Christ is, and what he has done for us: through him all our sins are forgiven, and we are promised eternal life in Heaven. Salvation is a gift freely given, not a transaction - but crucially, in order to open the gift, we need first to believe it is ours. We are saved because God in his merciful, unconditional love chose to do so through the sacrifice of his only Son - we are not deserving of it, and nor can we earn it. This is the Good News that we seek to share with every person still living in the wilderness with their un-opened gift.

LENTEN RETREAT: This online Lenten Retreat starts on the 22nd February for six consecutive Monday evenings at 7.30pm, for a 45 minute talk on Hope in the Bible, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Compline with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph.

To register, please visit: **https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-2grjkiGtU8vPFJea2ktvR5U0MZ1mrL**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASSES: Unfortunately at this time we are unable to confirm when any of these classes will commence this year. We are awaiting the Government announcement on the current restrictions being lifted, hopefully then we will be able to give a clearer indication of when the preparation classes can begin.

THE YEAR OF THE WORD CONTINUES: Due to the pandemic, the Bishops of England and Wales decided to extend the God Who Speaks initiative throughout 2021. Regular resources are uploaded to www.godwhospeaks.uk

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

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY - For women who are victims of violence. Pope Francis' prayer intention for the month of February sends a powerful message against the various kinds of violence against women, which he describes as the "degradation of all humanity".

Please pray for Deidre Ennis of Thackery Street and Eoghan (Owen) Glynn of Gayton Avenue, whose funerals take place this week. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

CAFOD LENTEN FAST ENVELOPES AVAILABLE THIS WEEKEND. Please take one per family and place your Lenten Fast donation in the envelope and return it next weekend.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: Friday 26th February 2021:

CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On Friday 26th February 2021 can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal, in solidarity? With malnutrition still killing almost three million children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat. And this Lent, your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed, twice the number of children can have the opportunity to grow up healthy and strong. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from church this week.

BIBLE IN A YEAR PODCAST:

The very charismatic and engaging YouTube evangelist Fr Mike Schmitz has launched a podcast reading the whole Bible in a year. It is currently the number one podcast in America. It can be found through your usual Podcast service by searching 'The Bible in a Year' or listen here:
https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/

VACCINES AND THEIR ROLL-OUT:

All faith communities are asked to encourage and support the roll-out of the vaccines, especially for those in the BAME community, because of misinformation on social media. There should be explicit encouragement of community members to take up the offer of vaccines whenever it is offered to an individual. The Vaccination roll-out plan can be found at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/ attachment_data/file/951284/UK_COVID-19_vaccines_delivery_plan.pdf