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23rd October 2022

30th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 22 Oct	5.30 pm	St George's	Karan O'Connor RIP
Sun 23 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	For the Treanor & Kelly families
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Priest's own intention
	6.00 pm	St George's	Jimmy Mooney RIP
Mon 24 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Annam & Ouseph RIP
Tue 25 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Holy Souls, especially those who have no-one to pray for them.
Wed 26 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Priest's own intention
	11.00 am	St George's	Requiem Mass for Leslie Rhodes RIP
Thu 27 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Family thanksgiving, Grigi, Joycin & Isable, emigrating to Australia
Fri 28 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Special intention for Bernie and Pete
Sat 29 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Corryn & James on your engagement
	5.30 pm	St George's	Mary O'Riordan RIP
Sun 30 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Jimmy Mooney RIP
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Karan O'Connor RIP
	6.00 pm	St George's	People of the parish and priests RIP

GOSPEL REFLECTION: "God, be merciful to me."

In 1975 Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan, "apostle of hope" as he came to be known and Archbishop of Saigon, was imprisoned by the communist regime in Vietnam. He would remain in prison, often in solitary confinement, for the next fifteen years. Heartbroken to be taken away from his people, the day after his imprisonment he wrote, "My heart is torn to pieces for having been taken away from my people."

Soon after being taken into custody, however, he vowed, "I am not going to wait. I will live each present moment, filling it to the brim with love. "Such an attitude of heart enabled him to bring Christ's love to his fellow prisoners and to the prison warders. The love, gentleness and courtesy he showed to his captors led them to have a deep respect for him, though it did not lessen his ill treatment. Francis gave them a vision of what it means to serve God with one's whole heart and soul, of how someone who carries the love and mercy of Christ within can be a light in a very dark place. Pope Francis named him among the "venerable" in 2017, a step on the path towards canonisation.

Our first reading today does not shy away from the inequalities of our world, from the injustice of poverty, the plight of the orphan or the cry of the widow. It does, however, reassure us that, while the world may be deaf to the cries of those who suffer, God is not and in fact always responds to the prayers of those who are humble and suffering. St Paul in our second reading is looking back over his life's journey. He is putting the struggles he has endured for his faith into perspective. Part of this perspective includes offering forgiveness to those who have not supported him in his mission for Christ. Paul has served the Lord with all his heart, and it is out of this love for Christ that his ability to forgive others and to meet the future with hope is born.

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE: Following the death of Karan O'Connor, we have need for a Catholic foundation governor for our St George's primary school. If you feel you could serve as a governor, please speak to Fr Alan. A visit to the school can be arranged with an opportunity to speak to our head-teacher Mrs Snowdon-Poole.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH will not take place at St George's this Sunday, 23rd October; our leaders are having a half-term break.

DERBY DEANERY CHOIRS: 'If you like to sing and want to join together with other singers then come to the Derby Deanery Youth Choir (for children aged 7-16) or Derby Deanery Adult Choir. We meet on Tuesdays in term time at St Albans Parish Church, Chaddesden. There is no audition - everyone is welcome! The Youth Choir meets at 6:30pm -7:15pm and the adult choir follows on from 7:30pm until 8:30pm. We ask for a donation of £1 per week (youth choir) and £2 per week (adult). It is such a great way to meet up with other people who enjoy to sing and remember how much fun it is to sing as part of a group. Contact Jo for more information on 07745517371'

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

SAINTS THIS WEEK: Wed 26 Oct: Saints Chad & Cedd, Bishops
Fri 28 Oct: Saints Simon & Jude, Apostles
Sat 29 Oct: Saturday Mass of Our Lady

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND IS FOR WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

SHOOL DESKS FUNDRAISING, PUPILS CURRENTLY SITTING ON THE FLOOR: You are cordially invited to a Gala Concert of varied culture in Christ the King, Alfreton DE55 7GL parish centre, on Saturday November 5th at 19.45. Headlining the night is legendary Irish Comedian Jimmy Cricket. Well known in the East Midlands Kelly's Heroes will have your feet tapping with their array of Irish ballads, jigs and reels. We will also have displays of Indian and Polish dancing/singing from our parishioners and from Nottingham singer and songwriter Louie Walsh, will be on stage. Proceeds from the night are being sent to + Bishop John Ryan, diocese of Mzuzu, Africa, to purchase desks for the school in St. Monica parish in his diocese, pupils currently sitting on the floor. We will also be sending school stationery, already collected from kind donations. Tickets £10 and can be reserved by texting your surname to 07772471894 or pay on the door Nov 5th.
Gerry Molumby (organiser).

ST GEORGE'S HOSPITAL UMUNUMO: Next weekend, 29th/30th October 2022, Fr Ephraim and some of his helpers and supporters of the mother and baby hospital and of their charitable works in London, will be coming to St George's and Holy Spirit communities. As I have just passed 51 years of priesthood and passed 80 years of age, it is a time to reflect but also by God's grace also to continue to go forward in life and ministry. Fr Ephraim suggested we call it a *Legacy Sunday* and invite people to celebrate with me. The posters and pictures that you can see around shows things which have been done but only with the help, support and generosity of the parishioners of St George's and Holy Spirit churches. I have been pleased to be a catalyst in these things. Maternity care at home in Britain and more so in poor countries of the world is a great challenge and a very God inspired calling. Surgeons, doctors, midwives and nurses have been abundant in our home country for decades. My late mother who bore many children always had excellent care and successful pregnancies and deliveries.

Fr Ephraim, a native of Umunumo alerted myself and others in St George's about the lack of even basic care in his community. So a venture to help mothers and babies got underway. I myself travelled to Umunumo to see the site chosen and to lay a foundation stone. Facing many economic and logistical challenges, Fr Ephraim and his supporters persevered. Today there is a thriving small hospital doing great maternity and childcare and other care besides. This weekend we have an opportunity to hear of this. Also, Fr Ephraim, now a hospital chaplain in London, having survived the COVID epidemic when even doctors and nurses lost their lives has, with others, set up a new charity, Friends of St George's Hospital, Umunumo in Britain. Its aim is to continue to support Umunumo Hospital but also to support the poor and needy in Britain, especially on the streets of London. In this great capital city full of very rich people and very poor people and many inbetween, there is a lot of need. The posters you can see around you indicate some of that need and what this charity is doing to help. So, come along, next weekend and hear what is going on and support our appeal and meet Fr Ephraim and others after Masses in the social centre. In the face of the great needs and challenges of our world at home and abroad we can all light little candles to overcome the darkness. God bless you all.

Canon (Father) Alan Burbidge