

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Pastor Emeritus: Canon Alan Burbidge

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number 1134449

Registered Office: Willson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham. NG1 5AW

2nd August 2026

18th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

ST GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 01 Aug	5.30 pm	For those not well and the housebound
Sun 02 Aug	9.30 am	People of the parish
Mon 03 Aug	9.30 am	For mothers and children in the school holidays
Tues 04 Aug	9.30 am	Joseph Dussroth RIP
Wed 05 Aug	9.30 am	For world peace, especially the Ukraine, the Middle East and the Sudan
Thu 06 Aug	10.30 am	Requiem: Frances Saccone RIP
Fri 07 Aug	9.30 am	For the deceased members of our families
Sat 08 Aug	9.30 am	For our deceased benefactors
	5.30 pm	For prisoners of conscience in unjust regimes and for the work of Amnesty International
Sun 09 Aug	9.30 am	People of the parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

In Matthew's account of the feeding of the multitude, Jesus is moved with compassion and heals. (v.14). In Mark's account he is moved to teach (Mark 6:34). Jesus came to both heal and teach. This he does supremely in the Eucharist. He feeds and teaches us at the table of the Word. We cannot grow spiritually unless we are being taught – through the Word of God and through the teaching of the Church. In the Eucharist the Lord also feeds us with his own Body and Blood, healing and giving us new strength. St Pope John Paul II had a great sense of this pilgrimage back to the Father as we entered this new century. 'The whole of the Christian life is like a great pilgrimage to the house of the Father' (John Paul II, *Terio millennio adveniente* 49). On that journey we are all wounded and needy. The food of the Eucharist reaches into the depths of our being to renew us by healing wounds and pouring out grace and blessing

Jesus involved his disciples to participate in his work of feeding the five thousand. He asked them to distribute the bread and fishes and then gather up the remaining scraps. But before involving them Jesus challenged the disciples to feed the people out of their own resource. This they could not do. They needed the power of Jesus. In the same way, the Lord invites us to feed our brothers and sisters. But first we have to acknowledge that this is something that we cannot do by our own strength. We need the help of the Lord to feed and heal them. It can only be done through his grace. In his great compassion for his people the Lord longs to nourish them with the Eucharist, sustain and teach them through his Word and comfort them in prayer. There is a hunger and thirst in everyone to know God, and only God can satisfy their hunger because God put it there in the first place. We are all beggars before God, and beggars are often tired and exhausted for want of food and drink. Jesus is the Bread of Heaven and feeds us until we want no more.

Jesus, you alone can satisfy my heart's hunger. Fill me with new life and strength through your body and blood and help me to lead others to you to be fed.

Dear Parishioners,

I trust you are all enjoying the Mediterranean weather! Work in the social centre is progressing well, and we look to the completion of this phase of the refurbishment shortly. The work on the car park will begin again soon with the installation of the railings and the gates which are in the process of being made. In line with making our worshiping community more visible new flag poles have been installed already at St George's, and similar will follow at English Martyrs. As part of the next phase of refurbishment the church sanctuary will be re-painted and the woodwork re stained and varnished. Many thanks to you all for your patience during these major works.

Fr Brentnall.

***Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
on Saturday 10.15-10.45 am.***

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 4th Aug: St John Mary Vianney, Priest
Wed 5th Aug: Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major
Thurs 6th Aug: The Transfiguration of the Lord
Fri 7th Aug: St Sixtus II Pope and Companions, Martyrs

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR AUGUST for evangelisation in the city.

Let us pray that in large cities often masked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

RECENT DEATHS:

Please pray for Frances Constantino Guiseppe Saccone of Sinfon Ave, Shelton Lock, Derby, who died recently. Requiem Mass will take place at St George's on Thursday, 6th August at 10.30 am. We extend our sincere sympathies to the family and our prayers.

Please pray for Joseph Dussroth of Jubilee Road, who died during the week at the Nightingale Hospital after a time of illness. Joseph was a Eucharistic Minister and for a number of years took Holy Communion to a number of people in local care homes each week. He came to Derby a few years ago to be near family members and lost his wife a short time ago. We pray for his family in their sad loss. The funeral is still to be arranged.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Step Boldly

[Peter said,] "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." MATTHEW 14:28-29

Imagine the fear. High winds and waves are tossing you about on a small boat. All you want to do is curl into a ball in the bottom of the boat and hide until the storm passes. Jesus' voice carries over the storm. "Come."

When Peter asks Jesus to command him. Jesus still invites rather than commands. In his gentleness is supreme power.

Life's storms still rock our boats. The waves are still frightening. We still tend to curl into a ball and hide. And Jesus' voice still carries over the raging seas. The simple invitation is issued to us all, "Come".

What storm is rocking your boat? Will you have the faith and the courage to respond, to rise and stand, to look eye contact with the Saviour of the world and step boldly into the waves?

The only way out is through. You are not alone.