

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

8th February 2026

DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

4th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

ST GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 07 Feb	5.30 pm	Michael Donovan RIP
Sun 08 Feb	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Mon 09 Feb	9.30 am	Anna Maria RIP, Barbara's mother
Tues 10 Feb	9.30 am	For peace in the world
Wed 11 Feb	9.30 am	Eamonn Murray RIP TM
Thu 12 Feb	9.30 am	Special Intention HW
Fri 13 Feb	Nb: No 9.30 am Mass 11.00 am	Requiem, Bernadette Michelle Maughan RIP
Sat 14 Feb	9.30 am	Holy Souls
	5.30 pm	Mark Crosbie, RIP
Sun 15 Feb	9.30 am	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

'They are the salt of the earth,' we often say when referring to someone who is straightforward, honest and without guile. In today's reading, Jesus' description of his disciples as the 'salt of the earth' (v.13) struck a cord and meant something very specific to those hearing the Sermon on the Mount.

In Jesus' day (warm climate, no fridges), to preserve food from decay, salt was applied as a preservative. It also served to enhance the flavour. The ancient tradition of salting the sacrificial offerings (Ezek. 43:24) denoted a purifying function; it was perhaps for this reason that new-born babies were rubbed with salt to denote purification of the addition to God's people and as a reminder of the covenant.

In the same way as salt prevents decay and corruption, so the witness of those who live a life in the Spirit adds much-needed flavour to society. On the other hand too much salt in our food can make us thirsty. St Augustine once wrote, 'O Heavenly Father, you have put salt in our mouths that we may thirst for you.' The work of the Holy Spirit is to create within us a thirst for the things of God: for union with God, for communion with him and for grace to live a life which is holy and pleasing to him.

Jesus also calls us to be 'the light of the world' (v.14). In John 8:12 Jesus describes himself as the 'Light of the World'. We are called to shine our light into the darkness, to be beacons of light, illuminating the world. We are to be intercultural, signs of contradiction, heralds of the gospel of life bringing light and flavour through our witness of joy and hope. Light extinguishes the darkness, just as love extinguishes hate, and joy extinguishes sadness.

'What does light give me compared to what Christ's light and love gives? The light is useful to me in my present life, but your light and love weaves for me a crown in the future.' (St John Chrysostom)

SUNDAY MORNING TEA/COFFEE GROUP

In the past 3 months we have donated £200 to Mary's Meals from kind donations at our Sunday morning Tea/Coffee group. Their acknowledgment:

"Thank you so much for your precious gift, which is helping us to transform the lives of hungry children around the world with a nutritious daily meal in school. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your incredible generosity which will have a life-changing impact on some of the world's poorest children, providing them with food, education and hope for a brighter future."

CYCLE OF PRAYER DURING ORDINARY TIME – WINTER

Peace on earth, especially on Sunday 18th January.
Openness to the Word of God, especially on Sunday, 25th January
Christian Unity, especially on days Sunday 18th – Sunday 25th January.
Victims of trafficking and those who work to combat it, especially on Sunday, 8th February.
The sick and those who care for them, especially on Wednesday, 11th February
The unemployed, especially on Sunday, 15th February.

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

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 10th Feb: St Scholastica, Virgin
Wed 11th Feb: Our Lady of Lourdes
Sat 14th Feb: Sts Cyril & Methodius, Patrons of Europe

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

For children with incurable diseases. Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

RECENT DEATHS:

The Funeral Mass for Peter Kavanagh RIP will be on Friday, 6th March.

Please pray for Bernadette Maughan who has died recently. The Funeral Mass will be on Friday, 13th February at 11 am. We pray for her family at this sad time.
Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

Offering Up Suffering

.....he heals all your ills. PSALM 103:3

If God heals all my ills, as it says in Psalm 103, then why do I sometimes feel so bad? The martyred St Felicity provides perspective. Two days before she was to be thrown to wild beasts, Felicity went into labour. The guards taunted her for crying out when what waited for her was far worse. "But it's me who is suffering now," she said. "And in the arena, another will be in me. He will suffer for me because I will be suffering for him."

All suffering hurts, whether it comes from outside or is self-imposed due to sin. And still Jesus is with us! With kindness and compassion, he takes our suffering on himself. It is a mystery how that can be true even while we suffer. But when we offer that suffering to him, it is as mysteriously lifted and shared.

Lord, I offer this up to you! Help me remember the Cross you bore for me, so I might better carry mine.

ENABLING MISSION CAMPAIGN

Thanks to all who have been to the meetings to date with Fr Mark Brentnall, Fr Alan and the campaign organiser for the Diocese of Nottingham

It is an urgent initiative in the light of fewer priests and the increasing demands of the church in so many areas of maintenance of churches and property and safeguarding and catechesis of our people.

Fr Mark outlined also the use that will be made of the upper rooms of the social centre which will be a hub for deanery support and outreach, staffed by diocesan employees. The work of getting it ready is underway. The ground floor of the social centre will be refurbished with a new enlarged kitchen and new boiler, essentially for parish use as before.