**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**

**8th November 2026 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 32ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

**ST GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

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| Sat 07 Nov | 5.30 pm | Mr Trevor McCandless, 80th anniv. memorial |
| Sun 08 Nov | 9.30 am | People of the Parish |
| Mon 09 Nov | 9.30 am | For all our mothers |
| Tues 10 Nov | 9.30 am | Holy Souls, especially those on the dead list |
| Wed 11 Nov | 9.30 am | For Jimmy's mother and all the Devlin and Swingell family and for travellers |
| Thu 12 Nov | 9.30 am | For world peace |
| Fri 13 Nov | 9.30 am | For Amy Drenic and the deceased of the fam. |
| Sat 14 Nov | 9.30 am | For all who are not well, especially the seriously ill |
| | 5.30 pm | P J Crosbie and deceased of the fam. |
| Sun 15 Nov | 9.30 am | People of the parish |

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**GOSPEL REFLECTION:** As we participate in the Sunday liturgy today, we are nearing the end of the Church's Year. In a few weeks Advent will begin. The final week before Advent invites us to look forward to our goal and destiny, when our Bridegroom Jesus Christ, will come again and bring us into the final unity of heaven.

The business consultant Steven Covey has written a book called The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. One of the habits he recommends is 'Always keep the end in view'. It is a good principle for any business or organisation, since it always ensures that we avoid getting so immersed in the day to day problems that we lose our sense of direction and forget where we are going. In the same way, the Church invites us each year to think about our ultimate destiny. The parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids is also about keeping an eye on the goal. The wise bridesmaids kept oil in their lamps in preparation for the bridegroom's return. The foolish ones were unprepared.

It is interesting that the parable contains this message in a rather surprising way. Over many years it has been the experience of this writer that the parable has a habit of provoking a certain reaction – many of us on hearing the parable, think that the wise bridesmaids are really rather selfish and unchristian. After all, aren't we suppose to share what we have? But perhaps this is precisely an example of getting caught up with the problems and of missing the ultimate goal. It is as though we have a tendency to be taken off track or to become distracted by something that takes our eyes off the ball. Clearly, the 'oil in the lamp' is a metaphor: we don't really take it literally. It is a metaphor for being prepared. Actually, the Church sees it, more specifically, as a metaphor for the Holy Spirit, who keeps alive in us a longing for Christ's coming and for the joy of heaven.

*If our preparedness is beginning to wane, or if our lives are lacking the power of the Holy Spirit, there is only one solution – and the wise ones knew it. 'Go to the one who provides it.' It is Christ himself, present in the Church, and in the liturgy today, who renews the gift of his Spirit with us and reawakens our longing for heaven.*

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**ENGLISH MARTYRS SVP SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The SVP at English Martyrs are holding their annual Christmas Party on 29 November and we warmly invite St George's senior citizens to join us. We start with Mass and anointing at 3.00pm followed by refreshments and entertainment in the Parish Hall.

If you would like to join us please fill in your name and address on the sheets at the back of Church. We look forward to having you join us.

Unfortunately we are not able to offer transport as we don't have the capacity to do so. If family or friends are giving the senior citizens a lift, they are very welcome to stay for the mass, but unfortunately we can't accommodate them at the party. They will need to leave and pick them up later.

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**MOTHER'S PRAYERS:** The Mother's Prayer Group continues to meet every Monday morning after the 9.30 am Mass. All are welcome.

Also, Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament continues every day before the morning Masses**.**

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**THE FREE CATHOLIC PAPERS:** The free papers for November, Catholic Post and Catholic news have arrived. Please take your copy

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

**SAINTS THIS WEEK:**

Mon 9th Nov: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica.
The Bishop celebrates Mass in our Cathedral today at 1 pm remembering especially all the deceased clergy and religious of the diocese. Today, also is a day of special remembrance of the Saints, Blessed, Venerables and servants of God of the Diocese of Nottm.

Tues 10th Nov: St Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor

Wed 11th Nov: St Martin de Tours, Bishop

Thurs 12th Nov: St Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

Sat 14th Nov: Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Also to remember and pray for the soul of Bishop Joseph William Hendren, 1st Bishop of Nottingham. RIP 1866.

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**NOVEMBER** is the month of Holy Souls. During the month we remember and pray for all the dead (Holy Souls) that they may find peace, love and joy in eternal life. A life in the presence and glory of God for all eternity. And 'eternal life is this, to know you the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent'. *St John's Gospel.*

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**POPE LEO XIV's PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER:**

*For the proper use of wealth.* Let us pray for the proper use of wealth that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

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**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**: The new boxes of envelopes have arrived and begin on 6th December. Please take your box which has your name on it. Also, we have a few extra boxes for those who may wish to use an offertory donation envelope.

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**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY:** First of all, a very special thanks to all who have prepared the church and the remembrance names and photographs of parishioners and family members involved in the two great wars, 1914-1918 and 1939-1945. The poppy displays and the red flower theme are magnificent. The names and photographs of those who gave their lives and those who survived the horrors of war are a moving reminder of courage and self-sacrifice. I am particularly moved each time I look at the photograph of my great uncle Thomas who was killed at such a young age in the horrific battle Passchendaele, which led to such a great loss of life on the British and German sides. It is also very moving to see the other young soldiers of the small town of Ketton in Rutland, pictured with him, who gave their lives for King and country in the Great War of 1914-1918. The names and photographs of other family members of parishioners also reminds us of the sadness and loss of loved ones in war. May all the dead rest in peace and rise in glory.

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**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY, BLESSING OF GRAVES:** At 3 pm this Sunday, 8th November, Fr Alan will bless the graves of parishioners and all in the lovely cemetery of Chellaston. Many families chose this small cemetery for the burial of their loves ones. We remember and pray for all who have gone before us especially those we have known and loved in life. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace in the love of their God who created them and has a place for them in his heart and his homeland.

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**OUR DEAD LIST:** Please write the names of family members and others on the sheets of paper provided and place them in the box by the altar rails. Mass will be offered for them during the weeks of November. It is the constant teaching of the church that we should always remember our dead often and pray for them that they come safely to eternal life. St Therese of Lisieux said 'I will spend my heaven doing good for those on earth'. Also when she prayed for her holy parents (now canonised saints of the church) she said if they did not need her prayers for their salvation they would be passed onto others who did.

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**MASS FOR OUR DEAD:** If you wish to have a mass offered particularly for a deceased family member or friend, please write their name and place it in an envelope and give it in at church or through the parish house, 40 Village Street, together with your mass offering.