

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

14th February 2026

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

6TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

ST GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 14 Feb	5.30 pm	Mark Crosbie, RIP
Sun 15 Feb	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Mon 16 Feb	9.30 am	Deceased of the Toryusen Family
Tues 17 Feb	9.30 am	For St Ralph Sherwin Multi-Academy Trust, in its financial difficulties
Wed 18 Feb	ASH WEDNESDAY	
	Mass with blessing and imposition of ashes at both Masses	
	9.30 am	Private Intention
	7.00 pm	Clive RIP
Thu 19 Feb	9.30 am	Domenica and Onorio Coletti RIP
Fri 20 Feb	9.30 am	Donor's intention, St Anthony
Sat 21 Feb	9.30 am	For victims of abuse and violence
	5.30 pm	Tony McCandless RIP, 25 th anniversary
Sun 22 Feb	9.30 am	Open intention

GOSPEL REFLECTION: St Paul was a Pharisee. Prior to his conversion he could have been a poster boy for them. We know this because he tells us so – he wasn't immune to a little boasting, if it might help to further the gospel message.

Reflecting on what an impressive and marvellous Pharisee he had been Paul writes: 'If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee: as for zeal, persecuting the Church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless' (Phil. 3:4-6)

Jesus challenged the righteousness of the Pharisees. 'Unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven' (v.20). So where does that leave us?

In Paul's teaching we discover the secret of righteousness. Paul has come to understand that we don't stand before God on the basis of our own good deeds but rather because of Jesus' righteousness. We think of the things we do for God: we pray, we go to church, we fast, we give to charity, and we strive to be noble and good. This, however, isn't what makes us righteous because righteousness cannot be earned – it can only be received. Paul put it like this: 'For [Jesus Christ's] sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, based on law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith' (Phil. 3:8-9). We exceed the righteousness of the Pharisees by trusting in the saving death of Jesus, believing him to be our Saviour and Lord, and looking to the righteousness of Christ and not our own.

Lord God, all my righteous acts are but filthy rags before the righteousness of Christ Jesus your Son, in whom I put all my faith and all my trust.

CYCLE OF PRAYER DURING LENT, we pray for these intentions:

- For candidates for the Sacraments, especially on the Sundays of Lent.
- For women, especially on Friday 6th March (Women's World Day of Prayer).
- For the needy and hungry of the world, especially on Friday, 27th February, CAFOD Lent Fast Day.
- For penitents and wanderers.

TEA & COFFEE and socialising after Sunday 9.30 am Mass is continuing in spite of the gas being off as major heating and other work is going on at the social centre. We have prepared the smaller area behind the moveable dividing partition which can be warmed with fan heaters. All went well last Sunday and we can continue during and after all the works.

A RECENT DEATH: Please pray for Fr Alan's brother-in-law, Clive Schofield, who has died after a time of illness at home in Islington. We pray also for Fr Alan's sister, Helen, in her sad loss of a loving husband of many years.

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

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 17th Feb: Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

Sat 21st Feb: St Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor

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.

THE SEASON OF LENT begins on Ash Wednesday. There will be Mass in church at 9.30 am and also at 7 pm. Ash Wednesday is also a day when we are encouraged to fast and abstain from meat eating. The church has always called people to self-denial as a discipline to help us in strengthening our relationship with Almighty God. Jesus was accused of not getting his disciples to fast. He said "they do not fast while the bridegroom is still with them, after he is gone they will fast". Prepare for a good Lent.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent is a season of self-denial and interior struggle; a time to ponder, reflect and examine: a time to take stock and with sober judgement to turn back to God. In short, we are invited to 'Repent and believe the gospel' and reminded of our mortality, how transient and fleeting life is, 'Remember that thou are dust and to dust you will return.'

The ashes daubed on our forehead are a sign that we are penitent pilgrims on a journey of conversion back to the Father's house. During Lent we embrace the ancient but ever new disciplines of prayer; fasting and almsgiving. In and of themselves they are not the goal but simply tools to draw us closer to God.

For at the end of the day, when all is said and done when the busy clamour of our lives draws to an end what matters most is our relationship with God. We were created by God for God, and we only find true meaning and happiness in God. The journey of Lent is, then, a journey to the heart of the Father.

This pilgrimage of Lent is an adventure of the spirit and of the heart. The heart is the very core of our being but it is often hard, resistant. God's heart calls to our heart. The spirit invites us to weep for our sin, mourn our failures, lament our weakness but never despair. God draws near to the broken hearted and pours his love into our hearts in a new and exciting way during the holy and sacred season of Lent.

'When the Lenten fast makes its appearance, like a kind of spiritual springtime. Let us as soldiers burnish our weapons, and as harvesters sharpen our sickles, and as sailors order our thoughts against the waves of extravagant desires, and as travellers set out on the journey towards heaven, and as wrestlers strip for contest. For the believer is at once a harvester, a sailor, a soldier, a wrestler and a traveller..'
(St John Chrysostom)

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.

For those who are not yet involved, the campaign is still open and Fr Mark will speak at a Saturday evening Mass and campaign packs will be available at Masses.