

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

18th January 2026

PEACE SUNDAY

2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 17 Jan	5.30 pm	Hilary and Mark Crosbie RIP
Sun 18 Jan	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Mon 19 Jan	9.30 am	For parish benefactors
Tues 20 Jan	9.30 am	John & Mary Riordan, for good health
Wed 21 Jan	9.30 am	For Holy Souls
Thu 22 Jan	9.30 am	Charlie McAleavy RIP, Maureen McAleavy RIP and Martin McAleavy RIP
Fri 23 Jan	9.30 am	Donor's intention, in thanksgiving, St Anthony
Sat 24 Jan	9.30 am	Tom & Kathleen Connally RIP
	5.30 pm	People of the Parish
Sun 25 Jan	9.30 am	For world peace

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
on Saturday 10.15-10.45 am.**SAINTS THIS WEEK:**

Mon 19th Jan: St Wulstan, Bishop
Tues 20th Jan: St Sebastian, Martyr and St Fabian, Pope &
Martyr and Blessed Cyprian Tansi, Priest
Wed 21st Jan: St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
Thurs 22nd Jan: St Vincent, Deacon & Martyr
Sat 24th Jan: St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: Voluntary collection for The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)**To Bear Witness***Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.*

JOHN 1:34

Television cameras often zero in on athletes pounding their chests after a successful play. Less obvious are those who point their finger in the direction of a teammate who made the play possible. These are the ones who exemplify team sports at their best.

When John the Baptist points at Jesus in today's Gospel, he chooses to draw attention away from himself and toward the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. It sounds too little to say that the forerunner is giving *credit where credit is due*, for the very substance of John's being is to bear witness to the One who alone can save.

A couple of simple questions for reflection: Does my way of being point unambiguously to the One from whom I draw life? Is my life, fundamentally, an act of bearing witness?

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.

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

At his baptism Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit filled Jesus with the power to be 'a light to the nations' (Isa. 49:6). Living his life in purity, truth, humility, love, faithfulness and obedience to his Father, Jesus reflected God's light into a sinful world, dispelling the darkness of sin, unbelief and ignorance: 'I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness' (John 12:46)

The Spirit filled Jesus with the power to offer his life in sacrifice for the sins of the world in order that God's 'salvation may reach to the end of the earth' (Isa. 49:6). That is why John said of Jesus: 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!' (John 1:29).

As God's Chosen One, faithful and obedient, Jesus 'baptises with the Holy Spirit' (John 1:33) so that the Spirit will give believers the power to be light to the world and to bring God's salvation to the ends of the earth.

We are light to the world as we live our lives in 'compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience.' (Col. 3:12). These virtues dispel the darkness around us just as a lamp placed on a stand 'gives light to all in the house'. (Matt. 5:15).

We can live righteous and holy lives, rejecting the temptations that assail us, repenting of the sins we have committed, forbearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other' (Col. 3:13).

Jesus glorified his father: 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified' (Isa. 49:3). Like Jesus, we give glory to the Father by being light to the world and pursuing righteousness and peace. Ask the Spirit to fill you with power so that you may be light to the world and bring God's salvation – mercy, love, peace and forgiveness – to those around you.

Jesus, my saviour, you are the light of the world. Fill me with the power of your Spirit so that I may bring your light and salvation to the world.