

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Assistant: Canon Alan Burbidge Emeritus

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21st April 2024

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 20 Apr	5.30 pm	SG	In thanksgiving, Infant Jesus of Prague ET
Sun 21 Apr	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	Patricia Brown RIP
Mon 22 Apr	9.30 am	SG	For all in the parish who are not well, especially those whose names have been given.
	11.30 am	SG	Requiem for Cynthia Clayton
Tues 23 Apr	9.00 am		School Mass. All welcome on St George's Day. Also for Siobhan RIP and family.
	7.00 pm	SG	Parish patronal feast in church. P.I.
Wed 24 Apr	9.30 am	SG	Holy Souls in Purgatory and all travellers
Thu 25 Apr	9.30 am	SG	For Johnson Fund supporters
Fri 26 Apr	9.30 am	SG	For Bill Hill, Fr Alan's brother-in-law in Market Harborough
Sat 27 Apr	9.30 am	SG	Fr John Daly RIP
	5.30 pm	SG	Pope Francis' intentions, for world peace
Sun 28 Apr	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	For vocations to the priesthood and Religious life

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

Mass times for St George's as above.

Mass times for English Martyrs, please consult their website, for the time-being.

On the name for our area of "ENGLISH MARTYRS and ST GEORGE'S", this is in line with the simplification of parish titles eg St Mary's, Allestree, Mackworth is now "Ralph Sherwin".

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is attractive and popular. To understand it fully we need to grasp its context. In the ancient Near Eastern world, few people would have been unfamiliar with the responsibilities and trials of a shepherd: many families had at least a few sheep of their own. From the villages the flock was led out to pasture on the hills and common land, often for days at a time: the sheep were completely dependent on the shepherd to lead them to good pasture and water. Wild predators roamed free, and it was a hazardous task to round up the wandering sheep and keep them together in a place of safety through the night. The concept of the good shepherd developed in the Old Testament where Israel's corrupt and self-serving leaders were described as bad shepherds, and the Lord promises to come and care for his sheep himself: "I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep...I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the crippled, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will watch over". (Ezek. 34:15-16)

Jesus loves everyone with great tenderness and compassion: willingly he laid down his life to save each person from sin and bring them into the Father's fold. Having brought us into the fold at great cost, he watches over us with tender concern to keep us safe. But his love reaches beyond his Church to all people, and he longs to bring them all under his protection. Today, we can reflect on what it means that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and thank him for all the ways in which he cares for us. Like obedient sheep, let us heed his voice: he will call us to him and teach us to share his concern to bring all people into one fold.

Lord Jesus, with you as my Shepherd I want for nothing. Gather in all those who do not know you and bring them to the joy and safety of your fold. Send me to pray and work for the unity of one flock under one Shepherd.

DECEASED PRIESTS: Please pray for Canon Anthony Dolan and Fr John Daly, retired priests, who have died recently. Both gave long service to our Diocese of Nottingham in several parishes. May God bless them with heavenly joy and love and peace following their fruitful labour in the vineyard of the Lord.

EVENTS AT HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH: On Mondays and Wednesdays there will be a coffee morning to give people a chance to gather and socialise. It will be at 10 am onwards at the church.

Also on Sundays after Mass there is ALPHA course for those who wish to learn about their faith or to deepen their understanding.

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY ONLY: 10:15 – 10:45

ADORATION before the Blessed Sacrament daily before the 9.30 am Mass and then other times as announced.

SECOND COLLECTION at all Masses this weekend for the Clergy Formation Fund.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 23 Apr: St George, Martyr, Patron of England

Thurs 25 Apr: St Mark Evangelist (Feast)

SOBBING FOR JOY

....I will lay down my life for the sheep. John 10-15

Sadly, more than a few people feel that they are too awful to be loved by God. Many of them grew up feeling rejected and worthless. So, when hearing a message of God's love, they might believe it for others, but they struggle to accept it for themselves.

What might such wounded people do? They would likely benefit from a healing experience of real love, either directly from God or another person. I recommend they pray for a personal experience of God's love and/or belong to a loving community of faith.

In reality, all of us have only a limited awareness of the depths of God's love. If we truly experienced it, we would sob for joy. Our hearts would overflow with love and gratitude. We would want to share this amazing news with everyone.

Heavenly Father, may we experience your infinite love and mercy for each of us and courageously share this Good News with the world.

NEW PARISH AND MASS ARRANGEMENTS: In consultation with Fr Mark Brentnall we have to have provisional arrangements for Masses and other activities because of the severe injury to Fr Neil Peoples, Parish Priest of Burton-on-Trent (that area that is in Nottingham diocese) and Swadlincote. Fr Mark is helping to cover the parish while Fr Neil recovers his mobility, his leg being severely broken following his fall at the Cathedral on the Wednesday of Holy Week. Please keep Fr Neil in your prayers that he can make a full recovery. The newsletter will keep you informed of Mass times.

RECENT DEATHS: Please continue to pray for Cynthia Clayton of Oriol Court and Kevin Mullarkey of Grasmere Crescent whose deaths have already been announced.

The funeral for Cynthia Clayton will take place at St George's on Monday 22nd April 2024 at 11.30 am.

The funeral for Kevin Mullarkey will take place at Holy Spirit Church, Sinfin, on Friday, 3rd May at 2 pm.

Also, please pray for Bill Hill, Fr Alan's brother-in-law who has recently died at Market Harborough, Fr Alan's home town, after a short illness.

Also, please pray for Siobhan Richards-Slater a pupil of St George's school aged 6 years, who sadly passed away in the Easter holidays. We pray for her family at this very sad time.

Also, please pray for Mary Mulligan of Marlborough Road (known as Kathleen) who has died recently.

We extend again to all the families our sincere sympathies and our prayers. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.*

DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS:

Eternal Father I offer you the body and blood, soul and divinity of your dearly beloved son, our Lord Jesus Christ in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

and

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and the whole world.

and

Holy God, Holy Almighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.