

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

30th August 2026

22nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

ST GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 29 Aug	5.30 pm	Michael Gallagher RIP, anniversary
Sun 30 Aug	9.30 am	For Manti Santi RIP and the deceased of the family (in Italy)
Mon 31 Aug	9.30 am	Sean Kennedy for good health
Tues 01 Sept	9.30 am	For world peace
Wed 02 Sept	9.30 am	Sp. Intention for Jimmy Ward and Jimmy's family
Thu 03 Sept	9.30 am	For victims of natural disasters
Fri 04 Sept	9.30 am	Sp. Intention for Denise and Ray O'Neil and family
Sat 05 Sept	9.30 am	Private intention
	5.30 pm	Hilary Crosbie RIP & Mark Crosbie RIP
Sun 06 Sept	9.30 am	People of the parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

It costs to do God's will. Jeremiah tried to resist God's will but he couldn't: 'thou art stronger than I, and thou hast prevailed' (Jer. 20:7) but it brought him not affirmation and acceptance but reproach, insult and derision (Jer. 20:8). He had a fire burning in his heart (Jer. 20:9) which gave him the inner strength to proclaim God's word whatever the cost.

Jesus, in order to save us and reconcile us with the Father, desired with all his heart to give his life for us as a sacrifice on the cross. Jesus 'for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame' (Heb. 12:2). He knew that carrying out the will of his Father would inevitably bring suffering and death: 'the Son of man will be delivered...to the Gentiles to be mocked and scourged and crucified' (Matt. 20: 18-19).

That is why when Peter attempted to persuade him not to do the Father's will and to avoid suffering and death, Jesus sternly rebuked them: 'You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men' (v.23). Jesus was willing to pay the full cost; in the courage and power of the Spirit he endured all his sufferings 'with loud cries and tears' (Heb. 5:7)

Following Jesus will cause suffering: 'If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me' (v. 24). We have to subdue our own will to do God's will. This is costly because it means letting go of what we would prefer to do. If we do God's will, then Jesus promises that he will reward us: 'he will repay every man for what he has done' (v. 27). This hope gives us the grace and strength not to count the cost. It also sustains us.

'Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest: to labour and to ask for no reward, save that of knowing that we do your will.'
(St Ignatius of Loyola)

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE - 30TH September – 7th October 2026

All are welcome to join Fr Andrew on pilgrimage to Medjugorje, flying from East Midlands Airport, costing £794 based on sharing a room, half-board, in accommodation near to St James' Church, with a local guide.

For more information, please contact Alison Riggott (07934 419753 / aliriggott@yahoo.co.uk) or see the poster in church.

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

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 31st Aug: St Aidan and Saints of Lindisfarne
Thurs 3rd Sept: St Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor
Fri 4th Sept: St Cuthbert, Bishop
Sat 5th Sept: St Teresa of Calcutta

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

For students and teachers; especially on Sunday, 13th Sept.
For the spread of the Gospel; especially on Sunday 20th Sept.
For the harvest, especially on Sunday, 27th Sept.
For the fruits of human work and the reverent use of creation; especially on Tuesday 1st September
For justice and peace in the world and Holy Father's prayer intentions for September
For the care of water and for equal access to it.

A RECENT DEATH:

Please pray for John Whittamore of Village Street who died recently after a time of illness. We pray for his family at this sad time.
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Obstacle Course

Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. MATTHEW 16:23

One of my favourite prayers was composed by Fr Mychal Judge, the first fatality of 9/11:

*Lord, take me where you want me to go;
Let me meet who you want me to meet;
Tell me what you want me to say,
And keep me out of your way.*

I imagine St Peter may have whispered a similar prayer after he had this conversation with Jesus in today's Gospel. Is there anything more alarming than being told that you are an obstacle to the Lord? We all pray, almost by rote, "Thy will be done." But how often do we pray, "Keep me in my place, God, so I don't mess up your plans"? That can be a tall order. It means giving up our own desires and ambitions. We're busy living our lives, doing what we think is right – but are we helping God? Or are we in the way?
Lord, teach me to be a clear path, not an obstacle!

Do You Recognise Jesus?

You are the Christ, the Son of The living God. MATHEW 16:16

We love taking our children to new churches, to gaze at the incredible architecture, be inspired by the art and celebrate the liturgy with the wider Church. Inevitably, one of the younger children will see a statue or painting, point excitedly and exclaim. "It's Jesus!" I envy how easily my kids recognise Jesus. In my pride and distraction I have a hard time remembering that the person standing in line with me at the store, the homeless person on the street corner and the driver who cuts me off in traffic are opportunities to see Jesus too. Like Peter, I sometimes need to be confronted directly - "Who do you say that I am?" (v.15) – before I can see and reply with faith.

Loving God, help me to see Jesus in every person I meet today and to reverence him in them.