

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Assistant: Canon Alan Burbidge Emeritus

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number 1134449 Registered Office: Willson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham. NG1 5AW

17th August 2025

20th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

St GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 16 Aug	5.30 pm	Ivan Holmes RIP
Sun 17 Aug	9.30 am	John Redfearn RIP
Mon 18 Aug	9.30 am	Patrick Briffin, for successful health treatment
Tues 19 Aug	9.30 am	For the living of the Burbidge family, especially the over 80s, and for the dead
Wed 20 Aug	No 9.30 am Mass 11.30 am	Requiem Mass for Joseph Monaghan RIP
Thu 21 Aug	9.30 am	In thanksgiving, St Anthony of Padua
Fri 22 Aug	9.30 am	For all in the parish who are not well, especially those in hospital
Sat 23 Aug	9.30 am	For Michael RIP, Jimmy's son
	5.30 pm	Lourdes Watters RIP, 2 nd anniversary
Sun 24 Aug	9.30 am	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

In truth, division, strife and misunderstanding are part and parcel of life – no family, no company, no organisation no seminary, no parish or diocese is immune from it. The disciples had plenty of it – they bickered about who was the greatest: Paul and Barnabas had a major falling out; and the first believers split into factions.

St Jude said: 'But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: they said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." It is these who set up divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. But you, beloved, ...convince some, who doubt; gave some, by snatching them out of the fire; on some have mercy with fear....' (Jude vv. 17:20, 22-23)

Jesus came to bring the fire of the Holy Spirit. Where the Spirit is, there is peace and freedom, but so too change and renewal bring trouble and strife and disunity. Wherever the Spirit is there are those who resist, fight and stir up trouble. Any new initiative, be it at parish or diocesan level, knows this too well. Be wary of those who cherish the status quo, prefer not to rock the boat or upset the apple cart.

The Spirit swims against the tide, kicks against the grain and resists compromise with the world, shouts out and refuses to remain silent. St Catherine of Siena railed against such silence: 'We've had enough exhortations to be silent. Cry out with a thousand tongues- I see the world is rotten because of silence.' Archbishop Fulton Sheen once said, 'Moral principles do not depend on a majority vote. Wrong is wrong, even if everybody is wrong, and right is right even if no one is right.'

Don't be afraid of standing up for what is right true and just, don't be afraid of conflict or disagreement. In fact, as disciples of Jesus of Nazareth, expect it, prepare for it and live through it, confident of God's love and strength.

Lord Jesus, grant me the grace to be courageous and strong and to stand up for the truth of the gospel whatever the cost.

ROAD SAFETY: The statistics given recently for the victims of road accidents, those killed and those seriously injured are unbelievably high. There is also great concern that many older people with very poor eyesight are involved in road/traffic accidents.

Let us all resolve to drive with great care and let us pray for all individuals and their families who have gone through great loss and suffering.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 19 th Aug:	St John Eudes, Priest
Wed 26 th Aug:	St Bernard, Abbot & Doctor
Thurs 21 st Aug:	St Pius X, Pope
Fri 22 nd Aug:	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sat 23 rd Aug:	St Rose of Lima, Virgin

FUNERALS:

We keep in our prayers Mr Joseph (Joe) Monaghan of Rowsley Avenue and Mr John Redfearn of Penrhyn Avenue, whose funerals are being prepared for and we pray for their families in their sadness and loss of loved ones.

Requiem Mass for Joseph Monaghan will be on Wednesday, 20th August, at 11.30 am at St George's.

Requiem Mass for John Redfearn will be on Wednesday, 3rd September, at 10 am at St George's.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Choosing Sides

Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. LUKE 12:51

Did you hear that?

Jesus' followers must have been shocked. The rabbi who had worked miracles and spoke of building treasure in heaven was talking about upheaval conflict, division. Say what?

But Jesus had a point. When he described families being torn apart, he spoke of them being divided by generations – the old against the new. He offered a radical way of life. He expected resistance.

The fact is, the way of Christ is hard, even extreme. Loving your enemies? Praying for your persecutors? How can someone live like that?

This passage reminds us that following Christ isn't easy; choosing sides rarely is. In our own day, it challenges us: Which side are we on? Are we prepared to be counter cultural even radical?

When it comes to choosing a side, can we go against the tide and choose the most radical way of all, the way of love?

The FREE PAPERS, CATHOLIC POST and CATHOLIC NEWS for the month of August are now available. Lots of nice articles on events and people.

In **Catholic Post:** To be a pilgrim, Archbishop receives Pallium from Pope Leo XIV; Dalai Lama's 90th birthday; Catholic school organisers meet Pope Leo IV; Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati to be canonised together and others for canonisation; Bishop Patrick on welcome for Noisy Families.

In **Catholic News:** 50th anniversary of St Joseph's, Rutland; A Day of Eucharistic reflection; Fr Jim O'Hanlon, 60th Anniversary of Ordination; St Mary's CV Academy, Derby, pupils at Walsingham.

Please take your free copy.