

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

31st August 2025

22nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

St GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 30 Aug	5.30 pm	Larry and May Morgan RIP
Sun 31 Aug	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Mon 01 Sept	9.30 am	For peace in the Ukraine and Gaza
Tues 02 Sept	9.30 am	In thanksgiving St Anthony of Padua. Donor's intention
Wed 03 Sept	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for John Redfearn RIP
Thu 04 Sept	9.30 am	For deceased clergy
Fri 05 Sept	9.30 am	In thanksgiving for the birthday of Mr Guy Dussroth
Sat 06 Sept	9.30 am	For all suffering Crosbie refugees and immigrants
	5.30 pm	Mark and Hilary Crosbie
Sun 07 Sept	9.30 am	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Every year a king held a sumptuous banquet for all in his employ. Everyone was invited and all came. The ambassadors dined with the kitchen staff and the king's private secretaries supped with the gardeners. It was one of those rare occasions when social distinctions and the barriers they create came down. The king was fond of a particular gardener whose family had served him and his estate for generations. The gardener, a humble, uneducated rustic, was invited to sit near to the king such was the king's affection and high regard of him. The gardener was ill at ease socially and felt conspicuous and uncomfortable amongst such distinguished company. On one occasion after the master of ceremonies invited the guests to begin their meal, the gardener, parched and nervous, reached for the fingerbowl, which he mistook for a cool draught.

Snatching the bowl with both hands, he drank eagerly. The guests who witnessed the faux pas were highly amused and a ripple of mockery and disdain filled the room. The king, socially alert, quick as a flash, without missing a beat, realised what was happening, took hold of his fingerbowl and drank from it himself. The smiles were wiped off the faces of those who had mocked the poor gardener – the embarrassed guests joined the king in drinking from their fingerbowls! The king had masterfully upheld the dignity of his esteemed gardener.

Jesus noticed how guests vied for the best seats. This is common today. A bishop at a fundraiser can be clapped in with great ceremony to take up the best seat or a high rolling donor is given a seat on the top table close to a Cardinal or similar ecclesiastical dignitary.

Of course, such conventions are innocent enough but they convey social elitism and the attraction of money and power.

Jesus' parable shines the spotlight on the thirst to be exalted, for in seeking to be exalted we will be humbled and by seeking to be humbled we shall be exalted.

O Lord, what is it you desire? That I walk humbly, seeking to serve and not be served and to love rather than to be loved.

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

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Wed 3rd Sept: St Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor

Thurs 4th Sept: St Cuthbert, Bishop

Sat 6th Sept: Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A FUNERAL:

As announced, the funeral of John Redfearn of Penryhn Avenue will take place on Wednesday, 3rd September at St George's. All parishioners are very welcome to come along for the Requiem Mass and all who wish will be very welcome at the gathering afterwards at The Grange in Littleover where a buffet will be served.

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

We extend our sincere sympathy and prayers to all the family.

His Way of Humility

Humble yourself the more, the greater you are..... SIRACH 3:18A

They say you can tell the measure of a man by watching how he treats a person who can't do anything for him. Affirming the dignity of another can be as simple as pausing, paying attention or making eye contact. Yet, we often tend to hurry on our way or ignore those around us, forgetting that they are walking images of the divine. If anyone would be justified in overlooking others without a second thought, it would be God. "What is man that you are mindful of him?" (Psalm 8:5). After all, we can't add anything to God's glory! Yet, it was Jesus – God in the flesh – who humbled himself: being born in poverty, befriending outcasts, washing feet and going to the Cross. Jesus invites us to follow in his way of humility knowing that it is the only path to glory.

How will you help elevate another person today?

Jesus help me to see you my neighbour and myself with true humility.

Jubilee Prayer

God our Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son Jesus Christ, our Saviour,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
awaken in us this Jubilee Year a missionary heart
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May the gift of your grace
transform us. Pilgrims of Hope,
into your missionary disciples,
blessed with the gifts and talents you give us.
strengthen us to share our Saviour's message
of love, joy, and peace
with all the people we meet this year,
so that we may help build up your kingdom on earth.

To you our God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be glory and praise for ever and ever.
Amen