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25th February 2024

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 24 Feb	5.30 pm	St George's	Tom McCandless RIP, Anniv.
Sun 25 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Fr. Peter Peterken RIP
Mon 26 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	Baby Joseph Power and the Power family and for lost souls who have no-one.
Tue 27 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	In thanksgiving, Dave Perry
Wed 28 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	For Anne & Ray Wagg & family
Thu 29 Feb	9.30 am	St George's	Denis Rafferty RIP
Fri 01 Mar	9.30 am	St George's	Eucharistic Service
	9.30 am	Holy Spirit	Requiem, William Thomas Byrne (Billy) RIP
Sat 02 Mar	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	5.30 pm	St George's	Margaret Ellis RIP, birthday memory
Sun 03 Mar	9.30 am	St George's	May Gallagher RIP
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Josephine Jennings for good health

GOSPEL REFLECTION

God's Chose People, turned away to worship the golden calf. Moses interceded, and God agreed to walk in the midst of his unfaithful people. Moses asked to see God's glory, and God said: 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you my name "The Lord" (Exod. 33:18-19). The Lord passed before Moses and proclaimed: 'The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness' (Exod. 34:5-6).

*Through examining our conscience
and being led through the door first
of repentance and then conversion.*

God is 'I AM' or 'HE IS' and we glimpse through this holy and ancient text the beginning of the gradual unfolding of the revelation that God is mercy.

Human history is littered with examples of believers being unmerciful and unkind – the Crusades, the Inquisition, the Pogroms, the sectarian divisions. Looking back is of the call to be merciful as the Father is merciful.

We don't readily forgive, we nurse resentment and we hold grievances. Our hearts are hard, although God's gentle mercy falls upon the righteous and the unrighteous as cleansing dew at morning dawn.

How do we change? How do we become more merciful? Through examining our conscience and being led through the door first of repentance and then of conversation.

This is why Lent is such a season of grace, because it is the season of repentance and conversion. When we turn back to God, God comes running out to us. We confess our sins against mercy; resentment, revenge, anger, spite, hatred and we receive God's mercy.

Lord, I have received mercy: help me to show mercy.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

Parent Meeting, Sunday, 25th February, after Sunday morning Mass at St George's Church. For further information, please speak to Canon Alan Burbidge or Mrs McNamara or email:

sacramentsstgeorgesrcderby@gmail.com

Copies of Catholic Post and Catholic News still available.

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 for CAFOD this weekend. Please place your envelopes in the 2nd collection and also donations...

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 27th Feb: St Margaret Clitheroe, Anneline & Margaret Ward, Martyrs.

Fri 1st Mar: St David Patron of Wales

A RECENT DEATH: Please pray for William Thomas Byrne of Johnson Avenue, Allenton, who has died recently. He was a regular parishioner at Holy Spirit and will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Requiem Mass will take place at Holy Spirit church on Friday, 1st March, at 9.30 am. *Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Astonishment and Gratitude

I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore.

Genesis 22:17

I have never attempted to count the sand along the seashore. And even in my childhood I knew the stars were far too many for my limited counting skills to enumerate. I was simply stunned into awe by the expanse of those radiant lights in a midnight sky. Immensity can have that effect on us, like the experience of sitting and gazing at the expanse of the ocean. Sometimes, the only things we can do in the face of such largeness, such extravagant generosity and beauty, are to practice silent astonishment and gratitude.

When God speaks to Abraham, the Holy One uses the immensity of sand and stars to underscore just how unending and countless will be his descendants. God's promises of faithful love and unending care are just as real for us today. May we spend this day and every day in a posture of gratitude. Sr Chris Koellhoffer. I.H.M.

Fr PETER PETERKEN RIP:

We extend sincere and grateful thanks to all parishioners on behalf of Fr Alan and Fr Peter's family, for their help in the funeral Masses. It was very heartening I'm sure for his family and friends, to see so many people both at the Vigil Mass at Holy Spirit, Sinfin, and the Requiem at Our Lady of Lourdes, Mickleover.

Many thanks to all, especially at the Holy Spirit church for getting everything ready for the Mass and also for the lovely cakes and tea and coffee at the reception which followed.

The Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes church was special with lovely singing and led by our Bishop Patrick McKinney with lots of priests, 26 in all, celebrating the Mass together.

Fr Peter accepted the invitation given to Anglican clergy to come into the Catholic Church in 2011, and to bring with them their own special patrimony. They became Catholic priests in that group called the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. People also could come with their priests and we welcomed a number at St George's Church who worshipped with us, until the Ordinariate was up and running. Their own Ordinary or Bishop with a number of priests, were with us for their colleague Fr Peter's Requiem Mass. They could be seen in their very distinctive colourful chasubles.

We continue to pray for Fr Peter and say "Eternal rest grant unto Him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in the love, joy and peace of Almighty God in heaven. Amen."