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23rd April 2023

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 22 Apr	5.30 pm	St George's	For all parishioners who are not so well.
Sun 23 Apr	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Donor's intentions and holy souls
	6.00 pm	St George's	Devlin Doherty's people and the deceased and travellers and the sick and for world peace.
Mon 24 Apr	9.30 am	St George's	The McCartney family RIP and the Brogan Family RIP
Tue 25 Apr	9.30 am	St George's	Priest's own intention
Wed 26 Apr	9.30 am	St George's	Mary Mee (Nee Nolan) RIP in Devon
Thu 27 Apr	9.30 am	St George's	In thanksgiving, St Anthony
Fri 28 Apr	9.30 am	St George's	Cynthia Augustus RIP, Birthday memorial Mass
Sat 29 Apr	9.30 pm	St George's	For Barbara's father who has died in Uganda, RIP
	5.30 pm	St George's	People of the Parish
Sun 30 Apr	9.30 am	St George's	For Dr Molly Owen, terminal illness (in Ireland)
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Patricia Brown RIP
	6.00 pm	St George's	For all the deceased of our parish and for family members RIP

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The two disciples walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus considered Jesus a prophet, a man of God who'd been brutally killed by the authorities, like many of the prophets before him. Frankly, despite their grief for his tragic death, Jesus had proved to be a disappointment. They had thought he was Israel's redeemer, but that was all over now. No more dreams of a powerful Messiah who would liberate them from political and social oppression. In their misery and disillusionment, they were walking away from Jerusalem to what was likely their home village. Clearly, they wondered about the meaning of it all, questioning whether God's promise of redemption would ever be fulfilled or whether his messengers would always end up being ground into the dust of those in authority.

Jesus appears as if from nowhere – unannounced, unexpected, unrecognized. Not only are the disciples blind to the real nature and purpose of Jesus' ministry, but they are also blind to him here. His coming is gentle and his instruction is patient. Their hearts burn within them. All the things they'd heard Jesus teach start to make sense. All their preconceived ideas are shown to be wrong. Jesus makes no effort to stay with them at their journey's end. As always, there's no element of compulsion to a relationship with Jesus. Yet they want more and their hospitality is generous: 'Stay with us', they say to this fascinating stranger (v.29). Jesus, as he always does, accepts the invitation. When the bread is broken, the veil's finally lifted. At the moment when they recognize him he is gone. The disciples sit together in the wonder of realization. They see him as he really is – risen, glorious, loving, yet still the same Jesus. Today's Gospel speaks to all of us who have had our dreams shattered. Maybe we feel as though God has let us down and in our sorrow is nowhere to be found. The truth is that it's in these moments of apparent desolation that Jesus is at his very closest to us, unrecognized, silent and loving: but still the same Jesus.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Preparation lessons begin again on Sunday 23rd April after our Easter break. It is good to have the children and families with us on Sunday mornings.

AN EASTER GIFT FOR YOU - STILL A FEW COPIES REMAINING

We have taken advantage of a special offer for Bible Alive and therefore, enable each family to have a free copy of this lovely magazine which contains very helpful and incisive reflections on the daily and Sunday Gospels for Eastertide. From Sunday, 9th April to Sunday 28th May there is a helpful page of reflection on the Gospel of the day. Please take your free copy.

MISSIO: Free copies of the Spring edition of Mission Today, available at the church.

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 next week at all Masses is for the clergy formation fund which goes towards educating priests and deacons for our diocese of Nottingham.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 24 Apr: St George, Martyr, Patron of England (transferred from 23rd April).

Thurs 25 Apr: St Mark, Evangelist

Sat 29 Apr: St Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe.

Also on Wed 26th April we celebrate the dedication of St George's Church which took place in 1948. The Dedication Day was celebrated when all debts for the building of the church had been paid. St George's was built in 1920 and renovated around 1930 after there had been some collapse due to unstable foundations.

'Their Eyes Were Opened'

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him.....Luke 24:31

The first time I toured Rome, I saw all the usual sites: St Peter's Basilica, the Colosseum, the Appian Way. Yet it wasn't until I visited the Basilica of St Paul's Outside the Walls that I suddenly realized...this was the same Rome that Paul visited, the one where Peter was martyred. I'd read their letters, of course. I knew their stories, but in some unconscious corner of my brain, they were just that: stories. Standing in that holy place, I understood viscerally for the first time that Peter and Paul were real.

Strange, isn't it? I imagine that was sort of how the disciples felt on the road to Emmaus. They'd heard a rumour of the risen Lord and were discussing it with a stranger on the way. Then suddenly, there he was: the Risen Lord there in their midst! What else might we see if we allow the Lord to open our eyes? Risen Lord, open my eyes to your presence!

Karla Manternach

COMING EVENTS

Friday 5th May 2023, 7pm – 9 pm
Nottingham Cathedral, NG1 5AE

GOD SAVE THE KING

A musical celebration of the Coronation of
His Majesty King Charles III

Book: dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/coronation or by calling The Cathedral Office on 0115 953 9839

**NOTTINGHAM DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE
15th – 20th July 2023**

Bookings now open: dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/lourdes2023
or call 01732 886666

NOTTINGHAM DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGES 2023

Sun. 30th April	Beauvale	Sun. 25th June	Rodsley
Sat. 29th April	Melwood	Sun. 9th July	Padley
Sat 17th June*	Walsingham	1-6th August	WYD Lisbon

*young adults: 16-18 June