

ST GEORGE'S, 40 Village St, Derby DE3 8SZ Tel: 01332 767038 and HOLY SPIRIT, Redwood Rd, Sinfen, Derby

Parish Priest: Canon Alan Burbidge

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30th July 2023

17TH WEEK OF THE CHURCH YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 29 July	5.30 pm	St George's	Ron and Sheilagh Goodman RIP
Sun 30 July	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Tricia Litherland RIP
	6.00 pm	St George's	Sarah Fortune RIP
Mon 31 July	9.30 am	St George's	Cynthia Augustus RIP, Anniv. time
Tue 01 Aug	9.30 am	St George's	Priest's own intention
Wed 02 Aug	9.30 am	St George's	Donor's intention, St Anthony
Thu 03 Aug	9.30 am	St George's	Holy Souls and the sick of the parish
Fri 04 Aug	9.30 am	St George's	For all the good work of the Royal Derby Hospital
Sat 05 Aug	9.30 pm	St George's	In thanksgiving, St Anthony
	5.30 pm	St George's	Michael Donovan RIP
Sun 06 Aug	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Barbara Nalukwago in thanksgiving for many things
	6.00 pm	St George's	For Fr Alan for recovery and good health

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl of Great Price illustrate the zeal with which the kingdom should be pursued. They express the great value of the kingdom, the joy that it brings and the total commitment that it demands. The ability to discern priorities lies at the heart of these two parables. Once the treasure is found, nothing is of greater value. And so Jesus calls us to discover the kingdom.

We may note the differences in the parables in the manner of acquiring the treasure: in one case it seems to be a chance event, without premeditation or forethought; in the other it involves a careful search.

Sometimes we need to recognise that we chance upon the kingdom in so many different ways in our daily lives and from a variety of people. Then it's a question of recognizing the treasure that's already there. At other times we need to search for the kingdom like the merchant searching for fine pearls. Elsewhere, Jesus urges us to 'seek first [God's] kingdom and his righteousness' (Matt. 6:33 NIV).

The joy that the discovery of the kingdom brings involves a willingness to give up everything else for it. Jesus' emphasis is on the joy rather than on heroic self-sacrifice or surrender. There's great joy in finding the true treasure that is the kingdom. The question is, are we willing to pay the price? Sometimes, realising the cost, we want and yet we don't want, we seek but we don't actually want to find; we're like people waiting at a bus stop, yet hoping that the bus won't come!

In a way Christians are always seeking treasure, always finding new aspects of it, always searching. This search may lead us in many different ways, and we may know a real restlessness until we find our true home in God. As John Henry Newman said, 'To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.' And yet it's really God who is searching for us and seeking to bring us safely home.

Lord, help me to seek first your kingdom. May I recognise its priceless value, and put it before all worldly wealth and power.

FR. ALAN: *Please pray for Fr Alan as he recovers from successful keyhole surgery in hospital. Please keep him in your prayers and pray for his speedy recovery and good health.*

PARISHIONERS WHO ARE NOT WELL:

We have a number of parishioners who are not well, either at home or in hospital. Please pray for them that they may recover and feel a lot better. Please pray especially for any cancer sufferers that their treatment will be effective.

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.-

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 31st July: St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Tues 1st Aug: St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor

Fri 4th Aug: St John Vianney, Priest

An Understanding Heart

God said, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you."
1 Kings 3-5

When God tells Solomon to ask for a gift from God, Solomon asks for "an understanding heart" (sometimes translated as "wisdom"). He does not ask for a long life, riches or the death of his enemies. God is understandably pleased with his request.

In a very real way in our own prayer, God tells us to ask for gifts too. What do we ask for? We're sometimes tempted to ask God for changes in other people (Make her more patient!) or changes in our circumstances ("Remove these major stresses from my life!") But maybe it would be better to ask God for the love we need to respond better to others and the strength we need to bear the inevitable stresses of daily living.

Loving God, please give me a more understanding and loving heart.
Sr Melannie Svoboda. S.N.D.

CLERGY MOVES:

Our assistant priest Fr Jude Eze is being moved by our Bishop Patrick McKinney to Divine Infant of Prague Parish in Syston near Leicester.

Fr Clement from Syston is moving out of that parish.

Syston parish is to be joined with St Patrick's Parish in Leics.

Fr Raphael will be Parish Priest of both parishes and Fr Jude will work with him in serving the needs of the two parishes combined.

Fr Jude will take up residence in Syston for the weekend of 9th/10th September 2023.

OUR SCHOOLS:

As the staff and pupils go for the summer holidays, I would like to thank all who work so hard to educate our young people. At our own St George's Primary Academy we have had a great year. Pupils have made excellent progress with first class teaching and hard work and the leavers are well prepared to go onto secondary school.

We pray that all staff and pupils will be safe during the summer holidays and return refreshed for another great school year. Our numbers are very good and we have full classes right across St George's School.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: There will be no children's church during the Summer holidays. It will commence again in September. If you are interested in supporting, please speak to Fr Alan or Tammie McNamara.