

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

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**Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number 1134449**

**Registered Office: Willson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham. NG1 5AW**

**1st October 2023**

**26th Sunday of the Year**

#### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

|             |          |             |                                                    |
|-------------|----------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Sat 30 Sept | 5.30 pm  | St George's | Billy Ryan RIP                                     |
| Sun 01 Oct  | 9.30 am  | St George's | Fiona McGonagle RIP                                |
|             | 11.15 am | Holy Spirit | People of the Parish                               |
| Mon 02 Oct  | 9.30 am  | St George's | Mark Crosbie (for good health)                     |
| Tue 03 Oct  | 9.30 am  | St George's | Anne Eadie & Family, Sp. Intention                 |
| Wed 04 Oct  | 9.30 am  | St George's | Mick Heffernan RIP                                 |
| Thu 05 Oct  | 9.30 am  | St George's | Sister Margaret Coleman (Sp.Int.)                  |
| Fri 06 Oct  | 9.30 am  | St George's | Teresa Owen RIP (9th Anniversary)                  |
| Sat 07 Oct  | 9.30 pm  | St George's | Holy Souls & the sick of the parish                |
|             | 5.30 pm  | St George's | Mary Sheehan RIP &<br>James McCandless RIP (Anniv) |
| Sun 08 Oct  | 9.30 am  | St George's | People of the Parish                               |
|             | 11.15 am | Holy Spirit | Lourdes Watter RIP M & T.C.                        |

#### GOSPEL REFLECTION:

A fruitful way to read the Scriptures is to look out for the links and themes which emerge. For example, earlier in Matthew 21 Jesus entered the temple, and therefore the parable we consider today was first spoken in a temple setting. How does this colour the way we understand what Jesus is saying? Jesus says, "What do you think? A man had two sons..." (v.28). Would these words mean something different to us if they hadn't been spoken in the temple?

The people of Israel had built the temple to be the dwelling place of God. It housed the Holy of Holies and the Ark of the Covenant. The temple was also the place from which proceeded the Word and will of God – the seat of authority among the Jews. It was also where, some years ago, Jesus himself had gone as a 12-year old boy to seek the Father's will. This time, Jesus has entered the temple for a different reason, a reason Matthew really wants us to understand.

God had left the temple when it came under the destructive armies of the Babylonians, and ever since the people of Israel had been waiting for God's glory to return to the temple. For those with eyes to see, in Jesus the long-awaited return of God to the temple had been fulfilled! But the very ones who were supposed to help the people know the will and mind of God – the religious leaders – had failed to recognise the significance of this moment. It's Jesus, not the Pharisees or Sadducees, who speaks with God's authority.

The simple challenge Jesus gives the religious authorities through the parable reveals their lack of concern with truth, for they seek only to justify their own unfaithful behaviour. Don't be those who say, 'Yes' to God but live out a 'No' instead, be those who say 'No' to God (through our human weaknesses) but then repent and turn back to him with a hearty, 'Yes, I am here to do your will'.

*Today, we ask for the intercession of St Therese of Lisieux who said 'Yes' to God and whose life and witness is a fragrant flower, a pleasing aroma in the life of the church.*

#### OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

The month of October is a month of devotion to Our Lady, mother of Jesus, mother of God. We are encouraged to say the Rosary and in church there will be our usual devotions before Mass for a short while each day. At Lourdes, Mary encouraged St Bernadette to say her Rosary and devotion to the Rosary has been more widespread since that time although it was well known at the time of St Dominic in the late Middle Ages, who gave the Rosary great encouragement. The great victory of the Christian naval forces at the battle of Lepanto in 1571 over a more numerous Islamic and Turkish fleet and troops was attributed to prayer and penance and the saying of the Rosary.

#### CAFOD, The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Envelopes are available at Church this weekend. CAFOD Harvest Fast Day is on Friday, 6th October. We are encouraged on that day to make some small sacrifice and to put what we save into the CAFOD envelope and return it to Church on Sunday, 8th October. There will be a second collection of our donations. If we are tax-payers, our donations can be boosted by 25p of gift aid for every £1 we donate. Please complete the details on the CAFOD envelope.

#### 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 today at all Masses for the victims of the Morocco earthquake and Syria floods.**

#### SAINTS THIS WEEK:

**Mon 2nd Oct:** The Holy Guardian Angels

**Wed 4th Oct:** St Francis of Assisi

**Sat 7th Oct:** Our Lady of the Rosary

#### The Grace of Giving In

**A man...said, "Son go out and work in the vineyard today." He said in reply, "I will not," but afterwards changed his mind and went.** Matthew 21:28-29

My parents wouldn't let me go to the middle school dance. I raged and argued, but they wouldn't budge, so I stayed home and sulked. A few years later, when it was my brother's turn, he knew what they'd say, so he didn't ask. He just went! It's been decades since then, and I'm still astonished when I think of it. He was so sneaky but so smart. Sometimes, I admit, I'm tempted to follow his example – better to ask forgiveness than permission. But usually, though, when I sense God calling me, I can't bring myself to ignore him. I might argue, question and resist for a while, but in the end, I go. Only then do I feel the grace of giving in – the peace of letting God lead me and the trust that I'm on the path he chose.

*Father God, help me to seek and obey your will.* Karla Manternach

**LIVING FAITH:** The booklet of daily Catholic devotions is now available. Please take your copy and place a donation in the box at Church. Also, **CATHOLIC NEWS**, the free paper is available. Lots of interesting pictures and articles on various topics; a nice picture of our Bishop Patrick and his Pastoral Letter that was for Education Sunday; a nice piece on the Rosary written by Fr David, priest and hermit from the Elston Hermitage; St Mary's Church and School celebrate Our Lady's Birthday; The Pope Video, a transcript of which is given; 'View from the Pew' by Dr Jay Kettle-Williams, who reflects on the Battle of the Boyne of 1st July 1690; Scripture Focus – the Parable of the Vineyard, and finally, a crossword.

#### ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

##### Memorial Day is 4th October

St Francis was born at Assisi in Umbria, Italy, in 1181 or 1182. His father Peter Bernadone was a wealthy merchant. Much of Peter's trade was with France and his son, having been born in that country, they called him Francesco the Frenchman, though the name of John has been given him at his baptism. Francis lived the life of a rich man's son and spent lavishly on many amusements. At 27 years of age he went to war for Assisi against their neighbours Perugia. He was captured and was a prisoner for a year. On returning to Assisi he was very ill. His life seemed to change after he met a leper and although horrified he gave the man alms and kissed him. He visited hospitals and served the sick and poor. Then taking on a life of poverty and simplicity he left the family home and wealth and devoted his whole life to God and the church and evangelisation. Many many men followed him and the great Franciscan order was founded. St Francis is known as one of the great saints of the church. He died in 1226 at the comparatively early age of 44 years.

**Christ the King Catholic Voluntary, Arnold**, is looking to recruit a Head of Maths and a Head of History as well as other exciting support roles such as Maths Mentor and School Counsellor. Details of these roles and others available can be found on the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust vacancies page <https://www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk/work-with-us/> If you wish to have an informal discussion about any of the roles and the school please contact the school office on 0115 9155762