

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

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NRCDDT a registered charity

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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

15th October 2023

28th Sunday of the Year

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 14 Oct	5.30 pm	St George's	People of the Parish
Sun 15 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Nellie & John Lenihan RIP (Anniv.time)
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Priest's own intention
Mon 16 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Priest's own intention
Tue 17 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	In thanksgiving, St Anthony
Wed 18 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	For parish benefactors, especially H Ruppik and Bert Curtis
Thu 19 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Lourdes Watters RIP
Fri 20 Oct	9.30 am	St George	Mick Heffernan RIP
Sat 21 Oct	9.30 pm	St George's	Donor's intention, St Anthony
	5.30 pm	St George's	Mark Crosbie RIP
Sun 22 Oct	9.30 am	St George's	Jimmy Devlin for good health
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

It's painful to lose a privileged position, but it's even more distressing to stand by and watch your position being filled by someone you despise. And this, warned Jesus, was what lay in store for the smug, self-righteous religious leaders of the day, who thought that they – and they alone – could teach and that they alone were the true people of God.

Today's Gospel is the last of a set of three parables (which began at Matt. 21:28). Through all three parables, Jesus confronts the chief priests and Pharisees, who were overconfident about their own status, and smugly superior in their attitude to 'sinners'.

In the first parable, he says, 'Truly...the tax collectors and ...prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you' (21:31 NIV). In the second parable, the warning is stronger: '...the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom' (21:43).

This theme of replacement is even more pronounced in the third parable. The original invitees, who refuse repeated invitations, correspond to the original tenants in the second parable (21:35-39), while the new tenants to whom the vineyard was leased (21:41) are paralleled by street guests. The tables aren't merely turned – they're toppled over! Salvation isn't only freely available, but available to all.

However, Jesus has a warning for the underdogs too: it isn't because of their worthiness but rather despite their unworthiness that they're invited into the kingdom. The guest who was satisfied with his clothes was saying, in effect, that his best was good enough. But as Isaiah acknowledges, '...all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth' (64:6). No one, whether 'good' or 'bad', may enter without the 'garments of salvation' (Isa. 61:10), which can't be begged, borrowed, bought or stolen, but are given by God's grace through our faith.

The wonder of God's grace is that, while our best isn't good enough to earn it, our worst isn't bad enough to exclude us. Grateful acceptance of this gift is the only appropriate response to such an amazing grace.

Thank you, Lord, for your amazing grace which has poured out upon the righteous and unrighteous like morning dew.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, DONATIONS:

On behalf of those who will benefit we extend sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to the Morocco and Libya appeal and to CAFOD for Harvest Fast Day.

The collection for Morocco/Libya came to £350.

The CAFOD collection came to £751.00 being £475.50 from St George's Church and £275.50 from Holy Spirit Church.

Also, at Holy Spirit Church the coffee and cake sale raised a further £130.00.

Altogether for CAFOD therefore we raised a total of £881 at the weekend.

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 World Mission Sunday to be taken next weekend.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 17 Oct: St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyrs

Wed 18 Oct: St Luke, Evangelist

Thurs 19 Oct: Martyrs of North America

Beside Us

Even though I walk in the dark valley, I fear no evil; for you are at my side with our rod and your staff that give me courage.

Psalms 23:4

For many years, I participated in a Good Friday Way of the Cross that began at the East Side of Manhattan, near the United Nations, and ended on the West Side. On the way, we stopped to pray at sites that were contemporary versions of Jesus' Stations of the Cross. I often noticed groups of young adults who were new to the Walk and asked them what drew them to come. Always, their answer was the same: A trusted teacher or minister had invited them, and that person assured them that they would also be present to walk beside them.

Accompaniment. Being with. Never abandoning. Not leaving one alone. These are the same promises Jesus makes to each of us in the familiar Psalm 23. No matter what is happening in our lives, his assurance of constant presence remains.

Jesus, walk with me into this day. Sr Chris Koellhoffer, I.H.M.

FUNERAL DETAILS FOR MARK CROSBIE RIP:

Requiem Mass at St George's Church on Thursday, 26th October, at 1 pm. Reception into St George's Church at 6 pm on Wednesday, 25th October.

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

PROJECT ARUSHA - We are a registered charity based here in Derby with links to the Diocese of Arusha Tanzania. We have an exciting opportunity to offer you if you are in Year 13 and considering a gap year. We would like to offer you the chance to go and teach in our three associated schools in Arusha in January-March 2025. As well as your time in the classroom, you would also get the chance to live in a very different culture, go on safari and live within the Maasai tribe for a weekend. It truly is a once in a life time opportunity. Full preparation sessions and help with funding are offered. For more information email us at projectarussha2004@gmail.com

HARVEST GOODS DONATIONS: Many thanks on behalf of our local foodbank for all the foodstuffs generously brought into Holy Spirit Church and St George's Church to support those who use the services of the foodbank. The needs are very ongoing for a lot of families and we thank those who bring food items on a regular basis. This weekend also we have encouraged donations. We pray that our economy can improve and that people's incomes will grow in the future so that food banks will no longer be needed as much as they are at the present time.

FROM AN AMERICAN POET ON DEATH

*I have seen death too often to believe in death
It is not an ending but a withdrawal
As one who finishes a long journey
Stills the motor, turns off the lights, steps from his car
And walks up the path to the home that awaits him.*