

ENGLISH MARTYRS, Alvaston. Tel: 01332 574474 and St GEORGE's Derby . Tel: 01332 767038

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Assistant: Canon Alan Burbidge Emeritus

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

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

25th August 2024

21st WEEK OF CHURCH YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 24 Aug	5.30 pm	SG	For Karan O'Connor RIP and for Headley O'Connor RIP
Sun 25 Aug	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	For peace in the world
Mon 26 Aug	9.30 am	SG	For Pope Frances and all the Catholics and the Clergy and for peace in the world.
Tues 27 Aug	9.30 am	SG	In thanksgiving, St Anthony of Padua
Wed 28 Aug	9.30 am	SG	Fr John Taylor RIP
Thu 29 Aug	9.30 am	SG	For family of Jimmy Devlin and all travellers and the deceased.
Fri 30 Aug	9.30 am	SG	Mass in honour of the Father. D & R
Sat 31 Aug	9.30 am	SG	NO 9.30 am MASS
	5.30 pm	SG	Tommy & Doris McGlinchey RIP
Sun 01 Sept	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	For Christina Cunningham for recovery and healing following major surgery for cancer. M & T C & Family.

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

GOSPEL REFLECTION

We don't always appreciate how shocking, scandalous and downright offensive Jesus' teaching was to his first hearers and can be even today. His teaching on the Eucharist was first met with outright hostility and rejection. The disciples said, 'This is a hard teaching who can accept it?' (John 6:60), Jesus' teaching divided and scandalised.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church sheds light on this: 'The first announcement of the Eucharist divided the disciples, just as the announcement of the Passion scandalised them: "This is a hard saying: who can listen to it?" The Eucharist and the Cross are stumbling blocks. It is the same mystery and never ceases to be an occasion of division. "Will you go away?" The Lord's question echoes down through the ages as a loving invitation to discover that only he has the words of eternal life and that to receive in faith the gift of the Eucharist is to receive the Lord himself.' (CCC1336).

The miracle of the Eucharist is that Christ himself is made real and present. Perhaps we don't think and pray on such things too much? Perhaps we receive the Eucharist without pondering and reflecting on the awesome privilege it is to receive Christ in this way?

In the Eucharist the body and blood, soul and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ are truly, really and substantially made present. In other words, Jesus is made real and present in the most full and complete sense. Jesus' presence in the Eucharist is substantial in that he himself is wholly and entirely present. What a gift! What a blessing! What a grace!

Who can accept this teaching? We can, for through the grace of revelation and the light of the Holy Spirit this ceases to be a hard teaching: it is the gift of eternal life.

'In the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist, in this sacrament of love, we have true life, a blessed life, and true happiness. Because in it we receive not only those graces that perfect us but the very author of these graces.' (St Pio of Pietrelcina).

PARKING AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH: If the car park and roadside parking is full you can always go up the presbytery drive, even double parking at the back of the house. There is room for several cars and Fr Alan does not need to get out until after Mass.

FOOD BANK SUPPORT: Thanks to those who continue to support our local food bank with donations of food. It is so generous of you at St George's and Holy Spirit and we know there are a lot of people whose incomes cannot meet all their commitments, especially the devastating increases that have happened for utilities besides food price inflation.

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY ONLY: 10:15 – 10:45

NO CONFESSIONS ON SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST AT ST GEORGE'S – Fr ALAN IS AWAY.

ADORATION before the Blessed Sacrament daily before the 9.30 am Mass and then other times as announced.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 27th Aug: St Monica

Wed 28th Aug: St Augustine

Thurs 29th Aug: The Passion of John the Baptist

Fri 30th Aug: The Dedication of our Cathedral

A RECENT DEATH:

Please pray for Agnes Nyabushaka of Glossop Street, Derby, who has died recently. We offer to her family our sincere sympathies and prayers. *Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Requiem Mass at St George's at 11 am on Tuesday, 3rd September.

Also, for Dave Allen, husband of Debbie, who died recently, formerly of Randolph Road. Funeral at St George's on Friday 13 September at 11 am. We offer Debbie and the family sincere sympathies and prayers. *Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

As for Me...

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15
It's decision time, says Joshua to the people. Decide once and for all: Will you serve the God of our ancestor? Or the god of the Amorites? He then proclaims his own choice. And the people choose to serve the true God.

I had a priest friend whose email address began with "As4me". I loved it! These three little words can be used to reflect on the choices we are making in our lives. Imagine:

As4me, I am spending time with.....

As4me, I am marrying.....

As4me, I am donating to.....

As4me, I am helping to.....

As4me, I am paying attention to.....

As4me, I am learning to.....

As4me, I am caring for.....

As4me, I am praying for.....

Life-giving God, as for me, may all of my choices grow out of my deep love for you.

We ask prayers for peace and an end to warfare and violence and especially knife crime on our streets.

At our full programme of Masses week by week we pray sincerely for an end to war and violence. We are now in the 21st century of the Christian era and terrible inhumanity of humans to humans should now be coming to an end.

Jesus has given us good peace and love leadership and we pray that humans in our very advanced technological and communications age will hear that message and practise it in spite of great challenges.

After the terrifying killing and injustices of the French revolution and the awesome European warfare and battles that followed the campaigns of Napoleon we finally got peace in 1815.

For 100 years Britain was free of European conflict. Then from 1914-1918 we had the first really industrial war with the immense slaughter of British and Commonwealth, Russians and later American soldiers and French against Germans and Austrians and Turks and Hungarians and many others. Peace came on the corpses of a few million dead. Then along came Adolf Hitler and war and holocaust. Now we have Putin. Pray, pray, pray for peace.