

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

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16th June 2024

11th WEEK OF CHURCH YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 15 June	5.30 pm	SG	Trevor McCandless RIP, 13th Anniv.
Sun 16 June	9.30 am	SG	Ada and James Delaney RIP
	11.15 am	HS	Jackie Murphy for good health
Mon 17 June	9.30 am	SG	Eddie O'Rourke RIP
Tues 18 June	9.30 am	SG	For Bridie Linnane for recovery from a knee replacement
Wed 19 June	9.30 am	SG	For Pope Francis and the catholic clergy that God will bless them.
Thu 20 June	11.00 am	SG	Requiem Mass for Teresa Walsh RIP
Fri 21 June	11.30 am	SG	Requiem Mass for Marie Dussroth RIP
Sat 22 June	9.30 am	SG	Mass for Kathleen Regan for her good health and thanksgiving for her 99 th birthday.
	5.30 pm	SG	Deceased members of the Goodman family.
Sun 23 June	9.30 am	SG	Brendan Daly RIP, 10 th anniversary
	11.15 am	HS	For the repose of the soul of James Boulter RIP

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Other than the Sermon on the Mount (which contains the Beatitudes) Jesus taught chiefly through parables. In doing this he revealed the profoundly human fascination with the power of a story. We all like a good story, don't we? They capture not just our imaginations but also our hearts.

Storytelling was common in the ancient world. However, Jesus' parables are unlike any others the world has ever known – they are unique. Scholars (among them many atheists), specialists in linguistics and ancient languages, testify that the parables reveal a mind the like of which the world had not seen before and never will again. Of course, faith teaches us that this is because the parables of Jesus are divine. When we read or study them, we are encountering the mind of God.

The parable of the growing seed captures the generous and lavish work of God's grace in our lives because God (who is the sower) spreads his grace lavishly and generously. To understand the sower's seed we have to cultivate a radical approach to baptism, for the grace we received at baptism is the seed, always at work in us, night and day, whether asleep or awake.

Baptism is the gateway through which we all have passed into the joy of the Christian life, and God's call and grace are irrevocable. We can often think that we are a long way from the baptismal grace we received but this is not so, for wherever sin abounds, God's grace superabounds (Rom.6). The waters of baptism are more powerful than the mighty waves of the ocean.

Baptism is the previous pearl, the treasure in the field, the seed sowed by the sower – baptism sheds light on all the parables.

Many, if not most of us, were baptised as infants, and this incredible amazing, life-changing event isn't even in our memories; this is why we need to rediscover it, because the seed of baptismal grace is the key to living the Christian life.

'The diver brings up pearls out of the sea. Be baptised and bring up from the water the purity that is hidden there, the pearl that is set like a jewel in the crown of the Godhead.' (St Ephraem the Syrian)

FUNERALS THIS WEEK:

Teresa Walsh RIP of Abingdon Street, on Thursday 20th June at 11 am and Marie Dussroth of Shelton Lock, wife of Joseph Dussroth, on Friday 21st June at 11.30.

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 at this weekend Masses is for Day for Life.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Wed 19 June: St Romuald, Abbot

Thurs 20 June: St Alban, Martyr

Fri 21 June: St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious

Sat 22 June: Sts John Fisher & Thomas More, Martyrs

Open Eyes, Open Hearts

Then they will answer and say, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and no minister to your needs?" Matthew 25:44

Sometimes, it's easy to see Jesus in the child or grandchild who runs into the house thirsty after a soccer game. Or in a sick spouse whose patience is downright saintly as we change bandages or bedding. Or in the new neighbours who introduce themselves and ask for the best pizza joint, doctor or lawn-care service.

Then there are those other times: The teenager who rolls her eyes and shrugs when we try to give her loving counsel. Or the young man arrested for carjacking a friend's car. Or the refugee who averts her eyes and won't provide the information we need to help her resettle.

But Jesus is there all the same, even when people put up walls of indifference, anger and fear. May we remember that – and keep our eyes and hearts open for glimpses of him.

Lord, give me the patience and faith to help in your name the most difficult people I encounter today. Melanie Rigney

HOLY SPIRIT ACTIVITIES

Coffee mornings and socialising on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 am.

And on Sunday, 7th July, a Parish Picnic in the Park at Redwood Park, Sinfen, Derby from 2.30 pm. There will be fun activities for the children. All welcome.

Also, at Holy Spirit there will be a Rosary Prayer Group beginning on Thursday, 20th June at 3 pm. Church opens at 2.45 pm.

All welcome. Please speak to Helen Wright / Denise O'Neill for details.

And at St Georges, Mother's Prayers continues every Monday after Mass. All welcome. Details from Helen Wright.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, SINCERE THANKS FROM

FR. ALAN: Our First Holy Communion day went very well with a nice sunny morning on Saturday, 8th June. The young people were lovely, the girls in their white dresses and the boys with their smart shirts and sashes. They took their parts very well with confident prayers and reception of their First Holy Communion. We thank all their 24 families for supporting the preparation programme so well. Also, sincere and grateful thanks to Tammie, Ian, Jasmine and Barbara, not only for the teaching and enrolment work but also for the preparation for the day itself, for the provision of the refreshments, and the work of washing up afterwards and the tidying of the social centre. Grateful thanks also to our wonderful St George's school for the ongoing catechesis and to the headteacher and staff for preparing the booklets and for the music and help on the day itself. All in all a lovely day for everybody involved. We keep the children and families in our prayers.