

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*

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024

31<sup>st</sup> WEEK OF CHURCH YEAR

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

Sat 02 Nov	5.30 pm	SG	Jack Murphy RIP, 10th Anniversary
Sun 03 Nov	9.30 am	SG	Max Rafferty RIP
	11.15 am	HS	Alan Mullarkey RIP, 14 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
Mon 04 Nov	9.00 am		School Mass, Special Intention
	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>SG</b>	<b>NO MORNING MASS</b>
Tues 05 Nov	9.30 am	SG	For victims of violence and war.
Wed 06 Nov	9.30 am	SG	Mr Thomas Augustine RIP (In Kerala)
Thu 07 Nov	9.30 am	SG	O'Neill, Hamlet & Lilley Family, living and deceased
Fri 08 Nov	9.30 am	SG	The Devlin Family, for good health
Sat 09 Nov	9.30 am	SG	The Finnegan Family, living and deceased
	5.30 pm	SG	Bernadette O'Riordan RIP, and deceased members of the O'Riordan Family.
Sun 10 Nov	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	Deceased members of the Wright and McClelland Families.

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

**GOSPEL REFLECTION:**

How beautiful the image of the poor widow giving all she had to live on in her temple donation. How powerfully it highlights the tension between external religious practice and the beauty of the humble unostentatious interior life.

The Pharisees in sharp contrast loved the recognition, praise, status and social affirmation which has, since time immemorial, been the privilege of those who enjoy clerical status within the community – they enjoyed it, milked it and even financially exploited it. However, their external adherence to the Torah had no impact on the evil and darkness within their own hearts. They assumed a holiness and righteousness which simply did not exist in reality. It was a sham, an act, they played a part.

The temptation to rely on status and position is a very real one for the professional religious: bishops, priests, deacons and religious, but equally real for everyone who is baptised and serves in our parishes or local communities.

The widow had the right approach and attitude: she had the disposition of the true disciple. She was aware of her poverty; she was under no illusion who she was before God, a poor beggar before him. Her self-awareness and self-knowledge won her Jesus' affirmation and approval, for God sees things differently, his thoughts not our thoughts, his ways not our ways.

Another woman who had the disposition of the true disciple was Jeanne Jugan, the foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Although she was removed from this charge and given the task of collecting money for the poor, she accepted this obscure new role willingly and without complaint. To further humiliations she answered with silence, gentleness and abandonment to the will of God.

Humility was at the heart of her spirituality, as it was for the poor widow. The widow is a model of discipleship. In the kingdom of heaven, small and humble is truly beautiful.

Blessed are they who strive to live humbly and simply; who eschew the thirst to signal virtue and make loud display of their righteousness which are mere rags before the holiness of God.

*'Little...very little. Be very little before God.'* (St Jeanne Jugan)

**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, 4<sup>th</sup> Nov: St Charles Borromeo, Bishop  
Thurs, 7<sup>th</sup> Nov: St Willibrord, Bishop

**A RECENT DEATH:** It is with great sadness that we write of the death of Hilary Crosbie at such a young age. Hilary, until her recent time of illness, was a regular reader at our 5.30 pm Saturday Mass. She battled with illness for a number of years, very bravely and without complaining. She enjoyed a pilgrimage to Lourdes with the diocese before the Covid epidemic and found great spiritual comfort.

We pray for Cath and the family at this sad time, so soon after the loss of son Mark.

*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, 19<sup>th</sup> November.

**FROM LIVING FAITH:**

**Loving With My All**

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* Mark 12:30

The words above are some of my favourites. Moses speaks them to Israel. Jesus speaks them to a questioning scribe. My friend keeps them on her doorpost. They are from the book of Deuteronomy, part of the *Shema* – recited daily in Jewish morning prayers. Not only are these words our heritage, they are God's antidote for avoiding idols – even now.

When I prep for Confession, examining my conscience with the First Commandment. today's Scripture challenges me. Do I truly love God above all things? With all my heart, soul, mind and strength? I want to. I mean to.

But how do I prevent life's pulls from becoming idols? Only with God's help – and my perseverance to commit these words to memory that I might fully love our Lord.

*Gracious Lord, plant your words in every part of me that I may truly love you with my all.*

**HOLY SPIRIT:** Every Thursday 2.45pm at Holy Spirit, Sinfín, please join the Prayer Group to pray for Divine Mercy, The Rosary and Prayers for peace.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

will begin at St George's after Easter. Forms will be available before Easter from the back of Church or school. Fr. Brentnall.