

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

6th October 2024

27th WEEK OF CHURCH YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 05 Oct	5.30 pm SG	James McCandless RIP and Mary Sheehan RIP, Anniversary
Sun 06 Oct	9.30 am SG	Christine Meehan RIP, Anniversary and deceased members of the family
	11.15 am HS	People of the Parish
Mon 07 Oct	9.30 am SG	Hilary Crosbie for good health
Tues 08 Oct	9.30 am SG	For people of the parish who are not well and those we have been asked to pray for.
Wed 09 Oct	9.30 am SG	Thomas Farrell RIP
Thu 10 Oct	9.30 am SG	For peace in the world and an end to war and violence.
Fri 11 Oct	9.30 am SG	Donor's intention, St Anthony in thanksgiving
Sat 12 Oct	9.30 am SG	For all our children
	5.30 pm SG	Deceased members of the Geelan fam.
Sun 13 Oct	9.30 am SG	People of the parish
	11.15 am HS	Private intention

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Despite divorce being commonplace and often described as 'amicable', beyond the platitudes, divorce can only be brutal and painful. Why is this true? Because every divorced couple were once a married couple who publicly declared their love and made solemn vows to each other. The breakdown of every marriage is a tragedy, and those caught up in it deserve compassion and understanding.

Monogamy is God's plan for the human race. Two, a man and a woman, becoming 'one flesh' (Gen. 2:24) is integral to divine revelation. This was, however, an ideal which the ancient people of Israel failed to live up to, with the practice of polygamy widespread in the ancient world and testified by the Hebrew writers of the Old Testament. The Mosaic law, while containing provisions to protect women from arbitrary divorce, did permit divorce – a concession because of the hardness of men's hearts (v.5).

The tragedy and consequence of the Fall is that marriage has always been threatened by discord, a spirit of domination, infidelity, jealousy and conflicts that can and often do escalate into hatred, separation and divorce.

Marriage is a divine institution: 'what God has joined together, let man not separate' (v.9 NIV). Marriage is God's plan, and the marriage bond a sign of God's covenant. Marriage is a gift of love, and by God's grace couples partake in restoring God's original order of creation in which men and women were intended to live together in unity and covenant.

Married couples then, have received a lofty and noble vocation. There is a very real way in which the entire Christian life bears the mark of the spousal love Christ has for the Church. Husbands are called to love their wives as Christ loved the Church and gave himself for her (Eph. 5:25-26).

'It is by following Christ, renouncing themselves, and taking up their crosses that spouses will be able to receive and live it with the help of Christ.'
(Catechism of the Catholic Church 1615)

FR ALAN'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION will take place on Sunday, 13th October with the 9.30 am Mass and tea/coffee and cake in the social centre after Mass. It is to mark his retirement as Parish Priest of St George's and Holy Spirit. However, as you know there is a great shortage of priests in our Diocese of Nottingham with only two in training on this seven year preparation course. Fr Alan will continue to be available to Fr Mark Brentnall as he now has the responsibility of St George's and English Martyrs parishes

24th October 2024 at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham there is an Ordinatee Pilgrimage taking place. Those interested, please let us have your names and when we have numbers we will be able to calculate cost of transport etc.

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 7 th Oct:	Our Lady of the Rosary
Wed 9 th Oct:	St John Henry Newman, Priest
Thurs 10 th Oct:	St Paulinus, Bishop & Anglo-Saxon Saints of our diocese
Fri 11 th Oct:	St John XXIII Pope
Sat 12 th Oct:	Saturday Mass of Our Lady

SECOND COLLECTION: CAFOD Family Fast envelope to be collected at Masses this weekend.

MASS COUNT TO BE TAKEN AT EACH WEEKEND MASS.

STATEMENT OF MARRIAGE from our Bishop.

Marriage is a lifelong vocation of a man and a woman to a community of life and love, open to children and between the baptised it is a Sacrament.

The Church is constantly concerned to make sure that those planning to marry are as well prepared as possible.

It is important that a couple go to see their priest in good time; at least six months before their proposed wedding.

(A full copy of the statement is published on the Church noticeboard).

FROM LIVING FAITH:

A Radical Vision

Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it. Mark 10:15

Jesus said and did many surprising, even revolutionary things, but this might be one of the most world-shaking. His call for us to be like children can, of course, prompt a great deal of fruitful meditation. Is it a call to be open, trusting curious?

To understand our dependence on the Father, to approach him aware of our need and with faith in his care for us?

All of this, yes! But even more, consider this historical nugget: Jesus was speaking to a world – not his Jewish world, certainly, but the broader pagan world – in which children were absolutely disposable and exploitable. To hold up a child – a *child!* – as a model of the spiritual life was unheard of. Absurd, even.

What words of Jesus have the power to challenge and shake my worldview, if I really listen?

Jesus, may I be open to your radical vision.

Fr Alan retired at Easter but was asked to stay on to support Fr Brentnall due to a shortage of available Priests. We started a collection for Fr Alan back in early summer. However due to Fr Alan staying on longer than planned, this was paused.

We are now recommencing the collection for Fr Alan. Please hand in any donations to Ian Uppington or any of the tea and coffee team and these will be added to the money already collected.

The donations and a small celebration for Fr Alan will take place after Mass on Sunday 13th October