

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

27th October 2024

29th WEEK OF CHURCH YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 26 Oct	5.30 pm	SG	Maureen & Elizabeth Kelly for good health
Sun 27 Oct	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	For all parishioners who are not well
Mon 28 Oct	9.30 am	SG	Hanni Rupik RIP (parish benefactor)
Tues 29 Oct	9.30 am	SG	In thanksgiving, St Anthony
Wed 30 Oct	9.30 am	SG	Betty Gilligan for good health
Thu 31 Oct	9.30 am	SG	For the victims of violence and war
Fri 01 Nov	9.30 am	SG	Hilary Crosbie RIP
ALL SAINTS DAY, HOLYDAY	7.00 pm	HS	Sp. Intention, Anne Eadie
Sat 02 Nov	9.30 am	SG	Jimmy Devlin, for good health
ALL SOULS DAY	5.30 pm	SG	Jack Murphy RIP, 10 th Anniversary
Sun 03 Nov	9.30 am	SG	Max Rafferty RIP
	11.15 am	HS	People of the Parish

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Baptism is a journey from the darkness of sin into the light of grace. We were blind but now we see. However, there are none so blind as those who cannot see, wonderfully illustrated by the following true story.

One bleak winter's day a man stood on a soapbox at Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park, London. He was intent on pouring scorn on Christianity and could not hide his contempt. He began like this: 'People tell me that God exists, but I can't see him. People tell me that there is life after death, but I can't see it. People tell me that there is a judgement to come, but I can't see it. People tell me that there is a heaven and a hell, but I can't see them.' He stood down from his soapbox to cheap applause. Another man went up to the platform to speak but needed help to do so. He was nervous and unused to this kind of platform but was intent on speaking nevertheless. He began like this: 'People tell me that there is green grass all around, but I can't see it. People tell me that there is blue sky above, but I can't see it. People tell me that there are trees nearby: but I can't see them. You see, I am blind.' Bartimaeus was blind, but even in the darkness of blindness he had the light of faith. Bartimaeus was the only person in Mark's Gospel to call Jesus 'Master'. The only other time in the whole of the New Testament when this title is used is by Mary Magdalene on encountering the risen Lord near the empty tomb (see John 20:16). As we can see, Bartimaeus was not so blind after all!! We all have shadows and blind spots in our lives, which we need the light of Christ to illuminate. We have no reason to fear the darkness for, like blind Bartimaeus, we have only to turn to the Lord and ask him for the gift of sight.

'Lord Jesus, you shine your light into the dark shadows of my life. I invite you to illuminate the darkness in my life that I may walk as a child of the light.'

HOLY SPIRIT: Every Thursday 2.45pm at Holy Spirit, Sinfen, 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.

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 28 Oct: SS Simon & Jude, Apostles

Fri 01 Nov: All Saints Day

Sat 2nd Nov: All Souls Day

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.

FROM LIVING FAITH:

An Obvious Question?

Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Mark 10:51

Jesus' question to the blind Bartimaeus has, perhaps, one of the most obvious answers in all of Holy Scripture. What does he want? He wants to see, of course! What else would a blind man want?

But the stories of Jesus always have a point beyond the obvious. The point of this one seems to be: Do we know what we really want?

Faced with the same question, how would we answer the Son of God? Like characters in a fairy tale given a wish, or three, from a genie, would we waste our moment on a heap of treasure or a request for more wishes? Or would we fix our unseeing eyes on the voice of the One asking the question and give the only response that brings life: I want to see you, Lord.

Fr ALAN THANKS: I wish to express my sincere thanks to all who helped in any way to make a lovely celebration of my retirement, although aware that I continue to serve St George's and Holy Spirit Churches as much as required.

It was good that Fr Mark Brentnall, now with the responsibility for St George's as well as continuing as Parish Priest of English Martyrs, Alvaston with Chellaston, was able to be with us to lead our lovely Mass and meet lots of people to share the thoughts of my priestly journey.

Thank you everybody for coming along and to all for your kind cards and good wishes and your generous donations. Many thanks to all who kindly provided the lovely cake and splendid refreshments. A special thanks to Barbara for preparing the social centre so nicely, not only for this occasion but for all her hard work in maintaining it through the year. God bless you all and your families.