

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

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25th May 2025

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

6th SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

St GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 24 May	5.30 pm	Michael Donovan RIP
Sun 25 May	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Mon 26 May	9.30 am	Sp. Intention, Nuala and Mattio
Tues 27 May	9.30 am	For recently deceased priests
Wed 28 May	9.30 am	Donor's intention, St Anthony
Thu 29 May	9.30 am	<i>The Ascension of the Lord</i> For Pope Leo XIV
	7.00 pm	Holy Souls, esp. our deceased parishioners.
Fri 30 May	9.30 am	Sp. Intention, Josephine Jennings.
Sat 31 May	9.30 am	For Jimmy Devlin for good health and his family
	5.30 pm	Michael Donovan RIP
Sun 01 June	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	12 noon	First Holy Communion Mass, for our candidates and their families

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid'. (John 14:27)

We crave peace of mind. Whole industries are built upon this basic human need. We insure our lives, buildings, travel arrangements for peace of mind in the event of something going wrong We contribute to a pension pot to secure peace of mind in our retirement. We fit security alarms and cameras to give us peace of mind. Politicians devise their manifestoes to reassure us about the economy, health, social care and the military. They want to give us peace of mind that the country is safe under their governance etc.

The world can offer some degree of peace but it isn't lasting. Our deepest fears and anxieties can't be placated by mere externals. Peace is something deeper and often is elusive. There is within each of us a thirst for inner peace and calm. This thirst is a quest to know peace with God. Jesus alone is the one who gives us peace but it's a certain quality of peace, a divine quality, holy and eternal.

The peace Jesus offers is the peace of reconciliation with God. Through his cross Jesus destroyed the dividing wall of hostility between us and God; he bridged the unbridgeable through shedding his blood and paying the ransom for our sin.

He opened the door of heaven and allowed to share in the very life of God, we are justified, made righteous and reconciled to him. The truth of this can become ours as we accept, embrace and believe in the salvation secured for us by Jesus. Jesus' peace will flood our heart, mind and soul as we grasp God's amazing and wonderful love, and this peace can give us an inner security and strength regardless of the trials and anxieties we face in this life.

Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord. May the peace of God reign in my heart that I may be a peacemaker.

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

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 26th May: St Philip Neri, Priest.

Tues 27th May: St Augustine of Canterbury Bishop

Sat 31st May: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A REFLECTION FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

The Acts of the Apostles is like an action thriller. Try reading it one sitting, cover to cover. There is a dynamic, a pace which grabs and grips with a thrilling sense of adventure. The Holy Spirit is the principal actor at play followed closely by Paul. He was a man of outstanding courage and faith, a true hero of faith.

Today we join Paul and Silas on the receiving end of a brutal assault, after which they are thrown unceremoniously into jail. They were very likely stripped of their clothing (probably naked), beaten black and blue, and incarcerated in the most inhumane of prison cells – oh and their feet were put in stocks.

Imagine their plight – this was first-century brutality at its worst. Nevertheless, in this situation the two evangelists behaved as thousands of believers who have been jailed for their faith have also behaved: they prayed, sang hymns and gave glory to God.

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is not removed and remote but a God of intervention and what better way to intervene than with a jailbreak! The subsequent conversion of the jailer and his family is a wonderful testament to the power of God to transform an entire family.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION MASS takes place at St George's next Sunday, 1st June, at 12 noon. Please continue your prayers for our young people and their families on this special day.

Please continue your prayers for our new Pope Leo XIV. May his ministry be long and fruitful, especially in his prayers and words for peace in the world and an end to warfare and violence.

READERS FOR SUNDAY AND SATURDAY MASSES: If you would be interested in reading at our weekend Masses, please leave your name with Fr Alan and he will pass it on to our organiser, Mrs P. Greaves.