

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Assistant: Canon Alan Burbidge Emeritus

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16th February 2025

RACIAL JUSTICE DAY, DAY OF PRAYER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

6TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 15 Feb	5.30 pm	SG	Deceased of the Toryusen family
Sun 16 Feb	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	Patricia Doolan RIP
Mon 17 Feb	9.30 am	SG	For the many deceased and broken families of the Israel/Gaza war
Tues 18 Feb	9.30 am	SG	Sp. Intention, St Anthony of Padua
Wed 19 Feb	9.30 am	SG	Domenico and Onario Coletti RIP
Thu 20 Feb	9.30 am	SG	Dave Perry RIP
Fri 21 Feb	9.30 am	SG	Deceased members of the O'Riordan family
Sat 22 Feb	9.30 am	SG	For the sanctity of human life from conception to its natural end.
	5.30 pm	SG	Tony McCandless, Anniversary
Sun 23 Feb	9.30 am	SG	People of the parish
	11.15 am	HS	Elizabeth Callaghan RIP
		SG St George's	HS Holy Spirit

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Matthew records Jesus' famous sermon from a mount; Luke from a plain. Which was it? Why the discrepancy? But that's not the only one. Luke doesn't have the 'poor in spirit' – simply 'the poor' – and omits the meek inheriting the earth. He has a set of 'woes', which highlight the downside of being rich, well fed, socially affirmed, etc.

The Scriptures challenge us, and it is right and proper to ask these kinds of questions. The Beatitudes, be they Matthean or Lucan, shed light on the actions and attitudes of the disciples; the paradoxical promises that sustain hope amid tribulations. They're also the very heart of Jesus' teachings and reveal his face, character and personality.

Jesus lived the Beatitudes; he incarnated them, if you will. Perhaps he is the only one who ever has, for to live them is to be perfect as the Father in heaven is perfect (Matt. 5:48). Mind you, given that in his lifetime St Francis was called the 'Second Christ', it's likely that he came pretty close, alongside other great saints, especially Mary, the Mother of God. The Beatitudes aren't just for the saints, but for all of us. They contain both promises of what we shall become, and a revelation of what we have begun to be, albeit in a hidden way.

One way of living the Beatitudes and putting them into practice is to memorise them, to become as familiar with them as with the Our Father or Hail Mary. This will help us take them to heart and cherish them during our daily lives.

St Augustine, said 'We all want to live happily, in the whole human race there is no one who does not assent to this proposition, even before it is fully articulated.' How do we obtain happiness? Live the Beatitudes. Put them into practice today. They are the qualities of the new creation. When we live them we put on Christ.

Father, purify my heart that I may know the blessing of putting the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount into practice.

CONFESIONS: 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 17 Feb: Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Fri 21st Feb: St Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor
Sat 22nd Feb: The Chair of St Peter

Who's in Charge?

He sighed from the depth of his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Amen, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation." Mark 8:12

Jesus had just fed the four thousand and yet, the Pharisees in Dalmanutha still want him to perform a sign. But the Son of God doesn't work on demand. If they don't believe, they don't believe. Small wonder Jesus gives a deep sigh. We shake our heads at the Pharisees' audacity and arrogance. However, their demand was not so different from when we tell Jesus to give us a spouse, a child, a new job, a cure. While the Lord loves it when we pour out our hearts to him, he loves it even more when we trust that he knows the best way to ease the pain instead of demanding a sign. Jesus, may I increase my trust in you today.

THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025

We continue to pray the lovely Jubilee prayer at each Mass. We pray for the mission of the church as it works to promote love, peace and joy in our troubled world. May more and more people come to know Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as saviour, healer, friend and brother.

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH: There will be community prayers at Holy Spirit Church on Friday, 21st February at 6pm -7.30 pm. All welcome to pray for all our needs.

The lead Jubilee Church for Derby is St Mary's. There are regular daily Masses at 1 pm preceded by opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, daily. At the front of the church there will be an appropriate display to advertise the jubilee. Also, the Bishop will celebrate a Jubilee Mass for Derby deanery on 3rd April. Local parishes and schools are invited to be part of it with contributions to the liturgy. Mass will be at 7 pm with opportunity for confessions and adoration of the blessed sacrament before Mass.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Preparation will begin after Easter. Fr Mark Brentnall, Parish Priest, will take classes after Sunday Mass at St George's.