

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

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Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number 1134449

Registered Office: Willson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham. NG1 5AW

19th January 2025

2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 18 Jan	5.30 pm	SG	Jimmy Murphy RIP
Sun 19 Jan	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	Helen Ullich and family
Mon 20 Jan	10.30 am	SG	Priest's own intention
Tues 21 Jan	9.30 am	SG	The Brogan family
Wed 22 Jan	9.30 am	SG	Betty Doyle RIP (Dublin)
Thu 23 Jan	9.30 am	SG	Maureen O'Sullivan RIP
Fri 24 Jan	9.30 am	SG	Phylis O'Brien for good health
Sat 25 Jan	9.30 am	SG	Deceased Clergy
	5.30 pm	SG	Phil McCarthy RIP
Sun 26 Jan	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	Margaret Bennett RIP (nee O'Reilly)

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

We join Jesus at a wedding in the small town of Cana, north of Galilee. Through this story we are introduced to John's sign theology: 'This, the first of his miraculous signs. Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee' (v.11). What was the purpose of the signs? What was John wanting to highlight? John answers the question for us: 'He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him' (v.11).

In today's sign and wonder' Jesus transformed water into wine. In other words, low-grade water (used for ceremonial washing) was transformed into the highest-grade wine in massive quantities. Each of the six stone water jars would have held between twenty and thirty gallons.

Not only the quantity but also the vintage shocked and surprised the master of the banquet (see v.9), who was at a loss as to why such a fine-quality wine was served at the end of the banquet when the guests were probably too far gone to appreciate it!

The superabundance of wine was a reminder of a common prophetic figure of speech found in the Old Testament for the dawning of the messianic age (see e.g. Amos 9:13-14; Joel 3:1). In that time: 'on each vine there shall be a thousand branches, and each branch shall bear a thousand clusters, and each cluster produce a thousand grapes, and each grape produce a cor (about 120 gallons) of wine...because these are they who have to the consummation of time' (2 Baruch 29 (Apocrypha)).

Through this sign John wanted to signal the passing from the old to the new. The messianic era had arrived and the messianic bridegroom is the One who provides the wine (see John 3:29).

We drink the wine of the new covenant whenever we celebrate the Eucharist: we eat the Body and drink the Blood of Christ. This is our sign of the new life, which inebriates with the love of God poured out into our hearts.

'Lord Jesus, our cross, your hour of glory, did indeed come, and because of your victory we drink the blood of the new covenant in the gift of your Eucharist.'

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 20th Jan: St Fabian, Pope & Martyr
Tues 21st Jan: St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
Wed 22nd Jan: St Vincent, Deacon & Martyr
Fri 24th Jan: St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor
Sat 25th Jan: The Conversion of St Paul

A FUNERAL:

The funeral for Thomas McGinty of Sinfin, will take place at St George's on Thursday, 30th January at 11.30 am.
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

'For Some Benefit'

To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. 1 Corinthians 12:7

My son and I were going to hike a trail that I'd read was moderately challenging from a physical perspective. The real problem was, apparently, poison ivy, especially on the first quarter mile or so. Just as we were about to begin, an older man emerged at the trailhead, sweaty, clad in running gear and holding clippers. We exchanged "good mornings" and went our separate ways. And sure enough, the first part of that trail was strewn with cuttings of the harmful plants so that is wasn't overgrown. Did he do this every morning? Did he just decide because of the recent rains it was probably needed? Whatever the case, I was grateful that this man had used his time to help with such a simple task, but one that was so very helpful to all those who'd be traveling the path that day.
Lord guide me to use my gifts in ways helpful to others on the journey.

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL, VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

We had a lovely school Mass last Monday for a late celebration of the Epiphany. The musicians and singers, and all the children, were in good voice and the chosen children read introductory verses and bible readings and prayers of the faithful very well. We do thank God for our wonderful school in which over 340 pupils are safe and happy and being well prepared for their future in education and afterwards. We thank most sincerely Mrs Snowdon-Poole our head teacher and Miss Lewis her deputy and all the staff for everything they give to our school.

THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025 officially opened in the Dioceses of Nottingham on Sunday, 29th December, the Feast of the Holy Family.

Bishop Patrick celebrated Mass at 10 am in our Cathedral in Nottingham and open the Jubilee in the Diocese of Nottingham. A special prayer will be prayed in each of the other Jubilee churches in the Diocese and the Jubilee Prayer should be prayed at each Mass in the Diocese from 29th December onwards. Cards are available at Church.