

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 March 2025

2nd SUNDAY OF THE LENT

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 15 Mar	5.30 pm	SG	Margaret Ellis RIP
Sun 16 Mar	9.30 am	SG	Peter Judson RIP 13th anniversary
	11.15 am	HS	Geraldine Maughan RIP, 8th anniversary
Mon 17 Mar ST PATRICK'S DAY	9.30 am	SG	Jack & Josie Murphy RIP
Tues 18 Mar	9.30 am	SG	Wayne Ginnivan RIP, 3 rd anniversary
Wed 19 Mar	9.30 am	SG	Michael, Jimmy's son, RIP
Thu 20 Mar	9.30 am	SG	Doctor & Mrs Budgen RIP
Fri 21 Mar	9.30 am	SG	Holy Souls in Purgatory and deceased travellers
Sat 22 Mar	9.30 am	SG	Seamus Feehan RIP
	5.30 pm	SG	Deceased members of the Geelan Fam.
Sun 23 Mar	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	For the work of CAFOD for the poor of the world.

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Christian faith is planted deep in the soil of history and rooted in the real historical events of the Incarnation, the Cross and the Resurrection. So too is the mysterious event we call the Transfiguration. Peter would go on to testify to its historicity many years later. 'For when he received honour and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to him by Majestic Glory. "This is my Beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.'

(2 Pet 1:17-18)

The chosen disciples were blessed with a foretaste of the heavenly life, the life Jesus enjoyed with the Father before creation: 'Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made (John 17.5). How does this event, the Transfiguration, impact our lives today? Is it a remote and distant event or a living truth which we can touch, taste and experience? Pope Benedict XVI taught that we too can know God's presence in a real and dynamic way. Something akin to the Transfiguration. 'When one has the grace to sense a strong experience of God, it is a thought seeing something similar to what the disciples experienced during the Transfiguration: For a moment they experienced ahead of time something that will constitute the happiness of paradise. In general, it is brief experiences that God grants on occasions, especially in anticipation of harsh trials. However, no one lives 'on Tabor' while on earth. Human existence is a journey of faith and, as such, goes forward more in darkness than in full light, with moments of obscurity and even profound darkness. While we are here, our relationship with God develops more with listening than with seeing; and even contemplation takes place, so as to speak, with closed eyes, thanks to the interior light lit in us by the word of God.'

Lord, teach me to listen to your word in sacred Scripture, to listen to you in the events of my life and obey your voice.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION: Classes will begin on Sunday after Easter. Fr Mark Brentnall, parish priest, will address parents and children after the Sunday Masses. Children of Year 3 school age or older who have not yet made their 1st Holy Communion are candidates.

A HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY for all the people of Ireland and for all of Irish descent. May Ireland continue to enjoy peace and prosperity and strong and lively Catholic faith.

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 17th March: St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland
Tues 18th March: St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor
Wed 19th March: St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thurs, 20th March: St Alcmund, Martyr

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH – FOR FAMILIES IN CRISIS: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness and rediscovering each other's gifts even in their differences.

Stay Awake!

While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. LUKE 9:29

The Transfiguration is an amazing event. There's Jesus shining like the sun, conversing with Moses and Elijah – while his three apostles are sleeping! Fortunately for us, they awake in time to hear God saying to them (and to us), "This is my chosen Son; listen to him" (v.35)

I asked a good friend once "What's the secret of a happy life?" He answered, "Stay Awake!" This means be present to the present moment – don't live in the past or fret about the future. Pay attention to the people who walk in and out of your life every day. Take time to engage with nature, with people and with scripture (as you're doing now). Be sensitive to the movements of your own heart.

Mini-transfigurations are happening every day; the seasons changing, a child maturing, new insights emerging, love deepening, small deeds of goodness unfolding, all around. Don't miss them!

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH: Fr Mark Brentnall, parish priest of Alvaston & Chellaston and St George's & Holy Spirit, will visit Holy Spirit Church on Sunday 30th March 2025 for 11.15 am Mass and to share with the people what the Bishop and his advisors have decided. In his letter at the time of Fr Alan's retirement last year, the Bishop said that the last Sunday Mass at Holy Spirit will be at Easter 2025. It seemed a good way off at the time but is fastly approaching. Fr Mark will share on the future of the church building.

POPE ST JOHN PAUL II reflecting on mission and Our Lord's words, 'Put out into the deep' said "These words invite us to remember the past with gratitude to live the present with enthusiasm and to look forward to the future with confidence."

POPE FRANCIS: Please keep Pope Francis in your daily prayers as he continues to battle with serious illness. May God bless him and be with him in his courageous battle to get back to good health. *Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for him.*