

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Pastor Emeritus: Canon Alan Burbidge

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4th October 2025

27th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

St GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 04 Oct	5.30 pm	Mr James McCandless RIP, 40th Anniv. and Ms Mary Sheehan RIP
Sun 05 Oct	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Mon 06 Oct	9.30 am	Thomas Augustine RIP, anniversary
Tues 07 Oct	9.30 am	For peace in Gaza
Wed 08 Oct	9.30 am	Thomas Augustine RIP, anniversary
Thu 09 Oct	9.30 am	Michael White for good health
Fri 10 Oct	9.30 am	Thomas Augustine RIP, anniversary
Sat 11 Oct	9.30 am	For those not well, especially the housebound of the parish
	5.30 pm	Hilary Crosbie RIP
Sun 12 Oct	9.30 am	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

How do we measure faith? How big or small is your faith? What is faith? The Bible says it is being sure of what we hope for, certain of what we do not see (Hebrews 11:1). Are you sure of what you hope for, certain of what you cannot see?

We should aim to be people of little faith, the size of a mustard seed, an especially small seed. Faith this size can command mulberry's bushes to be uprooted. With great faith, we can move into moving mountains.

The disciples made a request, 'Increase our faith', and so can we. Faith is the gift of God and is the currency of the kingdom of heaven. We enter the doorway of faith through baptism but the way or walk of faith has to be put into practice. Faith however isn't a blind leap into the dark as some understand it. Faith is rooted in the soil of history, the solid ground of the Creed and Catechism of the Catholic Church. However, faith has to grow and become strong.

We should ask ourselves what or who do we put our faith in rather than how much of it we have. Jesus' words seem to suggest that it really doesn't matter how much faith we have. A grain of mustard seed is the smallest possible grain. Having the tiniest speck of willingness is enough, he said, to uproot a sycamore and plant it in the sea. So does this mean that we can perform mighty miracles just by exercising a bit of faith? Not really!

There is something unspoken in the text of the Gospel. What is that? It is the word of God that we put our faith in. When God reveals his will, or when God speaks his word, even the tiniest willingness to believe him will connect us to his power and we shall see his will or his word being fulfilled. If God revealed that he wanted the sycamore uprooted, we could command it to do so, and it would. The key to faith is to now God's will and to hear his word.

Father, I believe, help me grow in faith.

PUBLICATIONS: I commend to you Catholic Post and Catholic News, the free papers for October. Lots of interesting news and articles.

Also, apologies that Living Faith booklets have not arrived yet for Oct/Nov/Dec. I am told they are on the way.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
on Saturday 10.15-10.45 am.**

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR CAFOD HARVEST FAST

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 6th Oct: St Bruno, Priest
Tues 7th Oct: Our Lady of the Rosary
Thurs 9th Oct: St John Henry Newman, Priest
Fri 10th Oct: St Paulinus of York, Bishop and the
Anglo-Saxon saints of our diocese
Sat 11th Oct: St John XXIII, Pope

The Gift of Tears

...she stood behind him at his feet weeping and began to bath his feet with her tears. LUKE 7:38

It has been thirty years since the Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City, an event that I covered as an on-site journalist. Four years later, I was asked to write the historical marker for an outdoor statue of Jesus across the street from what is now the Oklahoma City National Memorial. Titled "And Jesus Wept," it appropriately presents our Lord with head bowed, covering his tearful face.

All human suffering is sacred to God, no matter how trivial we may think it is or how vast and overwhelming. As Pope Francis notes, "It is good for me, in difficult moments, to think of Jesus weeping...God has wept for me, God weeps. He weeps over our suffering...to think that Jesus weeps with me in suffering is a consolation: it helps us keep going." To God, we are not strangers or numbers, we are faces and hearts. What do I need to bring to Jesus with my tears today?

FOR OUR COUNTRY: We pray that good British values will prevail over racism and extremism so that all our communities can go forward in peace and harmony.

FOR PEACE IN GAZA: We pray that all the recent initiatives for an end to the horrendous suffering of the people of Gaza may bear fruit. The death toll of ordinary citizens of Gaza, of men, women and children, has been beyond belief. Fifty thousand or more dead and buried and ten thousand still buried beneath the rubble of their homes and other buildings. It has indeed been a terrible vengeance for the Hamas killing and taking hostages of the Israeli citizens, a terrible crime and atrocity which is rightly condemned. A terrible price has been paid in blood by so many innocent of this crime but that is the nature of violence and war, vast innocent suffering. We continue to pray for a peaceful settlement for citizens of Gaza and the Palestinian citizens of the West Bank and for a peaceful future for the nation of Israel.