

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Brentnall

Pastor Emeritus: Canon Alan Burbidge

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

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11th October 2026

PRISONERS SUNDAY

28th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

ST GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 10 Oct	5.30 pm	Tom O'Reilly RIP, 10th anniversary
Sun 11 Oct	9.30 am	Colin-John Lehan RIP
Mon 12 Oct	9.30 am	Mr Brian Mumbray RIP, 1 st Anniv. and Mrs Rosabell Mumbray RIP
Tues 13 Oct	9.30 am	Kathleen Regan, Sp. Intention
Wed 14 Oct	9.30 am	Patricia Abbott RIP
Thu 15 Oct	9.30 am	Thomas Augustine RIP, 2 nd Anniv. remembrance
Fri 16 Oct	9.30 am	For peace in the world and for the victims of war and violence.
Sat 17 Oct	9.30 am	Hilary Crosbie RIP
	5.30 pm	Mr James McCandless RIP and Mrs May Sheehan RIP
Sun 18 Oct	9.30 am	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

The Pharisee could have worn a t-shirt with the slogan 'God loves you: but I'm his favourite.' But not just the Pharisees. Throughout history the idea of 'specialness' has been an issue. Whether it is Charismatic Renewal, Opus Dei or the Clergy. To be holy is to be 'set apart' – the word Pharisee has its roots in being 'set apart' – but set apart doesn't mean over and above, lording it over everyone else.

Today's Gospel is the last of a set of three parables (which began at Matt. 21:28). Through all three parables, Jesus confronts the chief priests and Pharisees, who were not merely confident, but cockily overconfident about their own status, and smugly superior in their attitude to 'sinners'. At the end of the first parable, he says: 'I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you...' (Matthew 21:31). After the second parable, the warning is stark: 'Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it' (Matthew 21:32).

This idea of replacement is even more pronounced in the third parable. The original invitees, who refuse repeated invitations and even murder the messengers, correspond to the original tenants in the second parable (Matthew 21:3), while the new tenants to whom the vineyard was leased (Matthew 21:41) are paralleled by street guests – 'both good and bad'. The tables are not merely turned – they are toppled over and come crashing down. The wedding guest who was satisfied with his own garment was saying, in effect, that his best was good enough. But, as Isaiah says, "all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment". (Isaiah 64:6). No one, regardless whether 'good' or 'bad', may enter without the 'wedding robe' – the 'garments of salvation' (Isaiah 61:10), which cannot be begged, borrowed, bought or stolen, but are given by grace through faith. And the wonder of God's grace is that while our best is not good enough to earn it, our worst is not bad enough to exclude us.

'Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me: I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.'

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY: Its October again 'The season of mist and mellow fruitfulness' wrote John Keats in his lovely poem 'Ode to Autumn'. In the church it is the month of the Holy Rosary.

In 1572 Ottoman Turkish expansion with its religion of Islam was moving across the Mediterranean and also in Eastern Europe. The Pope and other Catholic leaders asked their people to say the Rosary, to pray for Christian victory. A great naval battle took place at Lepanto. There was a Christian victory and to celebrate it the Pope instituted the October feast of Our Lady of Victory, later renamed Our Lady of the Rosary. Also, the Ottoman forces were defeated at the gates of Vienna. At this time, especially via the messages of Medujorge, Our Lady requests us to pray, pray, pray for peace

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

on Saturday 10.15-10.45 am.

SECOND COLLECTION this weekend is for PACT, prisoners support agency.

SECOND COLLECTION next weekend is for World Mission Sunday

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 12th Oct: Ss Wilfred Bishop & Hilda of Whitby, Religious

Tues 13th Oct: St Edward the Confessor

Wed 14th Oct: St Calistus, Pope & Martyr

Thurs 15th Oct: St Teresa of Avila, Virgin & Doctor

Fri 16th Oct: Ss Hedwig, religious & Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

Sat 17th Oct: St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: *For mental health ministry.*

"Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the church helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illness."

ST LUKE 12,6,7 *God does not forget even a sparrow and even the hairs of your head have been numbered. You are worth more than a flock of sparrow.*

REFLECTION: Imagine God knows the number of hairs on our head (Luke 12:7). Every person, regardless of race, class, gender, wealth or any worldly measure, is the apple of God's eye, cherished beyond our wildest dreams. Imagine that everyone you encounter today, everyone you know, is the apple of God's eye, cherished by God, beyond our wildest dreams. Why is this, you ask? Because every human person you meet today possesses an inalienable dignity by virtue of simply being human, because every human being is created in the image and likeness of God. (Gen. 1:26)

C S Lewis said: 'It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest, most uninteresting person you can talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship.

You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilisations – these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub and exploit – immortal horrors or everlasting splendours. This does not mean that we are to be perpetually solemn. We must play. But our merriment must be of that kind (and it is, in fact, the merriest kind) which exists between people who have, from the outset, taken each other seriously.

From C S Lewis (The Weight of Glory)

Lord, grant me the grace to relate to everyone equally, justly, fairly, conscious of their dignity and worth in your eyes.

THE FREE PAPERS, Catholic Post and Catholic News, have arrived for October. In Catholic News there are lots of items about activities in our own diocese, especially news of our Bishop Patrick and his journey around the parishes of the diocese. "Prayer is at the heart of all that we do he says". Also in the Catholic Post there is a very informative article on A1 entitled 'Artificial Intelligence will provide an explosion of creativity, but brakes are needed'. Also Archbishop John Sherrington of Liverpool writes of his gratitude and thanks to all who helped towards the defeat of the Assisted Suicide Bill.

CAR PARKING: Again, we have put notices on cars parked often at St Gorge's car park, to ask they be moved for weekend Masses. However, we have a number of places to park behind the presbytery, 40 Village Street. Please feel free to use them on Saturday 5.30 pm and Sunday 9.30 am. New gates will be going on soon on the car park.
Fr. Alan.