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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28th September 2025 DAY OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE HARVEST 26th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

St GEORGE'S MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 27 Sept	5.30 pm	Mark Crosbie RIP and P J Crosbie RIP
Sun 28 Sept	9.30 am	Jimmy Mooney RIP
Mon 29 Sept	9.30 am	The Doherty family
Tues 30 Sept	9.30 am	Donor's intention, St Anthony of Padua
Wed 01 Oct	9.30 am	Thomas Farrell RIP
Thu 02 Oct	9.30 am	The living and dead of the Burbidge family
Fri 03 Oct	9.30 am	Mgr. David Forde RIP
Sat 04 Oct	9.30 am	Nancy and Paddy Newcome RIP
	5.30 pm	Mr James McCandless RIP, 40th Anniv. and Ms Mary Sheehan RIP
Sun 05 Oct	9.30 am	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Today's parable is known by two titles, 'The Rich Man and Lazarus' or 'Dives and Lazarus'. *Dives* is Latin for 'rich man'. This is the only parable where a character is given a name – Lazarus (not to be confused with the Lazarus we find in John 11:1-44).

The rich man has enjoyed all the good things this earth has to offer: Lazarus on the other hand enjoyed none of them. The Talmud refers to 'paradise' or 'Abraham's bosom' as the home of the righteous: Hades or Sheol is the place to which the unrighteous are sent. Lazarus (the poor man) goes to heaven/paradise: the rich man to the other place.

A recurring theme in Luke's Gospel is the dangers of wealth. The rich man wasn't in hell simply because he was wealthy but because of his selfish attitude towards the good things he had. He simply didn't care about the poor – he cared only about himself. It was his selfishness which sent him to hell. Rather amusingly, so entrenched is he in his own thinking and so wedded to his own class system that, even when he can see Lazarus enjoying the blessings of heaven, he still regards the former beggar as his errand boy, asking first that he bring a drop of water to cool his tongue and then that he go and warn his brothers of the fate that awaits them. His conceit, arrogance and lack of compassion for the poor man continue into eternity.

There is a tragedy running through the parable and the tragedy is this: after death he begins to experience a change of heart. He wants to warn his nearest and dearest so that they can avoid his fate, but it is too late. His request is denied because the Law and the Prophets have already made clear what God requires. God wants us to love him and love our fellow human beings. After death there is no opportunity for repentance and conversion because today is the day of salvation, today is the time of repentance today is the day to believe that Jesus is the Resurrection, the Way the Truth and the Life.

Father, by your grace may I always have a warm and generous heart towards the poor and needy. By your grace help me to respond while there is still time to the gift of revelation and the mystery of faith revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord.

St GEORGE'S PARISH DONATES £200 TO MARY'S MEALS

Gatherings on a Sunday morning continue to be a wonderful opportunity for the congregation to come together as a community after Mass each week. The refreshments and cakes are donated each week by parishioners which allows the team to donate the proceeds to charities near and far. Since the beginning of the year, we have raised an amazing £200 for Mary's Meals, which provides the world's poorest children with food, education and hope for a brighter future. Many thanks to everyone for your generous contributions. Please feel free to join us after Mass on a Sunday, all are very welcome!

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

CAFOD HARVEST FAST ENVELOPES AVAILABLE TODAY

Please take one and keep the Harvest Fast Day on this Friday, 3rd October. Our self-denial and fasting enables us to place what we save or have spare into the envelope or directly into the offering collection for the aid of the poor of the word via CAFOD.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 29th Sept: SS Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
Tues 30th Sept: St Jerome, Priest and Doctor
Wed 1st Oct: St Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor
Thurs 2nd Oct: The Holy Guardian Angels
Sat 4th Oct: St Francis of Assisi

Someone From the Dead

Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent. LUKE 16:30

Many books have been written, and many movies made, that purport to prove the existence of life after death and attempt to illustrate what the afterlife might be like. Of course, these imaginative musings are feeble attempts to conjure what cannot be conjured. Even the most faith-filled attempts to show a glimpse of eternity will fall short.
But that doesn't mean we can't show others what a life transformed by Christ looks like. That we can do in the here and now. As forgiven sinners and people of deep faith, we can be like "someone from the dead." Our lives have already been transformed through the power and promise of Jesus' death and resurrection. Even now as we await our ultimate glorious resurrection, we must live in ways that show others how we have been taken from the dead and brought to new life.

A WOMAN OF FAITH AND FORGIVENESS

It was very moving to see Erica Kirk at the memorial service of her assassinated husband speaking words of forgiveness for his young murderer. She said "Father forgive them they know not what they do" quoting gospel words from the cross, and also "I do forgive him".

What a marked contrast this scene presents to all the hate and vengeance that pervades our little planet. How different to the words of the one whom her husband did so much to get elected, by his appeal to many young people. Politicians have often spoken derogatory, even inflammatory words about their opponents, calling them "scum" for example. We are reminded of the forgiving father whose lovely daughter died in the bomb blast in Armagh those years ago, and we thank God for forgiveness and the end of the troubles. Also, for Nelson Mandela so badly treated in South Africa who on gaining power set up the Peace and Reconciliation Commission. He did not seek revenge.