



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

10th February 2019  
Week 5 of Ordinary Time  
Psalter Week 1

Parish Priest: Fr. Owen O'Neill  
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Catholic Club: 01858 463 601  
Parish Website: www.olvic.com  
Safeguarding Representatives: Christine Reed and Theresa Kendrick 07748591398 / 01858465637  
Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449  
Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Schools:  
Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.  
Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057  
Parish Accountant: Angela Wade: 0777 322 9041  
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: Stephen McGlone 01858-465939  
Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

**continued.....**For centuries, Christianity has presented itself as an "organised religion" - a change-averse institution or set of beliefs that were handed down fully formed in the past. Yet Christianity's actual history is a story of change and adaptation. We Christians have repeatedly adapted our message, methods and mission to the contours of our time [for example, the Second Vatican Council within Catholicism]. What might happen if we understood the core Christian ethos as creative, constructive and forward leaning - as an "organising religion" that challenges all institutions (including its own) [as Jesus did] to learn, grow and mature towards a deepening, enduring vision of reconciliation with God, self, neighbour, enemy and creation? If such migration is possible, how would we describe that way of life toward which we are moving?

If we are to be truly Christian, it makes sense to turn to Jesus for the answer. Of the many radical things said and done by Jesus, his unflinching emphasis on *love* was the greatest commandment...his prime directive - love for God, for self, for neighbour, for stranger, for alien, for outsider, for outcast, for even the enemy, as he himself modelled. The new commandment of love [John 13:34] meant that neither beliefs nor words, neither taboos, systems, structures nor the labels that enshrine them mattered most. Love decentred everything else; love revitalized everything else; love took priority over everything else - everything.

**A RECOMMENDATION:** The Knights of St. Columba and our own Pro Life Group have recommended that we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during which time the Rosary will be prayed, on Thursday mornings before Mass. Namely from 9.30am to 10.00am. The Rosary is to be offered for the protection of the UNBORN CHILD in its mother's womb and in reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the loss of innocent life through direct abortion. This recommendation comes mainly from the Knights of St. Columba to mark the centenary of its foundation. Whilst the recommendation is for a monthly Exposition, I am very happy and willing to have exposition every Thursday morning when we usually pray the Rosary before Mass, the odd exception in the case of a funeral. More on this when finalised.



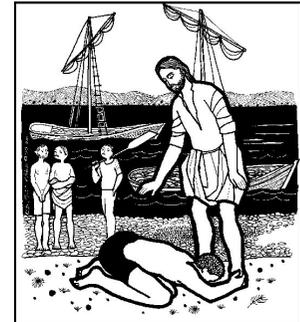
**10th February 2019**  
**Readers: 6.30pm:** P Danks **10.00am:** B Tyrell D Chappell  
**Eucharistic Ministers: 6.30pm:** D Quinn T Ruane A Hall J Snaith N Tiney  
**10.00am:** S Tacey B Spicknell B Stewart F Wilson V Winter (Weekday B)  
**Counters:** F Wilson C Wilson N Williamson  
**Welcomers: 6.30pm:** E, P & O Cioch  
**10.00am:** Joseph Family, T Kendrick C Reed  
**Bidding Prayers:** M O'Malley

**17th February 2019**  
**Readers: 6.30pm:** A Burgess **10.00am:** C Reed K Lilley  
**Eucharistic Ministers: 6.30pm:** D Bebb P Bebb R Blagburn S Tacey K Crawford  
**10.00am:** A Brown M Douglas P Green Mary Hall Mike Hall (Weekday A)  
**Counters:** E Green C Reed P Waring M Monk  
**Welcomers: 6.30pm:** P Hamer M Hiron B Phillips  
**10.00am:** C Shepherd B Shepherd C Wilson  
**Bidding Prayers:** P Danks

**OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: We, the faith community of Our Lady of Victories Parish, with our values rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, accept our mission: to come together to worship God, to welcome everybody, to work with and in our local community as Christians in the Catholic tradition, in openness and fellowship with Christians in Churches Together in Market Harborough, to love, learn from, and support each other, in our spiritual growth, to witness to our faith in words, actions and compassionate service to others.**

### Times of Services

**Sunday: 5th of Ordinary Time**  
Sat.6.30pm Mass - Margaret Illston R.I.P.  
8.30am Mass at Husbands Bosworth - Personal Intention  
10.00am Mass - The Parishioners  
**Monday: Feria**  
9.45am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Mass - Sheila Smallman R.I.P.  
**Tuesday: Feria**  
9.00am Mass - The Holy Souls  
Rosary after Mass  
**Wednesday: Feria**  
9.45am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Mass - "Andre" R.I.P. (15th Anniv.)  
**Thursday: Sts Cyril & Methodius**  
**9.30 am. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
10.00am Mass - God's Blessings on David & Gloria  
**Friday: Feria**  
6.45pm Prayer of the Church  
7.00pm Mass - Fernando Ditre R.I.P. & Cosmo & Maria Ditre R.I.P.  
**Saturday: Feria**  
NO MORNING MASS (Mass in the Prison)  
6.30pm 1st Mass of Sunday 17th - Paul Bennett R.I.P.  
**Sunday: 6th of Ordinary Time**  
8.30am Mass at Husbands Bosworth - Personal Intention  
10.00am Mass - The Parishioners - (Celebration of Light for First Holy Communion Children .



*They left everything and followed him.*

**Confessions Saturday**  
11.00 - 11.30 am  
5.30 - 6.00 pm.  
& on request

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Wednesday  
10.30—11.00 a.m.

**OUR PRAYERS AND CONDOLENCE** are offered to the family of the late Bernard Brandrick. Bernard has been a long and faithful member of our parish for many years. Having lived in Husbands Bosworth for a member of years he was a weekly attendee at Mass there and a leading member and voice in the church choir. Having moved to Huntingdon Gardens, in Market Harborough, he continued going to Husbands Bosworth for many years until he had to give up driving. It was then that some kind parishioners picked him up on Sunday mornings and brought him to Mass here at Our Lady of Victories. He loved singing, was a staunch member and voice of the Harborough Choral Society. Also he was deeply involved in the Harborough theatre where he was held in great regard. Now in his 90's, the good Lord has called him to join the Angelic Choir of Heaven. May he enjoy the fullness of new life, rest in peace and rise in glory. Funeral details being arranged.

**THE THIRD WORLD GROUP** is having a Jumble Sale on Saturday 23rd February from 9.30am to 12.00pm. As well as good quality clothing there will be books, CDs and bric-a-brac. Tea, coffee and biscuits will also be served. We would also be grateful for donations of suitable clothing, which can be put into the box marked Third World Group, under the table in the cloister.



**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARBOROUGH ECUMENICAL LENT GROUPS 2019:** This year, CTH will once again be holding Lent groups across the area. We will be following the York Course - '**Daring to see God now**'. Lent groups leaders will be from across the churches following a fully formed, well described leaders booklet. Please indicate on the sign up form if you are happy to carry out this role. Additionally, we will be looking for people to host in their homes. Again, if you are willing to sign up for this, please indicate on the form. It is expected that hosts and leader will be different people! Please sign up by 31st January. Group info will be communicated mid February. Any queries, please contact CTH LENT Group co-ordinator, Di Evans by email: di.evans13@sky.com or answer phone on 01858 466088. Churches Together in Harborough invites you to fill in a form from <https://goo.gl/nOqFnNyQNV9aZQT2>. These can be returned either by email or by taking to the Baptist Church or contact on the above telephone number.

**PLASTIC PLEDGE:** Eco Church Harborough are asking people to sign the Plastic Pledge Forms in the cloister showing your support to help reduce plastic in the environment. Please put a copy of the pledge in the box at St Dionysius Church or at the Refill Revolution Stall in the food hall at Harborough Market. Thank you for your support.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of prayer) Come Everything is Ready! Praying for Slovenia. A service for Everyone. Friday 1st March 2pm Baptist Church. Coventry Road. Refreshments following service.



**THIS SUNDAY** after all Masses there will be **A RETIRING COLLECTION** for the ongoing important work of **S.P.U.C.** and **LIFE** in their efforts to uphold, and promote the life of the unborn child, as a child of God, sacred, unique and with the right to life in its unborn state.

**AN INVITATION:** On behalf of the Holiday at Home Team I would like to invite you and all the local church leaders to come for a coffee (or tea etc) and cake on **Wednesday 27th February 10.30 to 11.30**. Holiday at Home has been operating under Churches Together in Harborough since around 2008. Often, as new church leaders have come into the town they have not been aware of this significant ministry which might have appeared to be operating "under the radar"! With almost one person in four in Market Harborough over the age of 65, this is a really important aspect of our churches' ministry and mission. Holiday at Home has been a significant and successful aspect of the churches' response to this need and challenge. The aim behind our invitation to coffee is to enable us to present briefly something of our history and experiences, what we do and why, and our plans for 2019. We would also like to explain how people in your church could help us maintain this important outreach event. There is no commitment we just want to meet, talk, and invite your questions and suggestions. This invitation is specifically for church leaders, but if you really cannot make this occasion would you please arrange for someone in leadership in your church to deputise for you. But please come if you can. We have asked if we can use the Baptist Church for this event, but await confirmation. New Horizons will supply coffee, tea, and cakes. Our treat! In what is almost certain to be a busy life I do hope you will find this hour to help us explore this important outreach to this significant section of our local population. **Will you be our rep at that meeting? See Maureen Douglas or Fr Owen.**



**A PARISHIONER** has sent me the following article by Fr Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest of the New Mexico Providence, a world known and recognised spiritual writer who has written many books and given talks all over the world. His article is entitled: **JESUS: MODELLING FAITH. OUR PRIORITY IS LOVE.** (I recommend this to you for reflection, prayer and action).

#### **OUR PRIORITY IS LOVE**

*Brian McLaren, a dear friend and fellow public theologian, shares my concern and hope that Christianity can evolve. In his book The Great Spiritual Migration, he writes:*

For centuries, Christianity has been presented as a system of beliefs. That system has supported a wide range of unintended consequences, from colonialism to environmental destruction, subordination of women to stigmatising LGBT people, anti-Semitism to Islamophobia, clergy paedophilia to white privilege. What would it mean for Christians to rediscover their faith not as a problematic system of beliefs, but as a just and generous way of life, rooted in contemplation and expressed in compassion, that makes amends for its mistakes and is dedicated to a beloved community for all? Could Christians migrate from defining their faith as a system of beliefs to expressing it as a loving way of life?...

For centuries, Christians have presented God as a Supreme Being who showers blessings upon insiders who share certain beliefs and proper institutional affiliation, but who punishes outsiders with eternal conscious torment. Yet Jesus revealed God as one who "eats with sinners," welcomes outsiders in, and forgives even when being rejected, tortured and killed. Jesus associated God more with gracious parental tenderness than strict authoritarian toughness. He preached that God was to be found in self-giving service rather than self-asserting domination. What would it mean for Christians to let Jesus and his message lead them to a new healing, reconciling Spirit in whom all creatures live, move and have their being? **continued overleaf...**