

**PETER GREEN reviews" HOLINESS IS FOR EVERYONE"** by Fr Chris Thomas (New Life Publishing 2012).

This small book, written by a well-known and gifted priest, is full of good things. The author knows his bible and is a skilled communicator of its message, in this case the theme of holiness which is a central theme of our Catholic Faith. The author's primary concern is to correct what he perceives as misunderstandings about the nature of holiness and he does this by drawing on his wide experience of life, including people he has encountered on the journey and, not least, the delight and despair of his own life.

Chris Thomas makes four important points, one negative and three positive:

First, **Holiness is not to be identified with excessive piety.** It is rather a reflection of the holiness of God, supremely seen in Jesus, in the whole of our lives, not just the part we spend in church saying our prayers. Prayer, churchgoing and the living of moral lives should be products of this rather than ends in themselves. He points out that the paradoxical danger of religion is that it makes us into religious people and no more. Thus, he says, is a false piety with a limited vision and can even breed arrogance and self-righteousness. Real holiness, by contrast, is about being fully alive, genuine human being who has turned away from self towards God and other people.

Second, **Holiness is for everyone**, not just for saints, priests and religious. He quotes, with approval, Pope Francis: "Holiness is not the prerogative of the few. It is a gift that is offered to all.....The distinctive character of every Christian."

Third, **holiness is a sign to a wayward world that there is another way to live.** That is why it is much needed today. It is about embracing, with the help of grace, life-enhancing values such as honesty, integrity, unselfishness and justice, things that we long to see in some of our national and international leaders.

Fourth, **Holiness is the product of a love-encounter with Jesus and, through him, the holy God.** When we let God deal with the sin, pain and mess that we make of life we become open to God's holiness and, he says "it will happen without you being aware that it is happening".

Finally, one quotation which seems to me to sum up the message of this book: "Holy people are those who know their lives are to be lived for the sake of love.....religious ritual is there to help us do that, but what is important is that we love".

#### 28th April 2019

**Readers: 6.30pm:** M Atkins **10.00am:** R Lewin M Lewin

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 6.30pm: V Winter D Bebb P Bebb R Blagburn A Hall

**10.00am:** A Brown K Crawford M Douglas P Green S Jones (Weekday A)

**Counters:** R Lewin M Lewin A.N.Other

**Welcomers: 6.30pm:** P Danks, M Danks, M Furlong

**10.00am:** C Wilson, A Brown, G Stray

**Bidding Prayers:** B O'Malley

#### 5th May 2019

**Readers: 6.30pm:** M Mihovilovic **10.00am:** C Goddard G Hill

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 6.30pm: ---- W Kwacz J Lowe S McGlone C McInnes

**10.00am:** ---- J O'Leary B O'Malley M O'Malley T Page (Weekday B)

**Counters:** F Wilson c Wilson N Williamson

**Welcomers: 6.30pm:** B O'Malley M O'Malley J Maguire

**10.00am:** J Clarke J Shellard E Ventriglia

**Bidding Prayers:** L Surtees



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

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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 24 Catholic Club:

Parish Gift Aid Organiser: Stephen McGlone 01858-465939

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

## Times of Services

### **Sunday: 2nd of Easter**

Sat.6.30pm Mass - Nick & Kitty Mihovilovic R.I.P.

8.30am Mass at Husbands Bosworth - The Parishioners

10.00am Mass - Vincent Reilly R.I.P.

12.30pm Baptism of Robert Winston Trappitt

### **Monday: St Catherine of Sienna**

9.45am Morning Prayer

10.00am Mass - The Holy Souls

### **Tuesday: St George, Patron of England**

9.00am Mass - Kate Corrigan R.I.P.

Rosary after Mass

### **Wednesday: Easter Feria**

9.45am Morning Prayer

10.00am Mass - Frank Rogers R.I.P.

### **Thursday: St Athanasius**

**9.30: The Blessed Sacrament exposed on the Altar**

9.43am Rosary

10.00am Mass - Flo Purdy R.I.P.

### **Friday: Sts Philip & James**

6.45pm Prayer of the Church

7.00pm Mass - For God's blessings on M & family

### **Saturday: The English Martyrs**

NO MORNING MASS (Mass in the Prison)

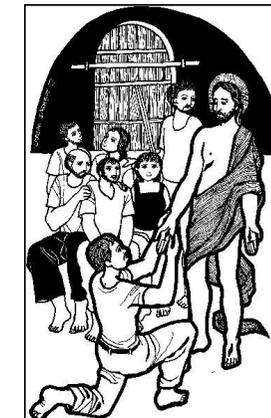
6.30pm 1st Mass of Sunday 5th May - The Parishioners

### **Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Easter**

8.30am Mass at Husbands Bosworth - Joan Ockenden R.I.P. (26th Anniv.)

10.00am Mass - Pip Monk R.I.P.

12.00noon at Husbands Bosworth: Baptism of Elodie Isobel Toplis



*Eight days later  
Jesus came.*

#### Confessions Saturday

11.00 - 11.30 am

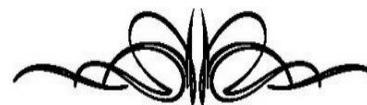
5.30 - 6.00 pm.

& on request

#### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday

10.30—11.00 a.m.



**CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME:** This morning at the 8.30am Mass at Husbands Bosworth, I will have the great joy and privilege of receiving Catherine Cox into full communion and membership of the Catholic Church. Our congratulations and prayerful welcome and support are to you Cathy. May your hopes and expectations be fulfilled in your new family of the church and faith.

**THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH:** On behalf of all our parishioners, I want to express our great gratitude and appreciation to all who made Easter so special, beautiful and meaningful for everybody - to all who helped with the liturgy and assisted Deacon John and myself - our wonderful Altar Servers of all ages; our musicians, singers and organists; all who arranged the beautiful flowers; all who clean the church; all who wash the altar linen, both the big cloths and the smaller ones; our very competent Sacristans; our readers; our welcomers and Cloister assistants and the many more who do "those niggly little jobs" that help keep the wheels turning smoothly. Bless each and every one of you. You are all so special.



**SMILE AND SING ALONG!** Those of us in the 50 plus age group will remember, and recall, the wonderful Julie Andrews and especially so, her singing of "MY FAVOURITE THINGS" in that wonderful film/movie "THE SOUND OF MUSIC". To commemorate her birthday "Julie Andrews turning 79" snag the following lyrics to the music from the Sound of Music. So now sit back, just read, or better still, sing along to this version of "MY FAVOURITE THINGS".

*Botox and nose drops and needles for knitting,  
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,  
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,  
These are a few of my favourite things.*

*Cadillac's and cataracts, hearing aids and glasses,  
Polydent and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,  
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,  
These are a few of my favourite things.*

*When the pipes leak, When the bones creak,  
When the knees go bad,  
simply remember my favourite things,  
And then I don't feel so bad.*

*Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions,  
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,  
Bathrobes and heating pads and hot meals they bring,*

*These are a few of my favourite things.*

*Back pain, confused brains and no need for sinnin',*

*Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',*

*And we won't mention our short shrunken frames,*

*When we remember our favourite things.*

*When the joints ache, When the hips break,*

*When the eyes grow dim,*

*Then I remember the great life I've had,*

*And then I don't feel so bad.*



**A VERY PERSONAL AND HEARTFELT THANKS FROM FR OWEN** for the many Easter Cards received, and for your kind and generous offerings to me. Thanks to each and every one of you. I am truly blessed to be your parish Priest.

**OUR CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME:** It was good to meet so many of our candidates at the "TASTER EVENING" on Sunday a few weeks ago. It consisted of an introductory session, "getting to know you; getting to know me". I think its fulfilled its purpose very well. The togetherness concluded with many of the parents present, for a very moving and meaningful liturgy, themed on light, pointing to Christ, the Light of the world.

**CONFIRMATION APPLICATION FORMS** are still available and can be collected from the table in the Cloister. We would like all application forms to be **definitely returned** to us over Easter, so that we can know, and prepare, for exact numbers before the first formal session on Sunday evening, May 12th, from 5.00pm to 6.30pm in the Octagonal Hall.



**SO POWERFUL: SO WONDERFUL: A MUST READ!**

**The Power of the Cross**

The Archbishop of Paris once stood in the pulpit of Notre Dame Cathedral.

He was there to preach a sermon, and his sermon was built around a single story. Thirty years earlier, he told, there were three young tourists who had come into this very cathedral. All of the young men were rough, rude, and cynical persons, who thought that all religion was a racket.

Two of these men dared a third to go into the confessional box and make a made-up confession to the priest. The two bet that the third young man did not have the nerve to do as they dared. The third young man went into the confessional box and tried to fool the priest.

But the priest knew that what the young man was saying was a lie. There was a tone of arrogance in the young man's voice - which could not go without notice.

After hearing the confession, the priest told the young man his penance. The priest said, "Very well, my son. Every confession requires a penance, and this is yours. I ask you to go into the chapel, stand before the crucifix, look into the face of the crucified Christ and say, 'All this you did for me, and I don't give a damn!'"

The young man staggered out of the confessional to his friends, bragging that he had done as they dared. The other two young men insisted that he finish the performance by doing the penance. This young man made his way into the chapel, stood before the crucifix, looked up into the face of Christ and began, "All this you did for me and I ... I ... I don't ... I don't give a ...."

At this point in the story, the archbishop leaned over the pulpit and said, "That young man was this man who stands before you to preach." That's the miracle of the cross. When we begin to understand the love on the cross, we want to change our relationship with God. We cannot remain the same, anymore. We want God at the centre of our lives, again.

