

LACY OUTSIDE STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Sun 3rd April 2022 – at the Rosmini Centre, Ratcliffe on the Wreake, LE7 4SJ. Calling ALL YOUNG PEOPLE, families and friends – come and share some time with us taking a “Journey with Jesus” as we make the Stations of the Cross outside in the grounds of the Rosmini Centre, commencing at 1.30 p.m. This will be followed by a Celebration of Mass and light refreshments. With LACY support and help we are hoping that young people will lead the Stations and feel they can be involved in the Celebration of Mass through Music and readings. Let us know if you can be with us and would like to be involved. Contact paulinepayne@hotmail.com or claudieacoxon@googlemail.com.

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

We are heading towards Holy week and Easter. The Passion of our Lord looms, a week that will lead to the newness of Easter. Great things, new things! In our first reading God says he is doing something new. *Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!.... Can you not see it? Isaiah looks forward to God doing something new and refreshing for the people of Israel in exile weeping by the rivers of Babylon; he says do not think about my past deeds, the great events when he freed his people from their slavery in Egypt through the crossing of the red sea, as if they were something past and gone. No, he will do a new deed: water in the desert, rivers in the wild where the wild beast will honour me. For the People of Israel it will be a new Exodus from exile. God always does new and refreshing things through the refreshing breeze of the Holy Spirit. As someone said he is the God of surprises. We might ask ourselves: have we forgotten this? I wonder have we become a bit stale and complacent, in a comfort zone.*

Complacency is seductive; it tells us that there is no point in trying to change things, that there is nothing we can do, because this is the way things have always been and will be. We have always managed to survive, get by. We “let things be”, or as others have decided they ought to be, perhaps. We let our past hang on to us. In Lent we are called to rethink our usual way of doing things; let us open our eyes and ears, and above all our hearts, so as not to be complacent about things as they are but unsettled by the living power of the risen Lord. This is being a disciple. In the Risen Lord, God has shown forth definitively that he is eternal newness. He impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar and accepted: he is exciting!

St Paul experienced the newness of Christ in his conversion. He was refreshed and renewed from his weariness of fulfilling the law and rules as a good Pharisee. For him now nothing can outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus the Lord. The loss of everything is nothing; he sees his past as rubbish to be left behind. He wants to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and - I love this - such is the refreshing newness of Christ: that he wants to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. He knows he is nowhere near getting there: he is forgetting the Past and straining ahead to what is to come. He desires only Christ and that newness of God which is stronger than all his sinful past.

In the Gospel today we see Jesus bringing that newness to the woman caught in Adultery. We do not know her story but only that she had sinned and been caught out in it. She expected the worse. However she finds a whole new beginning a fresh start in Jesus who says to her I do not condemn you go and sin no more. That is to say begin again, be refreshed, start out for the new. Such is the power of forgiveness that not only removes the weight of the past but opens a whole new way ahead. Forgiveness is always a starting point for new life. May we not go away with the Pharisees but kneel down before the Lord with the woman.

In these remaining days of Lent we must look forward to the coming days of great graces to be renewed by Christ. We rekindle our Penances with a view to the future the new and life refreshing action of God. As Saint Paul says we forget the past and strain ahead for what is to come. As Isaiah says: See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? And the Psalmist: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor

Tel: House: 01858 462359

Email: parishpriest@olvic.com

Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432

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Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Times of Services

Sunday: 5th of Lent (Passion Sunday)

Sat. 6.00pm: Mass: Vera Murphy RIP (Rose & Keith) month mind

9.00am Mass: Gurmen Sari RIP Anniv

11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish

4.30pm: Rosary outside Church

If there is one of you who has now sinned, let he be the first to throw a stone at her.

Monday: Lenten Feria

9.00pm Mass: November Dead List

Tuesday: Lenten Feria

9.00am Mass: Nora English RIP (Sisters)

Wednesday: Lenten Feria

10.00am Mass: Thomas Murphy RIP (Marshall)

Thursday: Lenten Feria

10.00am: Mass: Mary Penney Birthday (J. Brown)

Followed by Coffee

7.00pm: Holy Hour

Friday: Lenten Feria

6.30pm: Confessions

7.00pm: Stations of the Cross

7.30pm Mass: Peace in the Ukraine (Smrectak/Olivant)

Saturday: Lenten Feria

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

Sunday: 6th of Lent - Holy Week

9.00am Mass: Fr Owen Anniv

11.00am Mass: Paolo Di Cicco RIP Anniv (Sellecchia)



CONFESIONS

11am &

5.15 - 5.45pm

Saturdays

PLEASE NOTE: Booking is no longer needed for Masses. However, please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come

FR CHRIS WRITES: Year 3 & 4 children performed their easter play a simple but moving rendering of Holy Week which was a great spur for Holy Week. Well done! Please see the Newsletter for all the Holy week Liturgies coming up.

There will be extra time for Confessions in the run up to Easter: this week at 6.30pm before stations of the Cross.

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE: We pray that the Lord God send His Holy Spirit to all the people of Ukraine and gives them the grace of endurance in faith, hope and love amid the current ordeals; may peace be granted throughout Ukraine and may the Ukrainian nation be delivered from all enemies, so that we may glorify the good and merciful God in justice and truth. Lord hear us and have mercy. Amen.

TIMES FOR HOLY WEEK:

Palm Sunday times as normal. However the 11.00am will have the procession with Palms starting outside hopefully!

Wednesday: Chrism Mass at the Cathedral 11.30am

Maundy Thursday 7.00pm

Good Friday: Market Square 11.00am Ecumenical Witness

Liturgy of the Passion 3.00pm

Stations of the Cross 7.00pm

Easter vigil: 8.00pm – First Mass of easter: Mother of all Masses

Easter Sunday: 9.00 & 11.00am



READERS FOR HOLY WEEK: Would any reader who would like to assist at any of the Holy Week services, (see announcement of days and times on this page), please either email Margaret or sign the list on the noticeboard in the cloister."

'A RECITAL FOR SPRING' - St. Mary's Church, Husband Bosworth. Friday, 22 April 2022 starting at 19:00hrs. £10 per ticket includes a glass of mulled wine and nibbles. Fourteen year old Mila, a former chorister at Manchester Cathedral and Chetham's School of Music, studies singing at Wells Cathedral School under Mr Andrew Kidd. She is the BBC Young Chorister of the Year highly commended runner up 2021 and has recorded songs for radio as a soloist with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra. Tickets available on the evening or be emailing fr.matthew.pittam@rcaob.org.uk

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 7.00pm on Fridays. Normally followed by Mass

HOLY HOUR WITH BENEDICTION Thursdays 7.00pm – 8.00pm with a couple of meditations on next Sundays readings. This is an opportunity for the most powerful prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, Our Bishop and the Holy Father have called us to adoration before the Blessed Sacrament especially at this time of the Synod and seeking to come out of COVID, Many graces are received before the Blessed Sacrament.

The diocesan draft **RESPONSE TO THE SYNOD** is (published this weekend / available at the back of church / on the parish website). Please take some time to read it, and send any further responses or reflections, by Saturday 19th March, directly to the Diocesan Co-ordinators: Fr David Cain (david.cain@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or Joe Hopkins, Adult Formation Director for Mission (joe.hopkins@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Also the **Deanery summary** will be on our [Website](#) shortly. These will both help us to discern as we go Some Lent Resources can be found at: <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/preparing-for-lent-and-eastertide/lent-and-eastertide-resources/>

I just wanted to let you know about **The Mark 10 Mission Little Liturgies**. We launched some new virtual liturgies a couple of weeks ago. They have been created specifically for children under 8. Thanks be to God, they are being very well received in our primary schools. We will be putting out a new little liturgy each Friday and they can always be found by following this link: <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/little-liturgies>

CAFOD – Lent Fast Day and Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal: Our family Fast raised £679 so far. Parishioners can be part of the Church's response by giving to CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal at cafod.org.uk/Ukraine.

Adrian Weston died on Monday last week. His Requiem Mass will be on Monday 11th April at 11.00am. May he rest in peace. Just to be clear funerals are open to all who wish to attend. **Clive Blencoe** died last week his funeral will be on Tuesday 12 April at 2.30pm

Following helpful comments from members of the parish and in keeping with the modern age, **the THIRD WORLD GROUP** is planning to change its title to **Aid to Developing Countries.(ADC)**. We would once again like to offer our very deep and sincere appreciation to everyone who continues to support our very needy causes through our envelope scheme and by donating clothes and goods for us to sell (Ebay total is approaching £4000!) We are so grateful that your generous response to our appeals has enabled us to donate some money throughout the pandemic to each of our six charities even though our fundraising events were severely curtailed. Our collection box for donated goods will be situated as usual under the table in the Cloister and will be labelled with our new title . Please continue to help us support the very poor and underprivileged in our world . The new sets of green envelopes will be available to collect from church in the near future. Many thanks from ADC.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARBOROUGH: United Lent reflections 2022 Into the desert: A Lenten journey towards deeper faith Every Friday lunchtime (12.30 to 1.00) during Lent there will be a short service and reflection led by lay people from different churches. Every one is invited to join them. This year these meetings will be held on Zoom. The log-in details are the same for each service. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86087703786?pwd=NC9CdFhFR0ptVi9DRWFvdVdmY3VHUT09> Meeting ID: 860 8770 3786; Passcode: LENT22 Telephone Passcode: 761448. These are available from Fr Chris by email. . Friday 8 April – led by Our Lady of Victories RC Church Acts 8:26-40 **The desert of witness: discovering opportunities for service where we least expect them**

Good Friday event for all churches Churches Together in Harborough are inviting you to a service of worship and witness on the Square **on Good Friday at 11.00am**. We hope that many in the town will join us, and there will a retelling of the Passion Story by children from our schools. It is an opportunity to gather together, show our unity and friendship, and pray together for the town and the world, on this special day. The service will be approximately 30 minutes starting at 11.00am, but you are welcome to start gathering on the Square at 10.30am, when there will be worship music playing along with a video presentation on a large screen.

PUBLIC PRAYING OF THE ROSARY at Our Lady's Statue outside in front of the church. **4.30-5pm every Sunday.** As Catholics we pray the Rosary for cohesion and reconciliation in society, for peace, and freedom. We pray for the people, for the rulers, and for the kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ in society. At the same time always for the freedom of the Church, for the clergy, for the bishops, for the Pope, and in reparation for the sins committed against God Almighty and His Holy Mother. For more details contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	April 2/3	M. Atkins	T. Snell	C. Sellechia
	Apr 9/10	P. Danks	C. Goddard	B. Tyrrell

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

One of my favourite stories from the Old Testament is when the prophet Nathan confront David about his adultery with Bathsheba and having told him the story of the rich man taking the poor man's calf, he says to him: You are that man!". As we have listened to the story of the Passion, we might be appalled by the behaviour of some of the characters such as Judas, Pilate, Peter, Herod, the soldiers, the disciples, the crowd and so on. Listening to the Passion we too stand accused: You are that man, Judas Pilate Peter. Indeed, the crowd as one man howled: *Away with him! Give us Barabbas! crucify him! We could debate who was responsible for his death, the Romans the Jewish leaders, the crowd but in the end this week we must recognise that we are. Our sins were the cause of Jesus death: he died for us. This must be the first recognition as we live Holy Week. I am responsible.*

However, there are other characters as well who was there during that week. Mary the mother of our Lord, Mary Magdalen, Simon of Cyrene, the Roman Centurion, St. John and the others. We too are those people in our lives. We are Mary Magdalene, reconciled sinners who remain faithful to the Lord to the end. We are Simon of Cyrene, helping the Lord — albeit perhaps reluctant at first — to carry the Cross. We are St. John, receiving Mary into our home. We are the Centurion proclaiming Jesus to be the Son of God. we pray that we can be a bit more like them in our Christian living. Instead of putting Jesus on the cross we are called to lighten his cross through our love of him particularly in our brothers and sisters who needs help in carrying their crosses.

During lent we have had some of the great gospels of mercy such as the prodigal son the woman caught in adultery. These have highlighted the call to repentance and the mercy of God. As Luke tells the Passion story, we see all the hatred that surrounds Jesus. All the physical, spiritual, and mental abuse he suffers with the mocking and the insults, yet he responds only with silence and the words: *Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing. He invites us to a true and deep sorrow for our sins so that we may hear those words spoken to from the Cross. As we read & meditate on the passion this week, we can come to that deeper sorrow or contrition which is inspired more by love of God than anything else. The words of the Passion Story can move us as we read them. The various characters can help us. It may be a short phrase that stays with us in our heart, and we repeat over and over in our heads and hearts during the week. But above all we lift our eyes to the crucified Lord. Maybe we look at him from our own cross whatever it may be. We reach the summit hear of the story as the Good Thief speaks his confession. He has been looking at Jesus from his cross and taking in all that was happening but above all looking and listening to Jesus. He has come to a moment of perfect contrition. What a journey! Perhaps he was rather like the other thief, but he has opened his heart to Jesus. He recognises fully his own sin and says yes, he deserves that he is getting. He has no excuses or mitigations but a frank confession. He then hears those most wonderful words today you will be with me in paradise. The first Saint goes straight to heaven, and he is a convicted criminal.*

This weekend we enter Holy week. Indeed, we enter Jerusalem with Jesus. Our reading, prayer and meditation prepares us for our Liturgies when these great events are made present to us and for us in the mysteries of the liturgies we celebrate Palm Sunday the upper room with the last supper, the agony in the garden, Calvary itself and culminating in the new garden of Eden the garden of the resurrection. The liturgy enables us to encounter here and now, what Jesus went through then. In other words, we commemorate and relive during this week our own dying to sin and selfishness and rising in Jesus, healed, reconciled to God and each other, and redeemed by His death and rising for us. The three days of the Triduum, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are the climax of our year and springboard for new joy and more through meeting our Lord risen from the dead.



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Times of Services

Sunday: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Sat. 6.00pm: Mass: People of the Parish

9.00am Mass: Fr Owen Anniv

11.00am: Mass: Paolo Di Cicco RIP Anniv (Sellecchia)

4.30pm: Rosary outside Church

Monday of Holy Week

11.00am: Funeral of Adrian Weston

6.00pm: Reception of the Body if Clive Blencoe

6.30pm: Confessions

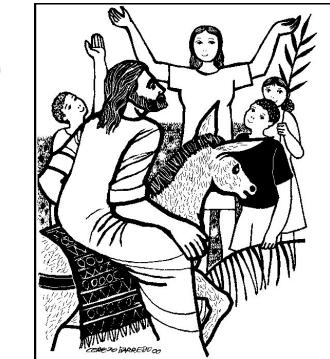
Tuesday of Holy Week

2.30pm Funeral Clive Blencoe

Wednesday of Holy Week

6.30pm: Confessions

7.00pm Mass: Jozek Fialkowski RIP



Thursday: MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.00pm: Mass of the Lords Supper - Douglas Fam, M. Tear, Cockrell E. & P.) Int B

Followed by watching at the Altar of repose till 11.00pm

Friday: GOOD FRIDAY

11.00am: Ecumenical Prayer & Witness in the Square

3.00pm: Liturgy of the Passion

7.00pm: Stations of the Cross

Saturday: HOLY SATURDAY

11.00am: Confessions

12.00noon: Blessing of Easter Food

8.00pm: Easter Vigil: People of the Parish

Sunday: EASTER DAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

9.00am Mass: Helena Nowakowska RIP Anniv

11.00am Mass: Bogush Nowakowski RIP

*Blessings on
him who
comes in the
name of the
Lord.*

PLEASE NOTE: Booking is no longer needed for Masses. However, please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection

FR CHRIS WRITES: This weekend we begin Holy Week or the Great week as it is often called. Simply put with Jesus we enter Jerusalem. We seek to take part in the events of our Salvation through our Liturgies in Church and our devotions at home such as a family Stations of the Cross and the rosary. If we are watching television perhaps we could view more religious films on TV or You Tube. I know people have mentioned the Chosen. We also try to live the Spirit of the Triduum. We can also give witness this week by placing some branches in our windows or on our door and a cross or crucifix in our window in Holy week and then may be flowers or white cloth on Easter Sunday or the children could do some drawings! Also a very important Christian witness is our Good Friday Ecumenical witness at 11.00am.

One of the things I remember from being a child was the sombre solemnity of Good Friday, then the sense of silence and waiting on Holy Saturday looking forward to the joy of the resurrection. We sit by the tomb waiting with Mary, Mother of the Lord. For our family, it was a day of preparation and quiet with no television or radio! Then the great joy of Easter broke forth with the village bells ringing again, the Liturgy and Easter egg hunts in the Garden!

This Sunday is also the Anniversary of the death of Fr Owen. We thank him for his life as a Priest and fellow Christian. We pray for his soul. In memory of Fr Owen the most popular suggestion has been a stained glass window behind our Lady. It could be something simple and fitting such as a Rose or other symbol of our Lady.

May God Bless you all and you loved ones in these coming Days of grace.

COVID-19: We are now making all the benches available for people to sit on except those under the Choir gallery at the back. These remain for social distancing. A reminder that if you do not want people to sit next to you, please put your Hymn book or mass book on the bench.

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE: We pray that the Lord God send His Holy Spirit to all the people of Ukraine and gives them the grace of endurance in faith, hope and love amid the current ordeals; may peace be granted throughout Ukraine and may the Ukrainian nation be delivered from all enemies, so that we may glorify the good and merciful God in justice and truth. Lord hear us and have mercy. Amen.

Information from Caritas on the Ukraine and the Welcome scheme is available from the [Grapevine Newsletter](#). Also see **Catholic Social Action Network (CSAN)** <https://www.csan.org.uk/ukraine/>



EASTER OFFERING: Traditionally the Easter Offering goes to the Priest of the Parish and forms a major part of his income for the year. Envelopes for the Offering can be found at the back of Church.

Easter Walk with me booklets for adults and Calendars for children are available in the Church entrance. They help us to pray the great Season of Easter for which we have been preparing

GOOD FRIDAY EVENT FOR ALL CHRISTIANS: Churches Together in Harborough are inviting you to a service of worship and witness on the Square on **Good Friday at 11.00am**. We hope that many in the town will join us, and there will be a retelling of the Passion Story by children from our schools. It is an opportunity to gather together, show our unity and friendship, and pray together for the town and the world, on this special day. The service will be approximately 30 minutes starting at 11.00am, but you are welcome to start gathering on the Square at 10.30am, when there will be worship music playing along with a video presentation on a large screen.

TIMES FOR HOLY WEEK:

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Maundy Thursday 7.00pm followed by watching at Altar of Repose

Good Friday: 11.00am: Ecumenical Prayer & Witness in the Square

3.00pm Liturgy of the Passion

7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday: 11.00am Confessions

12 Noon Blessing of Easter Food

Easter vigil: 8.00pm – First Mass of Easter: Mother of all Masses

Easter Sunday: 9.00 & 11.00am



READERS FOR HOLY WEEK: Would any reader who would like to assist at any of the Holy Week services, (see announcement of days and times on this page), please either email Margaret or sign the list on the noticeboard in the cloister."

RESULTS OF THE APRIL DRAW:

1st Prize £70 A Burgess ticket No 40

2nd Prize £30 D Morgan ticket No 44

3rd Prize £20 E Kendall ticket No 173

Winnings are sent by letter, if you haven't received your letter, I may have the wrong address please contact Keith Shiers 07814419322 Thank you

'A RECITAL FOR SPRING' - St. Mary's Church, Husband Bosworth. Friday, 22 April 2022 starting at 19:00hrs. £10 per ticket includes a glass of mulled wine and nibbles

Fourteen year old Mila, a former chorister at Manchester Cathedral and Chetham's School of Music, studies singing at Wells Cathedral School under Mr Andrew Kidd. She is the BBC Young Chorister of the Year highly commended runner up 2021 and has recorded songs for radio as a soloist with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra. Tickets available on the evening or be emailing fr.matthew.pittam@rcaob.org.uk

Following helpful comments from members of the parish and in keeping with the modern age, **the Third World Group** is planning to change its title to **AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. (ADC)**. We would once again like to offer our very deep and sincere appreciation to everyone who continues to support our very needy causes through our envelope scheme and by donating clothes and goods for us to sell (Ebay total is approaching £4000!) We are so grateful that your generous response to our appeals has enabled us to donate some money throughout the pandemic to each of our six charities even though our fundraising events were severely curtailed.

Our collection box for donated goods will be situated as usual under the table in the Cloister and will be labelled with our new title. Please continue to help us support the very poor and underprivileged in our world. The new sets of green envelopes will be available to collect from church in the near future. Many thanks from ADC.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	Apr 9/10	P. Danks	C. Goddard	B. Tyrrell
	Apr 16/17	C. Baldam	C. Reed	K. Lilley

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY: My dear People, I wish you the joy of today's feast: Jesus is risen Alleluia! It is wonderful that we can celebrate together in Church in a fairly normal way this Feast of feasts, giving praise to God for this wondrous truth of our salvation which has changed everything and indeed can change everyone. In the midst of so much anxiety, suffering and death in our world, we see that death does not have the last word but life. This is the word of hope we can share with others who despair, become cynical or indifferent, or those who have lost loved ones. God himself in his Son has shared our human condition even unto death, death on a cross. But God has raised him high and given him a name above all other names. The name by which we are saved and indeed the world can be saved

Our Lord has conquered sin and destroyed its power over us. We reflect on our world with the Pandemic and War which threatens Europe as well as countries in Africa and indeed in the Far East. We think of all the injustices that oppress so many not least the poor. The greed that threatens our planet.

Evil does not have the last word but love and mercy, despite what we deserve. In the risen Jesus we see that things can change even given the terrible evils committed in our world.

And as we should not despair of our world and always seek to make a difference in our world, little as our lives seem to matter; so too, we should never despair of ourselves. If there are things we have become aware of in our lives that we need to say sorry for, repent of, if there are people we should be reconciled with, now is the time. Let us make the purpose to meet our Lord in the sacrament of Reconciliation as soon as we are able. We can make a difference in our world through always living as Christians knowing that any act of love – no matter how small - shares in the power of the resurrection and is stronger than the evil around us.

The risen Lord brings new life from evil and brings in a new creation, in which all is now possible, not least he makes us anew in his image and likeness as the Risen Lord. All things are now possible that is our joy today! As the Church sings in the Exultet at the Easter Vigil:

The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty.

Because in Jesus we too are risen. Through our Baptism we share his risen life. We are alive with his life which nothing can destroy or conquer. Hope is based not on human frailty but on Christ who lives never more to die and lives in us. Joy fill us, our Church, our world and heaven itself because the True the Good the Beautiful has won out.

We all love a happy ending to a film, our world is guaranteed a happy ending, even though we pass through dark times! But our suffering and difficulties through faith share in the cross of Christ and in doing that we share in his resurrection even now. AS the Holy Father said in a phone call to an Italian programme: *the Resurrection is not just a happy ending, it is the promise of love which helps us pass this difficult road... This comforts us and gives us strength*

I think it is something of this that always brings tears to my eyes at Easter the tears of pure and unadulterated joy. But there should be a deep joy that marks us always as an Easter people.

In Matthew's account of the woman at the tomb, they are told twice not to be afraid and that they would see our Lord in Galilee. As a sign of the truth of his words, he appears to the women. We too through faith encounter the Risen Lord much more than we know. In our world and lives, our Galilee, he is present for he is risen. At this time of suffering and uncertainty for the future he is with us: He says to us : Do not be afraid. We have his promise you will see me there in Galilee in your lives. The Lord is risen and alive and with us.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

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Times of Services

Sunday: EASTER DAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

9.00am Mass: Helena Nowakowska RIP Anniv

11.00am Mass: Bogush Nowakowski RIP

4.30pm: Rosary outside Church

Monday within the Octave of Easter

10.00am Mass: Ann Hulme RIP (Morgan)

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

10.00am Mass: Andrew's Ints (Slawek)

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

10.00am Mass: John Perkins RIP (Shearer)

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

10.00am Mass: Stefania Fialkowski RIP - no coffee

Friday within the Octave of Easter

7.00pm Mass: Morgan family

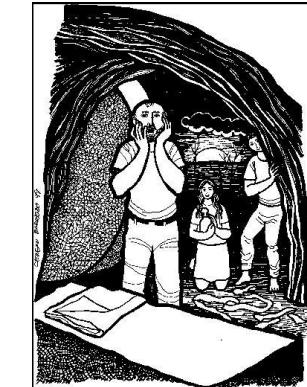
Saturday within the Octave of Easter

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy

9.00am Mass: Angela Butlin RIP(School Governors)

11.00am Mass: Bogush Nowakowski RIP anniv



He must rise from the Dead.

CONFESIONS

11am &
5.15 -5.45pm
Saturdays

PLEASE NOTE: Booking is no longer needed for Masses. However, please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection

FR CHRIS WRITES: *On this great feast may I take this opportunity of wishing you all the Joy of the risen Christ. And may I thank all who have helped us celebrate the Easter Triduum & all who keep the Parish running—, the musicians and singers, the altar servers, readers, those who have prepared our wonderful flowers, those who have cleaned the Church our sacristans, our catechists, our welcomers, EM's and admin support and all who have helped in any way. May I thank all who help run our Parish & school in all the varied ministries and activities. "Love lives again, Alleluia*



May God Bless you all and you loved ones in these coming Days of Easter Joy. Fr. Chris

COVID-19: We are now making all the benches available for people to sit on except those under the Choir gallery at the back. These remain for social distancing. A reminder that if you do not want people to sit next to you, please put your Hymn book or mass book on the bench.

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE: We pray that the Lord God send His Holy Spirit to all the people of Ukraine and gives them the grace of endurance in faith, hope and love amid the current ordeals; may peace be granted throughout Ukraine and may the Ukrainian nation be delivered from all enemies, so that we may glorify the good and merciful God in justice and truth. Lord hear us and have mercy. Amen.

Information from Caritas on the Ukraine and the Welcome scheme is available from the [Grapevine Newsletter](#). Also see **Catholic Social Action Network (CSAN)** <https://www.csan.org.uk/ukraine/>



Mr Mark Grieves died on 19th March. His funeral Mass will take place on Thursday April 28th at 3.00pm

EASTER OFFERING: Traditionally the Easter Offering goes to the Priest of the Parish and forms a major part of his income for the year. Envelopes for the Offering can be found at the back of Church.

Easter Walk with me booklets for adults and Calendars for children are available in the Church entrance. They help us to pray the great Season of easter for which we have been preparing

Inaugurated in 2021 by the Cathedral Chapter and with Bishop Patrick as its President, '**The Friends of Nottingham Cathedral**' aims to support the work and mission of the Cathedral through prayer, encouragement of social and cultural opportunities, and financially in order to maintain its position as a magnificent spiritual and culture gem at the heart of the city and Diocese. Our Mother Church needs your support. To find out more about the Friends or to become a 'Friend' please email: nottinghamcathedral.friends@gmail.com

JOURNEY IN HOPE is a series for members of parish outreach groups who would like to regroup and explore new mission challenges after the Covid-19 lockdown. Six reflective Eastertide sessions, inspired by Scripture and the writings of Pope Francis, take place on Zoom on Tuesdays at 7.00pm from 3rd May. You can find out more www.bit.ly/JourneyinHopeSessions, and book your place at www.bit.ly/JourneyinHopeZoom

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** at Torch House will be on the 21st April at 10:30 a.m.

Once again, the plan will be for everyone to come along and share fellowship together over a drink and a little something to eat. At 11.30 we'll have a time of sung worship and then some prayer. There's no need to book - you can just turn up. We do hope that you will be able to join us. Torch Trust Torch House, Torch Way, Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 9HL



Saturday 23rd April, from 10am until midday. **SPUC pro-life chain**. A peaceful witness to remember the nearly ten million unborn babies killed by abortion since the implementation of the Abortion Act in April 1967. Time: 10am until midday. Venue: Trent Bridge, Nottingham (meet at the Brewhouse and Kitchen, on the north side of the bridge, at 9.50am). For more information, go to www.40daysforlife.com/Nottingham or contact John on 40daysforlifenotts@gmail.com or 07757 815625.

'A RECITAL FOR SPRING' - St. Mary's Church, Husband Bosworth. Friday, 22 April 2022 starting at 19:00hrs. £10 per ticket includes a glass of mulled wine and nibbles

Fourteen year old Mila, a former chorister at Manchester Cathedral and Chetham's School of Music, studies singing at Wells Cathedral School under Mr Andrew Kidd. She is the BBC Young Chorister of the Year highly commended runner up 2021 and has recorded songs for radio as a soloist with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra. Tickets available on the evening or be emailing fr.matthew.pittam@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH WELCOMING: We need more people especially for Sun Morning and in particular for the 9.00am Mass. We are drawing a rota together. Please do consider helping out in this ministry to welcome Parishioners new and old. Feel free to contact either of us if you would just like to chat about it. Many thanks, Beatrice ([01858 465492](tel:01858465492)) and Theresa ([07748 591398](tel:07748591398)) or email tootskendrick@sky.com

Parishioners can be part of the Church's response by giving to CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal at cafod.org.uk/Ukraine.



I just wanted to let you know about **The Mark 10 Mission Little Liturgies**. We launched some new virtual liturgies a couple of weeks ago. They have been created specifically for children under 8. Thanks be to God, they are being very well received in our primary schools. We will be putting out a new little liturgy each Friday and they can always be found by following this link: <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/little-liturgies>

RESULTS OF THE APRIL DRAW:

1st Prize £70 A Burgess ticket No 40; 2nd Prize £30 D Morgan ticket No 44
3rd Prize £20 E Kendall ticket No 173

Winnings are sent by letter, if you haven't received your letter, I may have the wrong address please contact Keith Shiers 07814419322 Thank you

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	Apr 16/17	C. Baldam	C. Reed	K. Lilley
	Apr 23/24	E Andrews	S Acton	M Lane

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

On this eighth day of Easter joy, we celebrate again Easter Sunday in the form of Divine Mercy Sunday. We have the wonderful account of St John of Jesus appearance on the 1st and 8th day. On each occasion Jesus greets his disciples with words of peace and shows them the wounds of his hands and side. The five wounds which identify him and he speaks words of peace. He then gives his Church the Divine power of forgiveness which belongs to God alone. It is miraculously given to the Church in the Priesthood particularly in the wider context of the whole Church which is sent to the world by the Risen Lord as he was himself sent. In the words of Absolution, we are sent to proclaim and make present "Pardon and Peace".

It is perhaps scandalous to so many that the church should have such a gift because of the sinfulness of its members and not least priests and bishops. Yet this is the first gift of the Risen Lord to us so that we may both receive it and give it. This is message we are sent to proclaim. In John's gospel Pentecost appears above all as the forgiveness of sins for which the Holy Spirit is received indeed, breathed out by Christ from the cross and today in the upper room. The World needs peace in all places whether in the wars it undergoes now or in our communities, workplaces and families and in our own hearts most especially we need the peace of forgiveness.

So, to start with we need to receive it like Thomas. He could not believe that there could be any future after the cruel death of Our Lord on the cross and lost faith and doubted. He would not listen to his fellow disciples who had seen Our Lord let alone the woman who had met him by the tomb or the two on the road to Emmaus. Perhaps Thomas could not believe that such evil as had happened in the Crucifixion of Jesus could have any redemption. Our Lord comes to him and offers his wounds to be touched. Thomas receives the forgiveness of Jesus and makes the greatest act of faith in our Lord as God. To be messengers of Divine mercy we must first encounter the wounded healer, Jesus. For us the ordinary way given by God is the Sacrament of reconciliation. If we have not been for some time, Eastertide is the time for it. What we call Easter duties. This is because it the time when Our Lord pours forth his mercy from his pierced heart. We all need it! We are invited to touch the wounded heart of Our Lord and God! As the Holy father said on Easter day in his Urbi et Orbi message: *His wounds are indeed ours, for two reasons. They are ours because we inflicted them upon him by our sins, by our hardness of heart, by our fratricidal hatred. They are also ours because he bore them for our sake; he did not cancel them from his glorified body; he chose to keep them forever. They are the indelible seal of his love for us, a perennial act of intercession, so that the heavenly Father, in seeing them, will have mercy upon us and upon the whole world. The wounds on the body of the risen Jesus are the sign of the battle he fought and won for us, won with the weapons of love, so that we might have peace and remain in peace.*

We must also share this Easter News with all. There is no one who cannot find forgiveness in the wounds of Our Lord for this he bears them, so that we might touch them. Many are paralysed by the weight of unrepented sin. It weighs them down and often they do not realise what it is. I know of a good Doctor of the mind who said to a patient what you need is not my help but a priest! (I have had occasion to do the opposite). It is something we need to be alert to in those around us. We must encourage people to trust in the mercy of God which changes our whole way of life. From pardon come peace. True peace is found in him, in discovering his sacrificial love for us. This Sunday is Divine mercy Sunday. It celebrates this freely given forgiveness. It is vital for all men and women and the future of the world. Pope Francis, a couple of years ago, quoted words of Our Lord to St Faustina in her diary: "Humanity will not find peace until it turns to the source of my mercy." Christ is our peace and healing. We need to touch his heart. We are specifically sent by Christ to proclaim this.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor

Tel: House: 01858 462359

Email: parishpriest@olvic.com

Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432

Parish Website: www.olvic.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Schools:

Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.

Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057

Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com

Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Times of Services

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Angela Butlin R.I.P. (School Governors)

4.30pm: Rosary outside Church

Monday: St Mark, Evangelist

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Tuesday: St George, Patron of England

10.00am Mass: Miles Wilmot R.I.P. (Sr Helen)

Wednesday: Easter Feria

10.00am Mass: Intentions of Margaret Atkins (Winifred)

Thursday: Easter Feria

3.00pm: Funeral Mark Grieves RIP

Friday: St Catherine of Sienna

7.00pm Mass: November Dead List

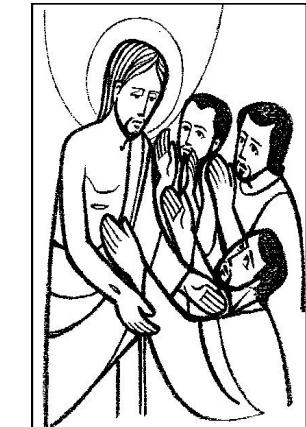
Saturday: Easter Feria

6.00pm Mass: Boswell Collins family (Katie)

Sunday: 3rd of Eastertide

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Vera Murphy R.I.P. (Crawford)



*Eight days later,
Jesus came.*

CONFESIONS

11am &

5.15 -5.45pm

Saturdays

PLEASE NOTE: Booking is no longer needed for Masses. However, please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection

May I wish you all a very happy Easter once more as we celebrate on Sunday the last day of the Easter Octave – Divine Mercy Sunday I have you all in my prayers as I celebrate Mass each day. Thank you to all those who have sent messages, cards, emails and good wishes for Easter. Thank you to all for the very generous Easter Offering. It is very much appreciated. Christ has risen Alleluia!
Fr Chris

Today we celebrate **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** which has a particular poignancy for us all in the face of war in the Ukraine and other parts of the world which Pope Francis call a piecemeal world war and the continuing scourge of the Corona virus. Certainly, we must ask for mercy from God. That he will bring an end to this affliction. A most powerful prayer is the [Chaplet of Divine mercy](#). It Calls on our Heavenly Father to have mercy on us and the whole world in view of Christ's atoning suffering and death. *For the sake of his sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and the whole world is the refrain.* Pope Francis used these words in his Easter Address.

Many people pray the Chaplet at 3 O'clock the time of our Lord's Death. This would be a most powerful thing to do: As Our Lord said to St Faustina: "At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners..... In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion..." (Diary, 1320). We can pray for an end to war and this pandemic. We can pray for the sick, particularly those who are without their family and dying alone. We can pray for sinners who are dying and need to repent. This is a great act of mercy. So we can all pray together and as families together. An ongoing Novena. cf www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet. A sheet is also available with how to pray the chaplet

COVID-19: We are now making all the benches available for people to sit on except those under the Choir gallery at the back. These remain for social distancing. A reminder that if you do not want people to sit next to you, please put your Hymn book or mass book on the bench.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN) There are copies of the latest newsletter available in the church entrance, together with the Easter catalogue of items for purchase. ACN is the Catholic charity which supports the faithful wherever they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. The needs of Ukraine and E. Europe are especially highlighted. One way of supporting Ukrainian Christians would be to purchase one or more of the several items in the catalogue made and produced in that war-torn country.

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Easter Walk with me booklets for adults and Calendars for children are available in the Church entrance. They help us to pray the great Season of Easter for which we have been preparing

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PRO LIFE GROUP are going to host a Sunday Coffee & Cakes after the 11.00am Mass on May 15th in aid of SPUC little feet.

Parishioners can be part of the Church's response by giving to **CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal** at cafod.org.uk/Ukraine.



Following helpful comments from members of the parish and in keeping with the modern age, **the Third World Group** is planning to change its title to **Aid to Developing Countries (ADC)**. We would once again like to offer our very deep and sincere appreciation to everyone who continues to support our very needy causes through our envelope scheme and by donating clothes and goods for us to sell (Ebay total is approaching £4000!) We are so grateful that your generous response to our appeals has enabled us to donate some money throughout the pandemic to each of our six charities even though our fundraising events were severely curtailed.

Our collection box for donated goods will be situated as usual under the table in the Cloister and will be labelled with our new title. Please continue to help us support the very poor and underprivileged in our world. The new sets of green envelopes will be available to collect from church in the near future. Many

PUBLIC PRAYING OF THE ROSARY at Our Lady's Statue outside in front of the church. 4.30-5pm every Sunday. As Catholics we pray the Rosary for cohesion and reconciliation in society, for peace, and freedom. We pray for the people, for the rulers, and for the kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ in society. At the same time always for the freedom of the Church, for the clergy, for the bishops, for the Pope, and in reparation for the sins committed against God Almighty and His Holy Mother. For more details contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	Apr 23/24	E Andrews	S Acton	M Lane
	Apr 30/1 May	J. Rowland	D. Chappell	J. Bland

Once again Hand made **Reusable Face masks for Sale** in Church £2.50 towards Church funds. We have raised £107.90 so far. Thank you.

Bookings are now open for the **Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage** – under the leadership of Bishop Patrick, from Monday 4th until Friday 8th July. Full details are on the Tangney Tours website: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/nottingham>, or for more details contact Father Simon Gillespie: simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk

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