

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	3/4 September	J. Rowland	C. Goddard	K. Lilley
	10/11 September	C. Baldam	C. Reed	M. Lane

FR CHRIS' THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

These are very strong words from Jesus today. We might say shocking. Words about hating one's family indeed one's own life getting rid of possessions and so on. This is not Jesus meek and mild. And he does not apologise for them. We struggle to comprehend the meaning of his words and experience the vast gulf between what Jesus asks and what we seem to be capable of. We might feel the temptation to give up and to say that discipleship is not for me, this is way too much. Rather like the builder of the tower or the king going to war who both must measure their resources and consider their position as Jesus seems to say. Should we give up then? And yet Jesus speaks to ordinary people not to a capable elite but to everyday folk - the crowd of people who were following him. People like you and me.

The book of wisdom points out our weakness. First of all, we struggle even to work out the things of this world with our limited reason our finite nature. Then there is our moral weakness pressing down on our souls. We can see this in the struggle we have to resolve the challenges of our world. We are brilliant at technology and science, yet we cannot feed the world, resolve injustice and poverty with all the great resources that we have. We should recognise that weakness our inabilities and that we cannot manage on our own. But in this marvellous passage of scripture which borders on the New Testament we see the answer to our difficulties: *As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? The answer to the gulf between what Jesus asks and what we are capable of, comes from above, from God: only he can bridge the gap. This is the key insight.*

Jesus's words are radical, yet we must not take them out of the general context of all his other words. The words about family: Jesus is not calling us to literally hate our family. How could he when he said love your enemy? In Matthew's Gospel the expression is whoever loves their family more than me is not worthy of me. When Jesus said "hate your family," he was talking about spiritual detachment, the ability to put God first, before other relationships and before self-interest. Without such detachment, one does not have the ability truly to follow Jesus and we cannot truly love our family. Love for Christ does not exclude the other loves, but rather orders them. Indeed, it is in him that every genuine love finds its foundation and support and the necessary grace to be fully lived out.

So too we must give up possessions. Not in the literal sense of giving everything away although religious do that. Rather we have to be truly detached from them. We have to recognise that possessions are not absolutely ours but rather we are stewards of those things, and they are not the be all and end all of our life. A true detachment is difficult to attain and takes a long time. If there is any possession that we might struggle to give up for Jesus we have not attained true discipleship. So how do we follow Jesus? How can we be a true disciple? How can we take up the cross and head to calvary? Jesus is saying we cannot find the resources here. Our possessions cannot do it. Even our family of itself is incapable of providing the strength. Our own life force is incapable. Yet we love Jesus and want to follow him. So where do we find the materials to build the tower or the troops for the battle? In the humility of our powerlessness, we turn to Christ and his grace. We say only you Lord. In you all things are possible. When we confess, "I can't," then we are open for God's "I can." With God's grace everything is possible. We walk with Jesus to Jerusalem. It does not all happen at once but rather it is a journey of a life time. The tower is not built in a day!



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

4th September 2022
23rd Week of Ordinary Time
Psalter Week 3

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor
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Email: parishpriest@olvic.com
Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432
Parish Website: www.olvic.com
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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: finance@olvic.com
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com
Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Times of Services

Sunday: 23rd of Ordinary Time

Sat. 6.00pm: Phil Danks RIP (Mary)

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Baby William & Mochan Family (Sisters)

4.30pm Rosary

Monday: Feria

9.00am Mass: Private Int

Tuesday: Feria

10.00am Mass: Michael McColgan RIP

Wednesday: Feria

10.00am Mass: Private Int

Thursday: THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10.00am Mass: Anne & Michael O'Keefe (Marlis & John)

with the school

Friday: Feria

2.15pm Funeral Liturgy for Tony Burke

7.00pm Mass: Sr Bernadette int

Saturday: Feria

6.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

Sunday: 24th of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Patricia Pollard - recovery (Joe & Monica)



None of you can be my disciples unless he gives up all his possessions.

CONFESSIONS

11am &
5.15 - 5.45pm
Saturdays

Rosary at 4.30pm - This Week

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 WRITE: Our school will join us for a beginning of term Mass on Thursday. Please note the open morning in the school for new children next year. Please let any Catholic family or friends know about it who may be interested.
Sadly Ginny Hill died unexpectedly. Her funeral took place very quickly and her family took her remains home to America. We will dedicate a Mass to her. We have the funeral of Tony Burke from Kibworth on Friday at 2.15pm. May they both rest in peace.

'GOING DEEPER' Do you want to go deeper into your Catholic spiritual life and prayer life? A monthly 'Going Deeper' gathering will start on Tuesday 20 September at 6.30pm and continue thereafter on the third Tuesday of the month. It will begin in the Kavanagh Room. The main components of the meeting will be: the evening prayer of the Church; discussion of a classic text on prayer by one of the great spiritual teachers, a period of silent prayer. The plan is to finish around 8pm. For more information, email Cyprian Blamires on cpblamires@aol.com or phone him on 01858 468224 or 07714 651756.'

2022 PARISH BAZAAR. PRELIMINARY MEETING

Where: DeTrafford Room (at the top of the Cloister)
Date: Tuesday 6th September. Time: 7.00pm
Although a little late, we will be discussing the possibility of organising our Annual Christmas Bazaar for this year. If you can offer your help, and assistance, please come along. All previous helpers, and new faces, will be made most welcome.
For further information: Tel: Alan Sear 07850-252064



As part of the **HERITAGE OPEN DAYS AT ST BARNABAS CATHEDRAL:** The Friends of the Cathedral will be offering guided tours, an exhibition, access to the crypt and lectures on our 19th century Cathedral designed by Pugin, between Friday 9th and Sunday 18th September. The events provide an opportunity to explore the history, architecture, decoration, furnishings and objects of our Cathedral and to hear about current investigations and plans to restore some of the original decorative schemes. More details are available at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events

SHARE, INSPIRE, SUPPORT is a new series of bi-monthly events from the local Caritas Hub **Caritas Leicester** to help you put your faith into action and make a difference. The first is on **Wednesday 5th October** from 7.00-9.00pm at Saint Thomas More, Knighton Road, Leicester LE2 3HN. Parishioners from Saint Thomas More, and Blessed Sacrament & Saint Peter parishes will share their response to the call to care for creation. All parishioners from Leicester and Leicestershire are welcome. A poster is attached.

THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS: How might our parish respond? If you would like to help the most vulnerable in our communities through the difficult months ahead, Caritas can support you. On **Wednesday 28th September, 7.00 – 8.30pm**, you are invited to an online workshop, which will be an opportunity to share ideas and road-test a toolkit for parish action. Booking is open now for the workshop, and also for the in-person Caritas Assembly on **Saturday 5th November 2022**. If you can't make either date, sign up anyway for ongoing advice, information and networking: visit <https://bit.ly/LoavesandFishes2022>

The **SPANNED Annual Mass** will be celebrated by Bishop Patrick on Saturday 17th September, at 2.30pm, in Saint Peter's church, Hinckley. All are very welcome to attend.

EVENTS FOR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE DIOCESE: Following the great successes of the men's and women's Lenten retreats, and the desire for distinct events focused on fraternity and sorority support in faith, the Diocese of Nottingham has organised events this October for men and women. On **Saturday 8th October** our men's ministry team has organised a walking pilgrimage to the Shrine of Saint Joseph in the Peak District for Men (total 5 mile walk) followed by a pub lunch. On **Saturday 29th October** our women's ministry team will host a talk and discussion at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell (Nottingham) on the role of Women Leadership in the Church, followed by Afternoon Tea. For more information and to book a place visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events, call 0115 953 9841, or email adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk

IRELAND PILGRIMAGES REUNION: Thursday 8th September in Lutterworth. 10.30am Parish mass followed by coffee. Catch up and buffet lunch. parking at the church which is right next to father John Joe's house at 28 Bitteswell road, Lutterworth, LE17 4EY. please tell any former pilgrims who you think might be able to come. Some people may need a lift if you can offer one. See poster in the porch.

KEY HOLDERS: We need to establish a list of key holders to Parish Property. I do not have one. Could those who hold keys to the Church Hall or Presbytery let me know what keys they hold.
Many thanks

CATHOLIC VOICES and WORD ON FIRE are hosting a conference called **Sharing the Church's Story**. Join Catholics who are passionate about the renewal of the Church in the UK, and a host of dynamic speakers including Bishop Robert Barron. This conference is for all: volunteers, parents, catechists, clergy, and religious. The Conference is being held on Saturday 17th September, 10.00am – 6.00pm, at Friends House, Euston Road, London; more details at: www.sharingthechurchsstory.com

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY - New admissions 2023: We are delighted to be holding an Open Morning on Friday the 16th of September to welcome parents / guardians and children who are looking for school places for August 2023. Please come along to see our wonderful school. Refreshments 9 - 9:30am, Welcome from Mrs. Dabbs, Headteacher 9:30, Tours of school 9:45 - 11am. No bookings are necessary; please contact Mrs Liddle at the school office if you have any questions or would like to arrange an alternative time. 01858 465359
office@stjosephs.leics.sch.uk

ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR 2022: In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland, and Wales for the very first time. This very special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes, in a church or cathedral near them. The Relics will be in our diocese on: • Thursday 6th October, in Saint Bernadette's church, Scunthorpe; 8.00am – 5.00pm. • Thursday 6th October – Friday 7th October, in Saint Barnabas Cathedral; 6.30pm (Thursday) – 10.30am (Friday). A preview of the Relics Tour can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PFRMlvD9Ail>, and booking to visit the relics can be made via the link here: <https://stbernadette.org.uk> Do consider coming to this unique spiritual event, giving thanks to God for the miracles of Lourdes, and praying for healing in so many ways in our own lives and in our world.