

The Church is open for Private prayer each day  
Please use the Covid NHS App Q code displayed  
Please wear face masks for the sake of others

#### FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

Today both Peter and Isaiah experience the holiness of God as they are called to their missions, Isaiah as a prophet, Peter as Apostle and then head of the Church. Isaiah has a vision of heaven with the thrice Holy Lord God of Hosts. The repetition expresses an absolute the Holiest. Nothing greater can be said. Peter too is aware of the utter holiness of Jesus after the miraculous catch of fish.

This is the sense of Awe before God. The idea of the Holy is something or someone utterly different, other, separate unspeakably greater and indeed inaccessible to us. In the fourth Eucharistic prayer we praise the God who lives in unapproachable light. So, we note Isaiah's first reaction upon entering the presence of God is awareness of his sinfulness unworthiness and deep humility. "Woe is me, I am doomed!" he exclaims. "Peter says Depart from me, I am a sinful man." They are overcome. This is the sense of awe before God and his holiness that in some way makes us want to withdraw because of God's greatness but at the same time we do not because we are attracted to God and by God.

A religious sense of Awe or fear of God is good. We should have it in Church and at Mass because we are in a holy place and in the Blessed Sacrament, we are in the presence of God himself. We kneel before God in the Eucharistic Prayer much as Peter fell to his knees and we genuflect as we enter Church. Some people like to sit at the back of Church for this reason I hope!! I can remember this experience at a great High Mass when I was young. This has been called the Awesome mystery of God or "Mysterium tremendum". This is important for us all to know and experience. God is infinitely greater than us. But the joy is of course that we can only experience this because God communicates to us or shares something of himself with us. Good Liturgy and Church buildings need to communicate this. We are blessed with such a wonderful Church. Then of course we have our unworthiness because of sin. Peter is a sinful man. Isaiah is from a people of unclean lips. Paul himself is the least worthy Apostle. This sense of sin is again part of authentic religious experience. In God's presence we acknowledge our sins. Thus at the beginning Mass the priest says: *Let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate worthily the sacred mysteries. We recall our venial sins of the week (Serious sins have to be confessed). The eucharist and Holy Communion purifies us of these when we are prepared. Indeed, in the burning coal taken from the altar of God, which cleanses Isaiah's lips of sins, we can see a type and image of the Eucharist, which is also taken from the altar of God, and purifies us of venial sin when it is placed on our lips. The Eucharist is "burning" with the fire of God's love—it is, so to speak, a piece of tissue from the Sacred Heart of Jesus, enflamed with love for the world. It heals us of sin. Pope Francis often mentions medicinal effect of a Good Holy Communion. So as we prepare for Mass we should think about the holiness of God with awe and wonder and recall our sins what we have done and failed to do this last week. We are then in a good state to receive all the graces Our Lord wants to give us.*

Then we will experience that closeness of God to us, his utter nearness as Newman says: Heart speaks to heart. The Wonder of Our Lord who sits down at the table with his followers and gives himself as Body given and blood poured out and like St John, we can lay our heads on his heart in great peace and joy.



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

6th February 2022  
5th Week of Ordinary Time  
Psalter Week 1

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Schools:  
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Parish Accountant: finance@olv.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: 5th of Ordinary Time

6.00pm Mass: Peter Northway RIP (Smrectak)

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am: Mass: Sally Wyatt-McCormack (Goddard)

##### Monday: Feria

9.00am Mass: Richard Kimberlin RIP (Family)

##### Tuesday: Feria

10.00am Mass: November Dead List

##### Wednesday: Feria

10.00am Mass: November Dead List

##### Thursday: St Scholastica

10.00am Mass: Bill Reed - Good health and operation

##### Friday: Feria

7.00pm Mass: November Dead List

##### Saturday: Feria

6.00pm Mass Richard and Gillian Clutterbuck (Colacicchi)

##### Sunday: 7th of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: Dirk de Daken RIP (Sari)

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



*They left  
everything and  
followed him.*

#### CONFESSIONS

11am &  
5.15 - 5.45pm  
Saturdays

**Please pray for Margaret Byrne who died last week. Funeral on  
16th February 11.00am.**

**Also for Andrew Fortnum funeral on 18th February 11.00am**

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

### FR CHRIS WRITES:

We hope to re commence our First Communion group this coming Friday. Please pray for them. The school continues to cope with children of school though the Coronavirus. Please remember them as well. The summary of our Parish Consultation as part of the Universal Synod is available. It contains a summary of themes which emerged in the variety of responses from individuals and groups as well as some quotes from particular responses. It may be that the Holy Spirit speaks through one voice. A small group and then the PPC members looked at all the responses. A summary has also been sent to the Deanery and then the Bishop will discern the Diocesan response.

As a Parish we will draw on these responses to discern a vision and thus a way ahead for our community as please God COVID-19 recedes. Thank you to all for your participation

### COVID 19 AND MASS:

The Government directives have changed and we have received new guidance from the Bishops' Conference. We will be gradually adapting as the Pandemic becomes endemic. However, always in a safer manner as possible. Therefore we will proceed carefully with the transition to a more normal environment. The key protection is to be vaccinated: this means two doses plus a booster for anyone aged 16 or over  
Some Changes

- You no longer need to book for mass. Masks are strongly advised for the sake of other people if though no longer a legal requirement.
- Stewards will no longer direct people to come up for Holy Communion. Simply Our Lady's side will begin and then we will proceed to the Sacred Heart Side. Please come slowly and leave a good space to the person in front – so that they do not feel there is someone breathing down their neck.
- We will maintain alternate benches. However there will be no limits to numbers on a bench though we wish to have a system which acknowledges people's wish to maintain distances. When entering a bench, if you wish to maintain a distance from those following you, please place your Mass/hymn books as far from you as you wish, to indicate your preferred gap. If someone is already in the bench, then watch out for where they have put their books.

**THURSDAY COFFEE** will begin again in the in the octagonal hall on **Thursday 10th February after 10:00 am Mass**. If all goes well it will continue, Please God!

Once again Hand made **Reusable Face masks for Sale**: in Church £2.50 towards Church funds.

**MEN'S AND WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREATS** – The Diocese is organising a retreat for women on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March (at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Nottingham) and a retreat for men on 19<sup>th</sup> March (at the Briars in Crich). The women's retreat will be led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph and will be focused on 'Make the tent you live in larger; lengthen its ropes and strengthen the pegs!' how we live out our faith in all areas of our lives and the people we interact with. The men's retreat will be led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and will take as its theme: 'Friendship with Christ & Friendship in Christ' exploring how we can grow in friendship and fraternity. Please email [adult.format@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:adult.format@dioceseofnottingham.uk) for more information and to book your place.

Also could People bring in their **Red Mission Boxes** for emptying. If anyone would like a box please let myself or Christine Shepherd now.



**DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING** (memorial of Saint Bakhita, 8<sup>th</sup> February): *O God, who led Saint Josephine Bakhita from abject slavery to the dignity of being your daughter and a bride of Christ, grant, we pray, that by her example we may show constant love for the Lord Jesus crucified, remaining steadfast in charity and prompt to show compassion. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Day of Prayer for the Victims of Trafficking is an opportunity to remember and pray for the thousands and thousands of victims of trafficking throughout the world. It coincides with the feast day of Saint Josephine Bakhita who despite the suffering she experienced as a slave was a wonderful witness of how to live a life rooted in faith, inspired by hope and characterized by love. Human trafficking now ranks as the second most profitable worldwide criminal enterprise after the illegal arms trade. The practical response of the Church and its charities, led in the main by Women Religious, is to raise awareness of this horrendous crime and to provide help and support for the most vulnerable victims, working in partnership with the Metropolitan Police Service to raise awareness of the impact of human trafficking in the UK and the rest of the world.

**JUBILEE FOOD BANK:** you are asked to leave food bank items in the trolleys at various supermarkets when you shop. Refill Revolution at the Eco Village, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Both Coop supermarkets, B&M, Nationwide, Coop, Great Glen of <https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk>  
**/Shopping List:** We are out of certain items. We have run out of: Tinned Fruit, Corned beef, Sweet corn. We are very short of: Custard, Pasta sauce, Sugar, We **do not** need more of: Other beans (red kidney beans, chickpeas...) Biscuits,



**YOUR ACTION REQUIRED:** From the Parish Consultation, one of the themes that emerged was the need for good Communication. We realised we need to update the Parish List to build the community through good communication. We have now sent out a letter or email to all who are on the Parish List. **If you do not receive either a letter or email, you are not on the Parish List.** Please pick up a Parish registration form from the Narthex so we have your details or you can email Fr. Chris: [parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com) Please check with any Catholic neighbours or friends to see if they have received the letter or want to be on our Parish List.

**PARISH WELCOMING:** It's a couple of months since we resumed Welcoming at some of the weekend Masses, but currently we only have 3 people on the rota for Sunday 11am Mass, and 5 people for the Saturday evening Mass. We're appealing to any welcomers who maybe didn't see our original email requests or who may now have changed their minds, to consider helping out, and also to anyone else who feels that they would like to volunteer to take part in welcoming their fellow parishioners to Mass. Please do consider helping out if you are able to, and 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](mailto:tootskendrick@sky.com)

**VOLUNTEERING IN SCHOOLS:** There is a Churches Together in initiative to gather volunteers to help in Schools. This is a town wide initiative to mobilise volunteers in all our primary schools. The flyer invites volunteers to complete a simple online form - <https://forms.gle/HTDkPwYxneHq8Rvk9> - and identify which school they want to volunteer with. These will be distributed to the relevant schools at the end of January. See the flyers in Narthex