

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

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

We might say today that Jesus does not mince his words as he speaks. We might call the Beatitudes his core sermon that he must have preached many times and to different people and situations. Today he reveals some of the opposites to the blessings. The woes we call them. He speaks to a great crowd, but Luke tells us he had his eyes fixed on his disciples. **That is us!** His words are straightforward and direct. The Poor are Blessed even in the here and now. *Yours is the kingdom of God. Present tense. This is difficult to grasp as being poor is not good. We are told to help the poor. End Poverty and rightly so! Yet Jesus tells us the poor have an openness to the action of God and his grace. They cannot seek their consolation in what they have as easily as those that are well off. They look for meaning beyond the material. As Jesus fixes his eyes on us he asks us: where do you find consolation? Jesus words indicate a very real danger we have which gives him concern about us. If our consolation is rooted in what we have, then we are in trouble. This is not just possessions, but other worldly concerns as well. As CAFOD put it in their campaign – We must live simply. As Lent is on the horizon we should consider how we can be better rooted in God and how we can be more detached from our possessions. As St Ignatius might put it, we should be indifferent to them. I often think of Tolkien's Lord of the Rings where the possessor of the great Ring of Power is in fact possessed by it. However true indifference must include real simplicity of life. This is because we are one as body and soul. The two go together. The way we live as Christians must look different. Pope Francis reminds us that a way of doing this is of course learning from the poor and needy, sharing their suffering and helping them out in whatever way. The sacrifices we make open us to true consolation that only God can give.*

Jesus also talks about the external signs that are valued by the world: of prosperity, success, having a good time, being popular, satisfying our desires. These will not last. They are false comforts. The circumstances will be reversed; the last will be first, and the first will be last as he says elsewhere. Yet these things are pushed everywhere in our Society from every corner. To live as a Christian, to bring up our children in a true manner takes heroes! People will speak ill of us and they will . "hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man." We will be treated as the true Prophets were. But this is the road to life. We will have suffering now, the full blessings will come in the future with God, though we will enjoy peace of heart here and now. Indeed Jeremiah tells us that with deep insight. In truth, the one who is like a barren bush in a salt waste is the one who trusts in men and natural power ("seeking his strength in flesh"), whereas—despite appearances to the contrary—the one who trusts in the Lord is like a green tree that keeps its leaves and fruit even in time of drought. That is to say the one who trust who draws strength from God as the source of all life will endure the trials with faith hope and love because he looks forward to what is to come to what is eternal and lasts.

And we draw all our inspiration from the resurrection of our Lord as St Paul says: *But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. This is the guarantee of living a poor life, a true Christian life, witnessing to the future when the truth of man and woman will be unveiled. Now it is hidden perceived only by faith. We live out our lives in the light of the Reign of God which is hidden yet present. It is the true reality true success for us we can say. Then after following Christ in life, all good people will share fully in the transforming power of the resurrection. All will be changed and renewed in the New Creation with the Man and woman fully alive with the glory of Christ. Enjoying our fill, laughing and dancing for joy!*



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

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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@olv.com  
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com  
Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

13th February 2022  
6th Week of Ordinary Time  
Psalter Week 2

## Times of Services

### Sunday: 6th of Ordinary Time

6.00pm Mass: Richard and Gillian Clutterbuck (Colacicchi)

9.00am Mass: Dirk de Daken RIP (Sari)

11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish

### Monday: Sts Cyril & Methodius

9.00pm Mass: November Dead List

### Tuesday: Feria

10am Mass: November Dead List

### Wednesday: Feria

11.00am: Funeral Margaret Byrne RIP

### Thursday: Feria

10.00am Mass: Seamus Cafferkey RIP (McGlone)

### Friday: Feria

11.00am:: Funeral of Andrew Fortnum RIP

### Saturday: Feria

6.00pm Mass: Bob Ritchings RIP (Smrectak)

### Sunday: 8th of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Paolo & Giovanna DiCicco RIP



*How happy are  
you who are poor.  
Alas for you who  
are rich.*

### CONFESSIONS

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 highly encourage al to wear masks. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection***

### **FR CHRIS WRITES:**

Dear all, As you may know over the last few years as a Diocese we have been considering the future structures of the Parishes to best serve the pastoral needs of our communities with the number of priests we have. The latest stage was somewhat interrupted by COVID -19. However, things have been happening as Priests retired and some Parishes are now served by one Priest or work together as a team such as Knighton Oadby & Wigston with St John Bosco. As I understand the plan Our Lady of Victories is to remain on its own served by one Priest. However, as I have said previously, we will have to support other Parishes in the future. There will be a deanery meeting or Presentation with the Bishop, Vicar general and representatives from the Parishes in March in which we will hear more.

**MEMORIAL FOR FR OWEN:** A Memorial for Fr Owen has been discussed. Some suggestions have been an inscribed bench, set facing the town or a the planting of trees and a wildflower garden outside the hall would be appropriate incorporating the bench. Another idea is to place a plaque under the memorial to the unborn. Are there any other suggestions? Please let Fr Chris know.

**HELP NEEDED with the accounts:** we need someone with accounting qualifications or bank experience or a director of a company to look at our final accounts at the end of the financial year to check them and sign them off for the Diocese. This normally takes place in May. Please contact Fr Chris.

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 though 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

- From next week you will no longer need to book for mass. The track and trace is not required.
- 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.

**THIRD WORLD GROUP:** Due to the ongoing limitations on social events for fund-raising, our main source of income at the moment is selling items on eBay, but our stock is dwindling. If we are to keep our promises to our beneficiaries we must maintain this activity. Please look through your cupboards, drawers, lofts, even sheds and garages, for good quality items that you no longer need. Clothing is the most popular but anything as long as it is in good condition and still has some value. Our box is under the table opposite the noticeboard in the cloister.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	Feb 12/13	M. Atkins	T. Snell	M. Lane
	Feb 19/20	P. Danks	C. Goddard	J. Bland

**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.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk) for more information and to book your place.

**RETROVAILLE – a lifeline for married couples.** Covid 19 has been a very challenging time for many marriages. Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage, and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme, a virtual weekend between Thursday 3rd and Sunday 6th March, call or text 07887 296983, or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.org](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.org) , or visit: [www.retrouvaille.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.uk)

**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 cf <https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk/>  
**Shopping List:** We are out of certain items. We have run out of: Tinned Fruit, Corned beef, Sweetcorn. We are very short of: Custard, Pasta sauce, Sugar, We **do not** need more of: Other beans (red kidney beans, chick-peas...) Biscuits

**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)