COMPLETE THE SURVEY: HOW HAS COVID-19 AFFECTED YOU AND YOUR FAITH?

Bishop Patrick would like to hear from you! The Diocese of Nottingham has launched a short survey in order to deepen its understanding of Covid-19'simpact on all Catholics across the diocese. Bishop Patrick is eager to know more about peoples' experiences of the pandemic, w

ort

diocese. Bishop Patrick is eager to know more about peoples' experiences of the pandemic, with a view to ensuring that the faithful are well supported and understood in the years ahead. Please visit <u>https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/news/share-your-story-how-has-covid-19-affected-you-and-your-faith</u> and fill out the short questionnaire. Please encourage other parishioners to do so. <u>The deadline for submissions is July 4th 2021</u>.

THE CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CENTRE CHARITY (Stonyhurst): Faith & Reason: A Catholic Integration: Residential summer course exploring the relationship of faith with philosophy, science and culture. Particularly helpful for catechists and teachers fielding commonly-asked questions around Catholicism, as well as anyone wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic Faith. The summer course will Run from 5th – 8th August. For more info and to register please follow the link: <u>https://</u> christianheritagecentre.com/events/faith-and-reason

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY: In today's second reading Saint Paul reflects on his deep desire to be with God in heaven. He has the sense of being in exile. Away from the Lord not quite at home in this world, he yearns to be with the Lord. That word home is powerful for us. Our Lord uses that sense of home when he says at the Last Supper there were many rooms in his Father's house and he's gone to prepare a place for us or we could say a home for us. As Christians, we can never be totally at home in this world because on the one hand we are made for God, and we are restless until we are fully with him and on the other hand we have a world which is marked by sin. So, we can never be totally at peace here. As Saint Paul says we are living by faith and not vision. As I often say at funerals, our life in this world is a taste of heaven especially in family life sanctified by marriage. It is the original sacrament that gives us a participation through faith in the invisible love of God.

We should all have a deep desire for heaven to be with God in the fullness of joy. We see that sometimes in the Saints who seemed to want to die. Saint Paul expresses that as does Saint Ignatius of Antioch who begs the various churches not to put a block on his road to martyrdom in Rome. It is not that they want to die for the sake of it, but they have a burning desire for Christ that seems to consume them. We should ask God to give us such a desire - for the Holy Spirit to burn within us so that we long for the fullness of love in God. I remember a lovely lady of faith at the end of life who I visited in hospital as a young priest. I went to comfort her and to reassure her but found that she was in no way frightened of dying, no reassurance needed! She was ready and at peace and said to my empty words "I am not afraid at all". She died soon afterwards. May we all pray for a peaceful and holy death.

One of the things that frightens us about death is judgement. It might seem strange that Saint Paul speaks about this in the last part of the reading but it is a very important part of being at home and at peace. At that moment, he says, all the truth about us will be brought out into the light. All will be laid bare the good and the bad. We will see ourselves as God sees us in the full truth that only God sees, no more pretending. There can be no pretence before God. We can never be truly at home if we do not face up to the truth. There can be no real peace. And so indeed god's judgement is a true mercy that enables us to come home to God together with the purification and healing of purgatory.

We will face the truth about ourselves in death before God. But it is better to begin that now in the wonderful sacrament of confession where we can bare our soul before the merciful saviour. It is in this sacrament that we can find some true peace in our lives as we relieve ourselves of that heavy burden of sin and guilt. For that reason, it is often called the sacrament of reconciliation or peace. Acknowledging our sins in the here and now through an examination of conscience and confession is the way to remove so much anxiety. Many illnesses or psychological illnesses can have their root in a guilt which need the mercy of God. Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful enkindle in them the fire of your love! Dear Lord you are the way the truth and the life!



Our Lady of Victories

13th June 2021 11th of Ordinary Time Psalter Week 3

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 Schools: Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359. Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057 Parish Accountant: Angela Wade: 0777 322 9041 Parish Gift Aid Organiser: Catherine Parry 01858 434959

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: 11th of Ordinary Time

Sat. 6.00pm: Fr Owen O'Neill RIP (Vanessa & Molly) 9.00am: Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am: Mass: Antonio & Caterina Sellecchia RIP Monday: Feria Private Mass: Fr Owen RIP (Poyser) Tuesday: Feria 10.00am Mass: Fr Owen RIP (Sari) Wednesday: Feria Private Mass: November Dead List Thursday: Feria 10.00am: Jimmy McCann RIP (Sisters) Fridav: Feria 10.00am Mass: Clive & Angela Blencowe (66th Anniv) Saturday: Feria 11.00am - Sacrament of Reconciliation - CONFESSION 6.00pm: First Mass of Sunday 13th June - Private Int (O'Malley) Sunday: 12th of Ordinary Time 9.00am Mass: Gerry White Ints 11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



Also it would be helpful to book for weekdays too, though not necessary at the moment as we are not full.

Booking is now online: <u>www.Massbooking.uk</u> You can sign up there and then book. If you do not have the internet you can ask someone else to book for you, a child or grandchild or ring or email Fr. Chris on 01858 462359 giving your name and phone number. Please see instructions on our website: <u>www.olvic.com/news.htm</u>



It is the smallest of all seeds; yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all.

FR CHRIS WRITES:

I suspect we are all waiting for the Prime Minister's Statement on Monday about whether restrictions will be eased on 21st June as planned. For so many people have their livelihoods and indeed homes at risk. There are many millions in rent arrears and big decisions to make. We need to keep the Pandemic very much in our prayers. The announcement will of course make a difference to our worship in the Parish and indeed to our social life.

We are now celebrating Baptisms. There are many to catch up on and also I have A wedding in July. I am also now beginning to visit the Housebound and we will soon begin our house visits by our Eucharistic Ministers. Market Harborough has a very low case rate of 0-3 people, though within the Harborough district there is an area (Fleckney) which has had some cases.

We are looking forward to two special celebrations: First Communion on Saturday 26th June although it will be limited in numbers. They are making their first confession this week . Please pray for them.

Also, Bishop Patrick is coming to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Monday 5th July for our young people. Please pray for them all that they may all receive a true out pouring of the Holy Spirit.

On Friday Year 5 from school will be joining us for the 10.00am Mass.

The Church is open for Private prayer each day Enter through Fairfield Rd Sanitize your hands on Entry & Exit Please sign in on the list or use the Covid NHS App Q code displayed

<u>PLEASE PRAY</u> for the repose of the Soul of **Marjorie Bennett** who died last week. Her funeral Mass will be on Thursday 24^{th} June at 2.30pm

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE: Friday 2nd July @ 4pm Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church.



The service should have been on the 5th March but had to be postponed due to the Corona Virus lock down. The service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Vanuatu. Theme: Building on a Strong Foundation All Welcome

MARKET HARBOROUGH STREET PASTORS: are back on the streets again meeting "real" people and after a very difficult year, once again being able to bring the life and works of Christ to the people of our town. *The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few! Could this be your calling too? There is a pressing and*



urgent need for more people (like you), to come and help. We need prayer warriors, board members and most of all.....boots on the street. Why not check out our Facebook page and view the new video Or if you are feeling God's calling to come and help, we would be delighted to hear from you <u>www.marketharborough.streetpastors.org.uk</u>. Stephen Morse Administrator 07504 221 696. <u>marketharborough@streetpastors.org.uk</u>

VICTORY PRIZE DRAW: Results of the Prize Draw for June: 1st Prize £70 D Morgan ticket No.38 2nd Prize £30 M Packer ticket No.46 3rd Prize £20 E Kendall ticket No.194



THE GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK On Wednesday 23rd June, the Vigil of St John the Baptist, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. On this month's Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life, we are especially asking you to fast and pray for the end of DIY abortions at home. Please join in and invite others to join as well. <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/121521016724148</u>

SPUC MIDLANDS REGIONAL CONFERENCE SATURDAY 3RD JULY 2021, 10.30am-3.30pm THE BECKET SCHOOL, NOTTINGHAM NG2 7QY Tickets: adult - £5 student/unwaged - £3 family (2 adults and children) - £10. Payment for places and refreshments will be taken on the day (no card payments, so please pay by cash or cheque). Refreshments and lunch available (for a donation). To reserve a place/s at the conference, please register online at https://forms.gle/uBovKgo2YLXX5uoX6 (If you are unable to use the link, email: johnvedwards56@gmail.com or Tel 07757815625) Please see poster for further info. Fr Chris can give you a copy.

<u>CAFOD</u>: Thanks to your support, CAFOD has been helping communities around the world cope with the pandemic. In Zambia, over the past year, we've been able to reach over 1 million people with messages on COVID-19, provide over 13k people with access to safe water, train 392 frontline health workers from Zambia's 11



diocesses on how to prepare and respond to COVID-19 in their local communities AND donate over 1000 handwashing hygiene stations in communities to support handwashing measures. Thank you for standing alongside people in Zambia and for supporting communities in more than 30 other countries worldwide.

'Day for Life' (19/20 June 2021 In 2020 we were unable to hold the annual 'Day for Life' collection because of the pandemic, and so the funds are very much depleted. This fund is used to support 'Pro-Life' organisations who raise awareness and who engage in parliamentary work and pastoral outreach. The Nottingham Pro-life group have benefitted from a grant to support their work. But, in addition, we are also now faced, as you know, with the very real threat of the legalisation of 'assisted suicide' in our country. There is already a Private Members Bill in the House of Lords. Financial resources will be needed to resist this. This year's theme for 'Day for Life' focusses on assisted suicide. There is a second collection next week.

DO YOU HAVE ANY WREN'S IN YOUR FAMILY? I'm not referring to the tiny, feathered variety in the garden but the indomitable ladies who joined the Women's Royal Naval Service. Specifically, ladies who joined up between 1946 and 1981 and did their basic training at Training Depot Burghfield/HMTE Burghfield/HMTE Dauntless/HMS Dauntless/Reading. Dauntless Divisional Photos is a worldwide project, in collaboration with the Association of Wrens, to gather divisional photographs and memories from those training days but also to reunite ladies with old friends, share anecdotes and relive exciting moments. So if you, your mum, granny, aunt, godmother or even next door neighbour donned a blue suit and aimed for a life on the ocean wave, please get in touch on either ddpwrens@gmail.com or telephone 07765 435295/0771 990 9844. Mandy Powell & Janette Crisp