

Just a gentle reminder that the **THIRD WORLD GROUP** is still selling clothes and other items through Ebay to try and maintain donations to our six charities. Please could you possibly make us your first choice Charity Shop at the moment by leaving any unwanted clothing, shoes, books etc in our box in the cloister or arrangements could be made to collect from your home - with strict safety measures in place. Please contact Chris 01536 711560, or Judith or Margaret at church. Many thanks to everyone for continuing to help all those in our world who are so very needy.

#### **FR CHRIS: THOUGHTS ON THE READINGS:**

On this 7th Sunday of Easter as we prepare for Pentecost we listen to part of the great priestly prayer of Christ. This prayer expresses the heart of Christ who give his life for his people - for his friends as we are. The theme of his prayer is truth. In our second reading the theme is love which also appears in the prayer of Christ at the Last Supper in chapter 15. The two are inseparable.

Love is key because God is love. I ask couples preparing for marriage about how they describe God? I often get answers such as infinite, all powerful all-knowing etc but of course the most important thing is that God is love and mostly I need to drag it out of them! What does that say about our teaching and formation as a Church? God desires that we know & share in his love. We come to know God's love in various ways such prayer and our sacramental life. It is there that we come to know friendship toward us and conversation with God is essential. But his love will only be complete in us when we love one another. That is because when we love one another we let his love take possession of us and become part of us. His love is only complete in us when we give it and share it. We truly receive it only in passing it on: Then it becomes part of us and we really appreciate it and come to know it. God lives in us. So, acts of love everyday no matter how small! We could ask ourselves what act of love have I made today?

But our love has to be in the truth to be real love: Caritas in Veritate. Christ prays for this in the Priestly prayer of the Gospel. He prays to his Father that his followers will be true to his name in unity as he sends them into the world as he himself was sent by the Father into the world. And he consecrates himself so that they may be consecrated in truth. He gives his life that we may be made holy by living in the truth. Love has a content and is not a mere feeling without direction. It is not an empty shell to be filled in an arbitrary way. It cannot do what it wants. Love must always seek the true good of the person. Thus Christ died on the cross to keep his followers faithful to the truth. That truth is firstly Christ who is the truth but it takes in the moral law both natural as known by reason and as revealed by God. When love does not consider the truth, it ceases to be love.

Hence, we have the guidance of the Church in these areas as a fruit of the consecration of Christ. We are blessed that we have the Teaching Authority of the Church to guide us along the path of love. In confusion we must always turn to that and take up our cross and follow Jesus. Thus, Jesus also prays that we will be one as He and the Father are one. Truth brings unity. It is the basis for life. Coming back to couples preparing for marriage, I tell them that when I hear the phrase my husband or wife would do anything for me, my instinctive reply is I hope not. I mean by this that we can never do something wrong in the name of love. Love always takes in the truth. It is the solid rock of marriage and any communion of persons: from the family, a society and the world itself. Love in truth and truth in love!

**God bless you and your families! Fr. Chris**



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

16th May 2021  
7th Week of Eastertide  
Psalter Week 3

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor  
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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: 7th of Easter

Sat. 6.00pm: In thanks St Joseph, St Michael & Guardian Angels

9.00am: Mass: Gurmen Sari RIP (family)

11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish

##### Monday: Easter Feria

11.00am Funeral Mass of Jim McCann

##### Tuesday: Easter Feria

10.00am Mass: JoJo & Joe Snr Rooney

##### Wednesday: Easter Feria

Private Mass: For Owen O'Neill RIP (Penney family)

##### Thursday: Easter Feria

11.00am: Funeral of Ann Fagg

##### Friday: Easter Feria

10.00am Mass: Betty Chong RIP (Agatha)

##### Saturday: Easter Feria

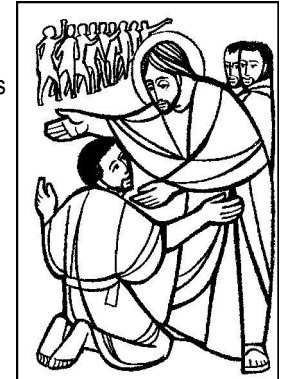
11.00am - Sacrament of Reconciliation - CONFESSION

6.00pm: First Mass of Sunday 23rd May - Marie Mannion RIP (Phil & Chris)

##### Sunday: PENTECOST SUNDAY

9.00am Mass: Desmond Kyne RIP (Sisters)

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



*They may be one  
like us.*

#### **PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST PRE BOOK FOR OUR WEEKEND MASSES:**

*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:** [www.Massbooking.uk](http://www.Massbooking.uk) 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: [www.olvic.com/news.htm](http://www.olvic.com/news.htm)

**2nd Collection for World Communications Sunday** supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN) the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The CCN seeks to be of service both to the Church and the world

**FR CHRIS WRITES:** during these days between the Ascension and Pentecost we “pray fervently for the coming of the Holy Spirit to us whether as individuals, families our Parish and school and Diocese. We particularly pray for our Confirmation group who will be finishing their preparation for confirmation which has interrupted by COVID epidemic. The Bishop will be coming on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate the Sacrament. Please pray for them all and our catechists. And also our first communion group . we are hoping to celebrate this long-delayed day on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

There is also the Catholic Pentecost Novena from Thy kingdom come ecumenical initiative of [www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/resources-catholic-church](http://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/resources-catholic-church) & [Ascension - Pentecost \(mailchi.mp\)](http://Ascension - Pentecost (mailchi.mp)). There are also some prayer booklets available as you leave Church which reflections for each day.

Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your Love!

**SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY:** Today is Safeguarding Sunday, an opportunity to reflect a little on our journey as a diocese to build a safer environment for every person to thrive and flourish. There will be a Pastoral letter from Bishop Patrick.

**FUNERALS** This week we have the funeral of young **Jim McCann** on Monday. Then on Thursday at 11.00am we have the funeral of **Ann Fagg**. If you would like to attend please let Fr Chris know. The funeral for **Theresa James** has now been arranged for Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 11.30am. Please pray for them all and their families.

**THE MONTH OF MAY** Please continue with you Rosaries, in this “marathon” of prayer, to ask for the end of the pandemic, which has afflicted the world for more than a year now, and to ask for the resumption of social and work activities with particular intentions for each day for those affected by the Pandemic. *The initiative takes place under the theme “The whole Church was fervently praying to God,” which recalls a verse in the Book of Acts (12:5).*

Each day will see <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html> broadcast the recitation of the Rosary at 6 PM Rome time(5.00pm UK) from the various Shines taking part in the initiative. Please could we all pray the Rosary each day for this intention. Cf <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/>.

**Prayer intentions for the Particular days this week:** 15<sup>th</sup> May Our Lady Queen of Peace (Bosnia) For all migrants; 16<sup>th</sup> May - St. Mary's Cathedral (Australia) For all victims of violence and human trafficking; 17<sup>th</sup> May - Immaculate Conception (U.S.A.) For all world leaders and for all heads of international organizations; 18<sup>th</sup> May Our Lady of Lourdes (France) For all doctors and nurses; 19<sup>th</sup> May Mother Mary's House (Turkey) - For all people at war and for world peace; 20<sup>th</sup> May Our Lady of Charity of Copper (Cuba) - For all pharmacists and health care personnel; 21<sup>st</sup> May Our Lady of Nagasaki (Japan) - For all social workers; 22<sup>nd</sup> May Our Lady of Montserrat (Spain) - For all volunteers; 23<sup>rd</sup> May Our Lady of Cap (Canada) - For all law enforcement and military personnel and for all firefighters

**PS: The Holy father has asked us to include a Hail Mary for the people of Myanmar.**

**MORE NEWS FROM LACY : CELEBRATING PENTECOST!** Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth extend a warm invitation to all young people, their families and friends to share a Celebration with them on the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, via Zoom at 7.00 p.m. Fr. Simon Gillespie will lead us in the celebration. **Youth is a flame! Youth is a fire! Bring with you a balloon, pen and candle!** Be inspired by The Holy Spirit. See our poster! We're looking forward to hearing from you! Link in details: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84125113074?pwd=VWhYV0RBNmVKMTA2Yy9iK0RkcndQZz09> Contact [claudi-acoxon@googlemail.com](mailto:claudi-acoxon@googlemail.com) or [paulinepayne@hotmail.com](mailto:paulinepayne@hotmail.com) for further information. **All young people under the age of 18 present on Zoom should be accompanied by an adult.**

**KINDLE THE FIRE: PENTECOST ONLINE PRAYER - Saturday 22 May 2021 at 4.00 p.m.** “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.” (Luke 4: 18) Join online prayer for the eve of Pentecost with Bishop Patrick, parishioners and Caritas volunteers from around the Diocese of Nottingham.

We'll be marking the launch of Caritas, the new ministry supporting charitable service in parishes in Nottingham diocese, and justice, peace and care for creation in the wider world. Meet fellow Catholics and find out how Caritas can help you live the Gospel: book your place at [dioceseofnottingham.uk/kindlethefire](http://dioceseofnottingham.uk/kindlethefire).

**BEING A MISSIONARY DISCIPLE** – After the great success of Bishop Patrick's Lent Talks on Discipleship, the Formation for Mission Team are offering two talks on Zoom in May on 'being a Missionary Disciple'. The first talk 'The Ascension & the Great Commission' will be given by Canon Christopher Thomas (General Secretary of the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales) on Thursday 13th May at 7.00pm. This talk will explore the importance of the Ascension and how we can live Jesus final instructions to us. The second talk 'Pentecost & Mission' will be given by Pippa Baker (A Catholic Missionary, Speaker & Musician) on Wednesday 19th May at 7.00pm. This talk will examine the significance of Pentecost for us and how the Holy Spirit equips us for mission in our every day lives. To register visit:

[www.dioceseofnottingham.uk](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**THE WORD AND THE COMMON GOOD:** You are invited to join Catholics from around the Diocese of Nottingham for an interactive online course over six Monday evenings in June and July. As life starts afresh after lockdown, it's a rare opportunity to sow seeds of the Gospel. Discover how Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching can help us seize this moment and build a society that reflects God's Kingdom. Build bridges following a year of social distancing and foster a new 'culture of encounter' Form new friendships, renew old ones, and help to build our parish communities for mission.

The sessions begin on Monday 7 June at 7.00 p.m. for six weeks. To find out more: Visit [dioceseofnottingham.uk/here-now-us](http://dioceseofnottingham.uk/here-now-us) Join an [Open Evening on Monday 17 May](#) Or [book your place today](#).

**THIRD WORLD GROUP REGULAR GIVING** (The Green Envelopes) Last year, when the green envelopes were being distributed, a number of people asked us if they could set up a bank transfer, but, at the time, we thought this was not possible because our funds are held in Market Harborough Building Society. However, we have now been told that payments can be made via the same account into which we make our regular donations to the parish, provided the donor puts THIRD WORLD GROUP in the reference box. This is a Standing Order, NOT a Direct Debit, so you would have full control over the amount and payment dates and intervals.

As you all probably realise, our income has drastically reduced during the past 15 months, just when our beneficiaries need help the most - they have suffered because of Covid19 too, and are situated in countries where vaccinations are scarce if available at all – so, if you are not a member of this scheme yet, please consider joining. Existing members can also change their payment method if they wish. You can set up a donation online or, if you prefer to take instructions to your bank, we can provide a form for this. We just need some very basic details so, anyone considering taking this step, please contact Margaret Atkins: [margaretatkins52@gmail.com](mailto:margaretatkins52@gmail.com) or 01858 446369.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARBOROUGH** are looking for a **secretary** to serve as a member of the Executive, arranging Forum meetings (venue, speaker, agenda, calling notice), acting as a 'point of contact' for the organisation, preparing and circulating a regular information update to members. For further info please contact Fr. Chris