

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:

Today Jesus continues to speak on the beatitudes the great sermon of the Kingdom. He radically renews the Jewish law deepening it and the implications of blessed are the poor, those who mourn, the hungry. He tells us what it means to be a disciple. We said last week how we ought to live according to the Kingdom which only comes in fullness in the future but is present to us through faith and grace which crosses the divide and makes all things possible.

Thus we have the command: *Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. It is a command and not optional for his disciples. It is a key teaching, the summit for which we aim. We surpass the basic do good to those who do good to us or love those who love us. This is what Christ call us to. And yet it exceeds our abilities. We might think about extreme situations in which we might demonstrate this as the martyrs did who forgave and loved their persecutors and executioners. These are romantic dreams though not bad in themselves. However, what Jesus calls to, is to live it in the everyday of our lives. In the petty events of everyday which rankle within us. There is the falling out with a neighbour or when people or even friends gossip about us. Colleagues at work at work seek to undermine us or get ahead of us. It may be simply that somebody has ignored us or we imagine they have ignored us. There are countless examples in everyday life. And what do we do? We seek to get even, to have a little revenge Even if it is only barbed comments. However it can fester away in us and bit by bit we persuade ourselves that we indeed are provoked and indeed justified in seeking to get even. Yet we do justify such things in small ways; a little word spoken here and there, a little gossip spoken in retaliation for some hurt done to us or as is more often the case some imagined hurt. They deserved that we say. David could have felt so justified in our first reading. Saul from jealousy was out to kill him and indeed his followers thought that he should kill Saul when he had the opportunity. They felt that God had put Saul into his hands. He would not do it; he would not seek his revenge because he realised that to God alone belongs justice. It is not up to us to give that sort of justice and balance the books as it were because we will make them evermore unbalanced. When we try to make things even we are taking the power of God to ourselves. David would not do it. And it is not even logical if we think about it. There is too much envy jealous, distrustfulness not to mention hatred violence and injustice. We do not need more of the same but rather more goodness love and forgiveness. This is the only way to change things and this "more" which is beyond our power can only come from God. It came in Jesus who gave the "more" for us by loving his enemies all and sundry unto death to the last drop of his blood. He gives us Divine Mercy and asks us to share it which is the only thing that can overcome enmity by changing the human heart. As Jesus says we must pray for those who do us harm and seek to practice Mercy: *Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure. In the very effort to practice mercy we will be given the gift of it. We will be given the gift of the grace to cross the divide between ourselves and living life according to the Kingdom of God. We become capable of things we never thought we could say or do to love those who do not love us. Who is there in our lives we need to forgive? What hurt rankles in our heart, we need to let go? Who do we feel has let us down? Who have we been cold to?**



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

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Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

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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

20th February 2022
7th Week of Ordinary Time
Psalter Week 3

Times of Services

Sunday: 7th of Ordinary Time

6.00pm Mass: Bob Ritchings RIP (Smrectak)
9.00am Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am: Mass: Paolo & Giovanna DiCicco RIP

Monday: Feria

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Tuesday: Chair of St Peter

10am Mass: Mary Cunningham RIP (anniv)

Wednesday: St Polycarp

10.00am: Mass for Vocations (Catenians)

Thursday: Feria

10.00am Mass: Irma Humes Ints (Marlis & john)

Friday: Feria

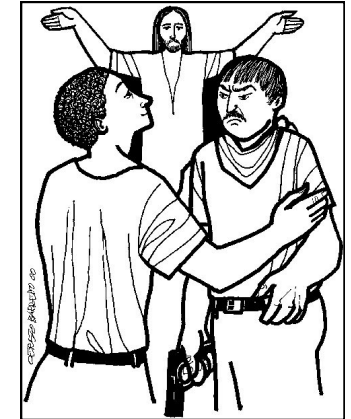
7.00pm: Biddle Family

Saturday: Feria

6.00pm Mass: John Darcy RIP (Darcy)

Sunday: 8th of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am Mass: Brian Maguire



*Be compassionate
as your Father is
compassionate.*

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:

We have a letter from Bishop Patrick this weekend. It consists of an update concerning the reorganisation of our Parish structures for the future which was delayed by COVID. Also an update about the Synod Consultation.

Following Bishop Patrick's Pastoral Letter this weekend, any further Synodal responses, thoughts or reflections can be sent directly to the Diocesan Co-ordinators: Father David Cain (david.cain@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or Joe Hopkins, Adult Formation Director for Mission (joe.hopkins@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Also Shalom World's program, HeartTalk, this Sunday features a **TV Interview with Bishop Patrick**. The bishop speaks about his early life, his mission, his vision, and the ministries he is involved in through our diocese and the wider Church. The interview can be seen on Sunday 20th February, 7.30pm on www.shalomworld.org

Sadly George Cotter died last week. His funeral will be on Friday 4th March at 10.00am. . Also Angela Butlin died on Thursday. May they rest in peace. Condolences to all the families.

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? Also many have mentioned a stained glass window. Please let Fr Chris know.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022 FRIDAY 4 MARCH A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE LOCATION: St Hugh Granville St, LE16 9HF TIME: 2PM THEME: *I know the plans I have for you. This is a special year as the service has been written by the Christian Women from England, Wales and Northern Ireland. All around the World services will be held on this day starting in Samoa and moving on through New Zealand and Australia, across Asia, Africa and Europe and finally the United States and South America before finishing in American Samoa. People meeting together to pray for our nation on this day. Please do try to attend the service in our town prepared by the committee representatives from the local churches. For those unable to attend a Live Link to the service can be found on Parish of St Nicholas and St Hugh, Little Bowden-Home| Facebook*

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 19/20	P Danks	C Goddard	J Bland
	Feb 26/27	C Baldham	C Reed	S McGlone

THURSDAY COFFEE: Thursday Coffee: will continue in the in the octagonal hall on Thursdays after morning Mass.

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 will 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.

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 12th March (at the Double Tree by Hilton, Nottingham) and a retreat for men on 19th 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 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 retrovailleukinfo@gmail.org , or visit: www.retrovaille.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

 **THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**
BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES
News from the Bishop conference can be found at Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales
(cbcew.org.uk) on all sort of areas.