



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

22nd May 2022  
Sixth Week of Eastertide  
Psalter Week 2

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## FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

Once again, we immerse ourselves in the wonderful words of our Lord at the Last Supper. These words bear ongoing meditation. Today very simply he asks us to keep his word. This is the great sign of our love for him in response to his unending love for us. To hear and keep his word, is to receive it and live it and make it our own and thus as Jesus says if we keep his word, he and the father will come to us and make their home in us. Jesus is saying that we will through his word become immersed in the relationship of love that the Father and the Son have. We do that through prayer, listening and reading the Bible, living the commandment of love and our sacramental life. The scriptures especially contain the word of God and that is the word we're called to keep. And indeed Jesus promises us the Holy Spirit as his advocate and our help who will teach us and remind us of all that Jesus said. The Holy Spirit has been given to us in the church to teach us about Jesus' words and keep them alive in our hearts and also to keep us faithful to them through the guidance of the successors of the apostles.

We know from history that people can interpret Jesus' teaching in contradictory ways and indeed from our present experience of disagreement amongst Christians and indeed within the church at times. The present time can bring up new questions which need the guidance of the Holy Spirit to keep us faithful to that word of Jesus. And the question is always: What is faithful to the word of Jesus? We see in our first reading such a question arose in the first community and led to the first council of the Church.

The problem was the arrival of Gentile converts in the early Christian communities particularly in Antioch. The first Christians were of course Jewish but now as Christianity expanded beyond Israel many gentiles had accepted Jesus as Saviour. However many of the Jewish converts thought that they must be circumcised to be saved as well as keeping other rules. They needed to be part of the Jewish people. And indeed some were aggressive in their opinion and disturbing the community. The question was referred to Peter and the elders. A delegation was sent to Jerusalem. The essential question was: what brings salvation? Is it circumcision and keeping the law? They discussed the question and listened and discerned the essential answer which was given by Peter in the end and accepted in silence. The answer is quite simply we are saved by faith in Christ. Through that faith we receive the grace of salvation. Therefore circumcision is not necessary. This is what we might call the dogmatic teaching of the council of Jerusalem. This was accepted by James and the Jewish community. And they expressed this decision with the phrase: *It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these..* We see the guidance of the Holy Spirit teaching the church and keeping it faithful to the word of Jesus. Other matters that the letter refers to are simply disciplinary rules to help the Jews and gentiles live together and is a concession to the Jewish sensibilities.. They are practical things that will soon disappear as the church becomes overwhelmingly gentile. The church has continued to do this through the ages with each council's, which have declared dogmas of faith to keep us united and timebound pastoral measures to keep us living together in bonds of love. This guidance of the Holy Spirit enables us to keep the word of Christ and therefore a communion in his love. What we call the teaching authority of the church is a service to the word of God said that we may know it and keep it and live it. In our confusing times it is a great gift that the church guides us faithfully through stormy waters. And of course the church enjoy the Holy Spirit in all its members with their gifts which brings new life and new understanding of the word of Christ. That would be a matter for further reflection.

## Times of Services

### Sunday: 6th of Eastertide

Sat. 6.00pm: Alex & family Ints (First Communion)  
9.00am Mass: People of the Parish  
11.00am Mass: Nellie & Martin Grogan RIP  
4.30pm: Rosary outside Church

### Monday: Easter Feria

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

### Tuesday: Easter Feria

10.00am Mass: Maureen McCarthy (COX)

### Wednesday: St Bede the Venerable

10.00am Mass: November Dead List

### Thursday: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Solemnity)

10.00am Mass: Greg O'Connor RIP (O'Malley)

Coffee after Mass

7.30pm Personal Int

### Friday: St Augustine of Canterbury

7.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

### Saturday: Easter Feria

6.00pm Mass: Doran Family

### Sunday: 7th of Eastertide

9.00am Mass: Ron Martin RIP (Plowright Family)  
11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



*The Holy Spirit will  
remind you of all I  
have said to you.*

## 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 encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection***

**FR CHRIS WRITES:** On Thursday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension, one of the great Feasts of our Year. St Joseph's will be joining us for Mass at 10.00am. There is also a Mass at 7.30pm. Please pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit for our Parish on the days from the ascension to Pentecost.

Please also keep our first Communion children and their families in your prayers as they prepare for First Communion which will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> June and 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

Also there is an evening presentation in Nottingham on 9<sup>th</sup> June by Fr James Harvey on the Synod. If someone is interested in representing the Parish please let me know by 30<sup>th</sup> May.

Next Sunday is World Communications day and there is a 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for the work of Catholic Media

You will see in the [MESSAGE](#) (cf [NEWS AND MEDIA - CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE](#) [\(cbcew.org.uk\)](#)) from the Bishops of England and Wales that they are reintroducing the Obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days from Pentecost onwards. This was in last week's Newsletter. Of course, Sunday Mass is a joy and something we should feel the need of: to worship God and to receive his grace. It is vital for our lives as Christians and of course a serious duty to God as our Creator, sustainer, and redeemer. I want to remind people, however, that it is a reasonable obligation. As the Bishops say that there can be things that dismiss this obligation such as health, the call of Charity fear for one's health and so on. This has always applied. In our Mass we celebrate together in a most special way as the People of God and the Body of Christ.

Also in this month of May we pray the Rosary for the Family and peace as the Holy Father has asked us to do: specially for the Ukraine and people still suffering from the Pandemic.

**THANK YOU** for supporting the Pro-Life Coffee and Cake sale and to all who baked & bought cakes £207.50 was raised and has been donated to SPUC.

**ANGEL TREE 2021.** Thank you for making Angel Tree a success and for giving hope to parents in prison by helping them to reconnect with the children through the joy of Christmas **2,532** parents in **93** prisons sent **4,624** gifts to the children. The Angel Tree Project is greatly appreciated by prisoners, their families and the staff. Please keep our local prison HMP Gartree in your prayers. Maureen Douglas Angel Tree coordinator.

**CALLING FOUNDATION GOVERNORS** A virtual information session about being a foundation governor in one of our Catholic schools is taking place on **Wednesday 22 June** from 7.00pm – 8.30pm. Please see the poster on the parish notice board. For further information, please contact: Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan Education Service ([julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk](mailto:julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk)). This will be an online introduction.

**The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham** takes place on Saturday 11 June 2022. to pray for vocations, peace in our world, and evangelisation. Join with Bishop Patrick on pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady to pray for vocations, peace in our world, and evangelisation. See Poster for details.

**Our Lady's Flower circle:** We are hoping to restart our rota for arranging flowers in church. If you are interested in helping, would you please contact either Pauline Bebb tel 01858 682897 or Mary Penney 01858 440603

**WELCOMING** Thank you so much to those who have volunteered so far. We are however still short of volunteers to welcome at both the Saturday evening and Sunday 11am Masses. Please do consider helping out if you are able. Please contact Beatrice (01858 465492) or Theresa (07748 591398) if you would like to chat to us about it, or email [tootskendrick@sky.com](mailto:tootskendrick@sky.com) Thank you.

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



Bishop Patrick warmly invites people from across the diocese to Saint Barnabas Cathedral on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** for **HAPPY AND GLORIOUS** a musical celebration to mark the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen. Tickets for the evening are available at [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/jubilee](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/jubilee) Come and join HM's Lord Lieutenant and other guests as we give thanks to God for The Queen. Tickets start at £8.00 and include a glass of wine/soft drink in the beautiful Cathedral gardens during the interval. Doors open at 630pm for a 7.00pm start

#### **MARKET HARBOROUGH EDUCATIONAL TRUST FUNDRAISER:**

Ladies Lunch Returns!!! Ladies Lunch Marston Trussell Hall June 23<sup>rd</sup> 12.30pm £37.50/ticket All money raised to go to St. Joseph's Catholic Academy. For tickets please Contact Kate Crawford Tel 01858 446873 please leave a message if there's no answer

**THE BOWER HOUSE JUBILEE COFFEE MORNING:** Please join us for this special event with cakes, bacon rolls, a huge celebratory tombola and live music at the Market Harborough Theatre. Saturday 21 May 9.00am-12 noon.

**Please pray for Charles Van der Liet who died last week. We pray for all the family on their grief.**

Parishioners can be part of the Church's response by giving to **CAFOD's UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN APPEAL** at [cafod.org.uk/Ukraine](http://cafod.org.uk/Ukraine).



		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
<b>Readers</b>	21/22 May	M. Atkins	T. Snell	M. Lewin
	28/29 May	P. Danks	C. Goddard	R van der Liet

Bookings are now open for the **Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage** – under the leadership of Bishop Patrick, from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July. Full details are on the Tangney Tours website: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/nottingham>, or for more details contact Father Simon Gillespie: [simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Starting this weekend Fr Chris has agreed we can trial a 'get back to normal' experiment for Altar Servers. So, no rota from me until further notice, just come along to whichever mass you want and let's see how we get on. Also, please feel free to come along every weekend, or easy yourself back into things your own way. No pressure, we are just happy to have you back. To keep everyone safe please make sure you are Covid free and if in any doubt leave it until you feel 100%. Thanks again to everyone and Stay Safe. Dave Percival M: 07981 205861 E: [dave.percival@ntlworld.com](mailto:dave.percival@ntlworld.com)