

YOUTH SERVICE: News from our Youth service including applications for the team 21-22. Also very online events every day for children and young people at home on the youtube channel: See [this link](#)

JUBILEE FOOD BANK: The Most Useful Foods Cartons of long life semi-skinned milk, Tinned Meat / Chicken, Instant Mash Potato sachets, Tinned Ham, Porridge Oats, Soap, Shampoo, Tinned Vegetables (potatoes, carrots, sweetcorn), Savoury Crackers
The following supermarkets are still kindly collecting for us: Sainsbury's, Waitrose, B&M and both Coops. Refill Revolution at the Eco Village is our newest donation point. Lidl is on board now too! Thank you to the supermarkets and the work of their teams! We do not need: Beans, tinned tomatoes, tinned fish, soup, fizzy drinks, pasta & meatballs, pasta sauce, rice, cereal, tins or large/family size packets of biscuits.

FR CHRIS: THOUGHTS ON THE READINGS:

Last week we celebrated word of God Sunday and reflected on its power and how indeed the first disciples followed Jesus immediately he called them. We have a further development of Christ's presence as the one who teaches with authority as a super-fulfilment of the promise made to the People of Israel in the first reading - to quote a modern phrase. The people in the Synagogue were used to Rabbis quoting well respected teachers of the past or of the day and thus bolstering their point or teaching. There is of course nothing wrong with that as such. It is done in all walks of life as we draw on good expertise. The great theologians do that drawing on the old to bring our something new or quoting the saints such as St Thomas Aquinas whose feast day we have just celebrated. Jesus's style is completely different. He so often says: you have heard it said (*referring to the Law of Moses*).... *but I say to you*. He makes himself master of God's law and thus Equal to God. The scribes and Pharisees understood the claim Jesus was making. But I doubt the ordinary people had such thoughts. They were just amazed at his personal presence. His utter knowledge of the things of God as coming from a deep and personal intimacy with God. He was at one with God and himself. They were not just truths he uttered but truths that were part of him, that he lived everyday. What he said was who he was unlike the scribes who did not live and put into practice what they said. There was a dissonance in them; they did not ring true. We have to strive as Christians witnesses to ring true. To overcome the dissonance between what we say or believe and how we live it out. How do we do this? This can only come from a daily examination of conscience and bringing that regularly to the Sacrament of Confession. A priest may be better or worse teacher or preacher in line with gifts and talents, his study and prayer and the way he lives out his priesthood but he speaks with an absolute and divine authority when he speaks the words of absolution: I absolve you (set you free from your sins) in name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (as in the same way he consecrates at Mass). He speaks in the person of Christ and thus with the same authority and power of Christ who told the evil spirit to depart. Through the honest regular encounter with Christ in the Sacrament we become able to overcome the dissonance in our lives and so we may please God make "deep impression" on those around us as the light of Christ shines evermore brightly and clearly is us and through us. It is a must for all of us!!



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

31st January 2021
Week 4 of Ordinary Time
Psalter Week 4
Year B

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: 4th of Ordinary Time

Sat 6.00pm: Mass - Fr Owen (Taylor Family)
9.00am: Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am: Mass: Eugene Gatens RIP

Monday: Feria

10.00am Funeral Mass of Mollie Foster

Tuesday: The Presentation of the Lord

10.00am Mass: Robert Lowe Wellbeing

Wednesday: Feria

Private Mass: Dolly Schwarz RIP (McGlone)

Thursday: Feria

10.00am Funeral Mass of Kitty O'Reilly

Friday: St Agatha

Private Mass: Tom Bewick RIP (Sisters)

Saturday: Feria

11.00am - Sacrament of Reconciliation - CONFESSION
6.00pm: First Mass of Sunday 7th February: Mary Marston RIP (Davis)

Sunday: 5th of Ordinary Time

9.00am: Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am: Mass: Fr Owen (Sparks Family)



*He taught them
with authority.*

BOOK NOW

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

TO PRE BOOK TO COME TO MASS:

You can only make your booking on Thursday or Friday evenings between 5pm and 7pm.
(Please note just Thursday and Friday Now)

TO BOOK TO COME TO THE 6PM MASS, please ring Angela Wade on 01858 462293.
TO BOOK TO COME TO THE 9AM MASS, please ring Jo Shellard on 01858 440983.
TO BOOK TO COME TO THE 11AM MASS, please ring Stephen McGlone on 01858 465939.

FR CHRIS WRITES: Dear all, I am delighted to share some good news with you all. We have a new Headteacher to replace Mrs McVea when she moves to Holy Cross, Leicester after Easter. Mrs Bernadette Dabbs who is a parishioner here has accepted the position as our new headteacher. She is from a Wigston catholic family (the Shearers who may be known to some of you) and has worked in various catholic Schools here and around the country. We are truly blessed to have such a successor to build on all that has been achieved by Mrs McVea. I can only say that from my unfortunately limited relationship with the school during the lockdown I am truly impressed with the school community. I was able to enter the school for the first time for the interviews. I look forward to working with Mrs Dabbs as Parish Priest to nourish the Catholic community in Market Harborough through our school family. Many thanks for all your prayers and thank you for the work of all our Governors and Multi-academy trust of St Thomas Aquinas

Our prayers continue too for an end to the pandemic and a successful rollout of the vaccine – for the whole world. We mourn all the dead and pray for all the families affected. We pray that things can be eased in March with our schools beginning to open fully again. Please keep all our teaching staff in your prayers as they teach both those in school and those at home.

Please remember the following:

- You should not turn up for Mass if you feel unwell particularly if you experience a new persistent cough, a high temperature, or a change in your sense of smell or taste.
- All must enter the Church through the through the Fairfield Rd door
- Please come in good time so we do not have large gatherings.
- Please sit where you are shown by the stewards for safety reasons. You can no longer choose which side.
- Our Lady's side to leave by the Coventry Road door and Sacred Heart side from Fairfield road.
- Please do not stop and linger near the doors as this is unsafe and causes a hold up for people leaving.
- Please do not mix with people outside your bubble
- Remember to always keep your 2m distance and remember there is no rush to leave Church

We will continue to review Mass in the light of our local situation.

PS Those of you with internet please print off a copy of the Newsletter for Parishioners who do not have the internet. Paper copies are available at church.

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RECENT DEATHS IN THE PARISH: Please pray for Mollie Foster whose funeral is on Monday 1st February 10.00am died this last week . Kitty O'Neill died on Sunday Morning . Her funeral will be on Thursday 4th February at 10.00am. Also Bernie Spicknell died last week. Her funeral is on Thursday 11th February at 12 noon. On Monday we lost Sheila Plowright a very dear Parishioner and fellow Christian. Her funeral will be on 15th February at 10.30am Please pray for all these wonderful Parishioners. Also please pray for Sean Moore the brother of Fr Michael Moore who died on Wednesday.

NEWS OF FR OWEN: I spoke to Fr Owen on the phone and he is grateful for all our prayers. I shared the Parish news with him and the good News about our new headteacher. May we continue to sustain him with our prayers. We keep a candle lit for him in Church. Here is a suggested prayer to St Therese of Lisieux which you might like to pray: O Little Flower of Jesus, Please ask God today to grant the prayer I now place with confidence and gratitude into your hands (mention your request) and please pick a rose from the heavenly garden, and send it to him with a message of love. Amen. Also the Chaplet of divine Mercy is very powerful.



NOTTINGHAM 40 DAYS FOR LIFE 2021 is a peaceful and prayerful way to work for an end to abortion. In Nottingham Diocese, with the support of Bishop Patrick, we have prayed outside the abortion facility at the QMC during Lent for several years. Routine abortions no longer take place there so last year we prayed at the Stapleford Care Centre, which contains a BPAS abortion clinic, until the Covid lockdown meant that we could no longer pray outside the clinic. We completed the prayer campaign by praying at home.

During Lent from **17th February to 28th March**, people in our Diocese are invited to pray and fast for an end to abortion. We planned to return to Stapleford but are currently prevented from doing so by lockdown (although the abortion clinic continues to see women). So, we plan to start our 2021 campaign online.

You are invited to peacefully pray for an hour or more during a 40-day vigil running for 12 hours daily during Lent. Please **sign up now** to pray with us at 40daysforlife.com/nottingham, or you can contact us at 40daysforlifenootts@gmail.com. Bishop Patrick will celebrate Mass for us on **Thursday 11th February** at the Cathedral at 7.00pm - if you live near Nottingham (and are not in a high-risk category) please do come. You can also follow the Mass online through the cathedral website.

A LETTER TO PARENTS ABOUT OUR NEW HEADTEACHER from Neil Lockyer CEO of our Multi academy Trust

Further to my letter dated 4 December, I am delighted to write to you today to inform you that we have appointed a new Headteacher to take St Joseph's into the next chapter after Mrs McVea leaves at Easter. Mrs Bernadette Dabbs joins the school having both grown up and started her teaching career in Leicestershire. Since then, she has gained tremendous experience working across the country, including in a number of key school leadership roles. Her work has been diverse, expansive and very successful. I am delighted to be able to appoint someone of her experience and expertise to be the educational and faith leader of the St Joseph's community. Mrs Dabbs will be starting at St Joseph's immediately after the Easter holidays, initially for two days each week. She will be at St Joseph's full time from the start of the Advent term after the summer holidays. It is fair to say that Mrs Dabbs is very excited indeed about the opportunity to lead St Joseph's; I know that she will be in touch with you in due course. We pray that her time leading St Joseph's will be blessed, successful and enjoyable. Finally, I assure you that the Executive Team of our Catholic Multi-Academy Trust will support the school fully through this transition. We look forward to working with Mrs Dabbs and the wonderful staff of St Joseph's to continue to give your children the very best education, care and experience of school that we can.