

Once again Hand made **Reusable Face masks for Sale:** in Church £2.50 towards Church funds. We have raised £107.90 so far. Thank you.

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

We have this beautiful Gospel which ends John's story of Jesus. Much has been written about it and we come to it ever anew and it speaks to each of us in a personal way. It is an end which mirrors the beginning of Jesus ministry when he calls his Apostles in the Gospel of St Luke with similar catch of fish and the command to follow him. But a lot has happened in between to the disciples and particularly St Peter! The disciples fail in their fishing expedition and then on Jesus' command they try again and have a miraculous catch and are called to follow him as St Luke relates. The risen Lord now renews his call to his disciples to follow him through St Peter as leader of the Church.

Peter had been with Jesus for 3 years and was full of enthusiasm for Jesus from when he was called as we know but along the way he got a lot of things wrong and so often failed to understand Jesus and not least his triple denial of Jesus which occurred round a charcoal fire outside the house of the High Priest. His encounter with Jesus today is over a charcoal fire. Now there is a new beginning, and it is all a question of love. It is not about going over the past and raking though it. They both know it. But it is about love. The Lord's unbreakable love and Peter's response to it. At the heart of any disciple's life or any Christian life is the question of our Love for Jesus.

On one level, in our English translation, today's Gospel is straight forward. Jesus asks do you love me and Peter says yes I do love you Lord. He declares his love and loyalty after all his failures. He is sorry and wants to start again. This we should always do after our sins and failures. When we have lost faith or hope or drifted away. We should renew our love. The Sacrament of reconciliation is the privileged expression of it and ordinary place for it. All the Lord seems to want is for us to tell him we love him! How well do we do that and how often?

Now Peter is a humbler man than before when he was called by the Sea of Galilee. In the Greek St John uses various words for love. In the first two questions to Peter, Jesus used the word **agape** for Love. This is the self-giving sacrificial love with nothing to gain. Peter replies all three times with the word Phileo which means brotherly love or love of friendship. So Jesus says: will you give everything for me? Peter replies saying I love you with the love of a close friend. The third time Jesus uses the verb Phileo himself. He is saying Are you really my friend? Peter replies saying Yes Lord you know everything you know that I am truly your friend and Jesus receives this declaration of true friendship. It is a wonderful moment. Peter has been through a lot. He is saying I do love you but I was unable to give my life for you by the charcoal fire that day and stand by you at the cross. I could not bring myself to risk all for love of you. Peter is now a wiser and humbler man who had once said I will die for you. He will not claim more than he can deliver or promise. It is rather like that miracle when the father of the possessed boy who had said if you can cure him .. and then said: I believe, Lord ; help my unbelief. Peter is saying something very similar. I love you Lord help my lack of love. What a prayer. Jesus answers his prayer! We can and should be honest with Jesus. We should bear our weaknesses and failure to his heart. That is a good prayer. He will take what we offer but will lead us on to more as he did to Saint Peter when he says to Peter you will be led where you would rather not go. The Gospel writer tells us the words of Jesus referred to his death when indeed he would be crucified like Jesus. Peter I am sure did not understand them then. However, when he was crucified, he would have remembered those words and understood, I am sure. And thus it was that he demanded to be crucified upside down and he still felt unworthy to die like Christ. But he did and at the end he loved Christ and gave his all for him in agape, a full sacrificial love for Jesus.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

1st May 2022
Third Week of Eastertide
Psalter Week 3

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor
Tel: House: 01858 462359
Email: parishpriest@olvic.com
Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432
Parish Website: www.olvic.com
Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Schools:
Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.
Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057
Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com
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: 3rd of Eastertide

Sat. 6.00pm: Boswell Collins family (Katie)
9.00am Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am Mass: Vera Murphy RIP (Crawford)
4.30pm: Rosary outside Church

Monday: St Athanasius

7.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

Tuesday: Sts Philip & James

10.00am Mass: November Dead List

Wednesday: English Martyrs

10.00am Mass: Collette Myers (Winifred)

Thursday: Easter Feria

10.00am Mass: November Dead List
3.30pm Funeral of **Phyllis Edmeads at Kettering Crematorium**

Friday: Easter Feria

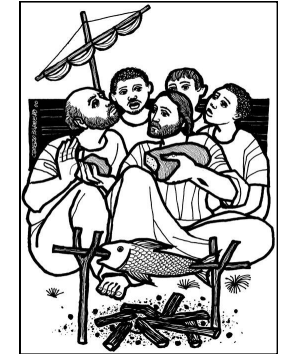
7.00pm Mass: Eugene Gatens RIP (Taylor)

Saturday: Easter Feria

6.00pm Mass: Patricia White RIP

Sunday: 4th of Eastertide - Good Shepherd Sunday

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am Mass: Ann Fagg RIP Anniv (family)



Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish.

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: This weekend our First Communion children for their Service of Light when they will bring their Baptism candles. Please keep them in your prayers. Also our eucharistic Ministers will once again be ministering Holy Communion at our Masses. Please pray for the soul of **Phyllis Edmeads** who died on Wednesday. Her funeral will take place on Thursday 5 May 3.30pm at Kettering Crematorium. May she rest in peace.

On Saturday 21st May 11am until 3:30pm, St Joseph's PTFA will be hosting their summer fundraising event **ST JOE'S FEST** in the school playground (access will be via Nelson Street). Entry is free and there will be lots of great family stalls such as face painting, a tombola and bouncy castle, as well as a BBQ, cake stall and refreshments. There will also be a raffle drawn on the day and raffle tickets can be purchased from the school office in advance or on the day. Please come along and support our fundraising efforts, see the wonderful improvements that have been made recently within our school and socialise with family and friends.

Next weekend we will have the annual **2nd COLLECTION FOR THE CLERGY FOUNDATION FUND** which provides for the formation of future priest and deacons. Priests are formed in Seminaries normally for 7 years now and deacons have a course of 4 years in preparation for ministry.

"I WAS IN PRISON..." on **Saturday 21st May** will be a lively and nourishing day to listen to the lived experience of prisoners and their families, and discover simple ways you can help individually or as a parish. Pact, the Catholic prison charity, are joining forces with Caritas for the conference at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell, Nottingham. The day will include Bishop Patrick, the work of Pact, prison chaplains, and the Welcome Directory. More information at bit.ly/iwasinprison or email parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk

COVID-19: We are now making all the benches available for people to sit on except those under the Choir gallery at the back. These remain for social distancing. A reminder that if you do not want people to sit next to you, please put your Hymn book or mass book on the bench.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN) There are copies of the latest newsletter available in the church entrance, together with the Easter catalogue of items for purchase. ACN is the Catholic charity which supports the faithful wherever they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. The needs of Ukraine and E. Europe are especially highlighted. One way of supporting Ukrainian Christians would be to purchase one or more of the several items in the catalogue made and produced in that war-torn country.

ALTAR SERVERS: I hope everyone enjoyed the Easter celebrations this year, a lot of people put in a lot of effort to bring some sort of normality back to our very special masses. It's always dangerous thanking individuals in case someone is missed off, so I want to thank ALL the Altar Servers, those who helped out, those who offered to stand aside, those with a different job outside of the Sanctuary, and the parents for all their running around and support. 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

JOURNEY IN HOPE is a series for members of parish outreach groups who would like to regroup and explore new mission challenges after the Covid-19 lockdown. Six reflective Eastertide sessions, inspired by Scripture and the writings of Pope Francis, take place on Zoom on Tuesdays at 7.00pm from 3rd May. You can find out more www.bit.ly/JourneyinHopeSessions, and book your place at www.bit.ly/JourneyinHopeZoom

PRO LIFE GROUP are going to host a Sunday Coffee & Cakes after the 11.00am Mass on May 15th in aid of SPUC little feet.

Parishioners can be part of the Church's response by giving to **CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal** at cafod.org.uk/Ukraine. 

A **LGBT+ PASTORAL MINISTRY MASS** will be celebrated by the Bishop on **Saturday 21st May** at 1.00pm in Our Lady and Saint Joseph's church, Matlock (DE4 3NG). All are very welcome.

Inaugurated in 2021 by the Cathedral Chapter and with Bishop Patrick as its President, 'The Friends of **Nottingham Cathedral**' aims to support the work and mission of the Cathedral through prayer, encouragement of social and cultural opportunities, and financially in order to maintain its position as a magnificent spiritual and culture gem at the heart of the city and Diocese. Our Mother Church needs your support. To find out more about the Friends or to become a 'Friend' please email: nottinghamcathedral.friends@gmail.com

PUBLIC PRAYING OF THE ROSARY at Our Lady's Statue outside in front of the church. 4.30-5pm every Sunday. As Catholics we pray the Rosary for cohesion and reconciliation in society, for peace, and freedom. We pray for the people, for the rulers, and for the kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ in society. At the same time always for the freedom of the Church, for the clergy, for the bishops, for the Pope, and in reparation for the sins committed against God Almighty and His Holy Mother. For more details contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115.

Following helpful comments from members of the parish and in keeping with the modern age, **the Third World Group** is planning to change its title to **Aid to Developing Countries.(ADC)**. We would once again like to offer our very deep and sincere appreciation to everyone who continues to support our very needy causes through our envelope scheme and by donating clothes and goods for us to sell (Ebay total is approaching £4000!) We are so grateful that your generous response to our appeals has enabled us to donate some money throughout the pandemic to each of our six charities even though our fundraising events were severely curtailed. Our collection box for donated goods will be situated as usual under the table in the Cloister and will be labelled with our new title. Please continue to help us support the very poor and underprivileged in our world. The new sets of green envelopes will be available to collect from church in the near future. Many thanks from ADC.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	Apr 30/1 May	J. Rowland	D. Chappell	J Bland
	7/8 May	M Mihovilovic	M. Crook	S McGlone

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 Thank you.