

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARBOROUGH EASTER EVENT 2024 WORSHIP AND PRAYER NIGHTS:**

On Good Friday 2024, we will be sharing the full Easter story of Jesus with our community on Good Friday, in ways that are accessible, relevant and fruitful, utilising the creative gifts, skills and talents of the church body in Harborough. To support this event there will be a series of worship and prayer nights, where brothers and sisters in Christ from across the churches in the town gather together to seek the Lord together, to intercede and pray over the town together, and to ask God to move in power at the event itself. Your support and participation in these nights will have a real impact for the Gospel in our town, so please put these dates in the diary and please do all you can to be there and be involved in this exciting work for the Gospel. Thank you. Revd Christopher Brown (Pastor, MHBC).



**WORSHIP AND PRAYER NIGHT #2: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February, 6pm; Location TBC.**

**WORSHIP AND PRAYER NIGHT #3: Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 6pm. Market Harborough Community Church** 121 Bath Street, Market Harborough, LE16 9JL

www.harboroughcommunitychurch.org.uk [officehcc121@gmail.com](mailto:officehcc121@gmail.com); 01858 434906

Leicester Council of Faith is holding a series of **CONVERSATIONS ABOUT CANCER** events where we can come together, in an informal and supportive environment, to talk about cancer, and help Macmillan Cancer Support to work with people affected by cancer. For the first Conversations about Cancer event members from the Christian faith are invited to Sacred Heart Guild Hall, 25 Mere Road, Leicester, LE5 3HS on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February** from 5.30pm for a 6pm start. Bookings are via [projectofficer@leicestercounciloffaiths.org.uk](mailto:projectofficer@leicestercounciloffaiths.org.uk)

Jesus Youth is organising a **YOUNG ADULT'S RETREAT** for those aged 18-23 at The Briars, Matlock (DE4 5BW) on the **weekend of 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> February**. Come join us for this Catholic Youth Weekend, where we'll explore deeper into aspects of Gender and Identity through the core theme for the weekend, the reality that we are 'Created For Love'. To register, visit: <https://forms.gle/2JCX9JWCQRBdi21g7>

**A REGISTER OF CHURCH VOLUNTEERS:** Many thanks to all who have completed their forms. Any last volunteers to fill out your details? Registration forms are now available in the Narthex or by email. Who does this apply to? Really anyone who helps in any way in the Parish! From Church Cleaner, flower arranger reader, Coffee volunteer, church collection Bazaar Offertory PPC, welcomer and so on.. You can also receive the form by email from [parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com) **PS Just one form is necessary for all your roles in the parish.**

READERS			
	<b>Sat. 6.00pm</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
3/4 Feb	M Atkins	S McGlone	C McHugh
10/11 Feb	M Mihovilovic	M Crook	C Goddard
17/18 Feb	N Williamson	D Chappell	B Tyrell
24/25 Feb	C Baldam	M Blake	M Douglas

FINANCE	28 January
Envelopes	£261.50
Loose	£186.73
Standing Order	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£448.23</b>



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor  
 Tel: House: 01858 462359  
 Email: [parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com)  
 Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432  
 Parish Website: [www.olvic.com](http://www.olvic.com)  
 Safeguarding: [safeguarding@olvic.com](mailto: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](mailto:finance@olvic.com)  
 Parish Gift Aid Organiser: [giftaid@olvic.com](mailto: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

4<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time  
 Psalter Week 1

## TIMES OF SERVICES

**Sunday: 5<sup>th</sup> of Ordinary Time**

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

10.00am Mass: Douglas and Eileen Reed RIP

Coffee after Mass

**Monday: St Agatha**

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

**Tuesday: Sts Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs of Japan**

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

**Wednesday: Feria**

9.45pm: Morning Prayer

10.00am Mass: Richard Kimberlin RIP

**Thursday: Feria**

9.30am Mass: November dead List

Coffee after Mass

7.00pm: Holy Hour

**Friday: Feria**

7.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

**Saturday: St Scholastica**

6.00pm Mass: Phil Danks RIP (Mary)

**Sunday: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

10.00am Mass: Sellecchia Family RIP



*He cured many who were suffering from one kind of disease or another.*

**CONFESSIONS**

Sat: 11.00am

5.15pm

**FR CHRIS WRITES:** I attended a lovely Catenian celebration this week. John Masding celebrated 60 years of Catenian membership this year. Congratulations to him and Joan and a big thank you to all the support that Catenians give to the Parishes they are in and to each other in encouragement.



**CONFIRMATION 2024:** We are due to prepare our children for Confirmation. We aim to do this every three years. I am hoping that Bishop Patrick will come in the Autumn in October. I would like to get a group together who might be interested in helping with catechesis, If you would like to help please contact or email Fr Chris. We are also looking for an organiser for this. [Parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:Parishpriest@olvic.com) As for all these roles we need to do a DBS check.

**SPUC White Flower appeal 2023:** the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is holding its annual appeal on 11th of February and there will be a speaker at the end of mass. There will be coffee and cake sale after Mass. Any cakes would be gratefully received. Parish SPUC group.



Also **40 Days for Life** will have a prayerful witness outside the BPAS abortion centre in Aylestone, Leicester from Wednesday 14th February to Sunday 24th March, and we welcome you to join us, to be part of God's work in stopping abortion in our city. You will never be on your own and you can sign up for one hour or two, whenever you are available (even weekends and evenings). Prayer outside an abortion centre can close it down. If you feel called to this special work call Francisca Martinez in confidence on 07943 711549 for an informal chat, or email [leicester40daysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:leicester40daysforlife@gmail.com) You can also directly sign up for hours at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/leicester> The 40 Days for Life Launch Evening is being held on Monday 5th February @ 7.30pm St Edward's Catholic Church 633 Aylestone Rd, Aylestone, Leicester LE2 8TF the speaker is Dr John Edwards.

Also we have very good news that we will begin **our children's liturgy** on the 25th of February at the end of half term. This will be for children who are at school but have not made their first Holy Communion. They will go out from church at the beginning of mass and then come back in when we begin the liturgy of the Eucharist. Many thanks to all our catechists. **There is a form to fill in giving your children's details and your consent from Fr Chris**



**Lent: begins** with Ash Wednesday on 14th February. Mass at 10am(with school) & 7.00pm  
**Walk with me booklets:** These have a meditation for each day to bolster your prayer. Also available are Activity booklets and a calendar for children.

**Stations of the Cross:** 7.00pm on Fridays. Normally followed by Mass

**Holy Hour with Benediction:** Thursdays 7.00pm – 8.00pm with a meditation on next Sunday's readings. This is an opportunity for the most powerful prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, Our Bishop and the Holy Father have called us to adoration before the Blessed, Many graces are received before the Blessed Sacrament.

We have **the following funerals:** **Ann Johnson's** funeral will take place on 22nd February at 10.30am. Also **Theresa Jinks** funeral will be at 4.30pm at Great Glen Crematorium. She is Maggie Spark's sister. May they rest in peace.

**VICTORY PRIZE DRAW:** May I remind you all that those that pay annually your payment is now due cheques made payable to **THE VICTORY PRIZE DRAW and sent to Keith Shiers 23 Fairfax Road Market Harborough LE16 9JT.**

#### **St Joseph's PTFA Bingo Night - Friday 9th February 2024**

St Joseph's PTFA warmly invites the Parish Community to join in with our FIRST bingo night. It will be held in the Octagonal Hall. Doors open at 7pm, eyes down at 7:30pm. Cash prizes to be won, with a TOP PRIZE of £100. Entry is £10 and includes all of your bingo games for the evening. You can pay on the door or buy your tickets from the School Office. Bring your own drinks and snacks. We hope to see you there.

**CALLING CATHOLIC TEACHERS:** *If you are a Catholic teacher currently working outside of Catholic education and would like to find out more about the joys of working in a Catholic school within the Diocese of Nottingham, a virtual information session will take place on **Monday 4 March** from 7.00pm – 8.00pm. Please see the poster on the parish notice board. For further information and to reserve your place, please contact: Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan Education Service ([julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk](mailto:julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk)).*

**YEAR OF PRAYER PODCAST:** This month's episode of Encounter Prayer is now available. We explore a type of Lectio Divina (prayerful reading of the scriptures) with Sean Jinks and Sophie Rimac of the Seven Steps Scripture Sharing Group in Leicester. The Podcasts can be found on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music and Audible by searching Diocese of Nottingham; they are also on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer)

**A REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER, Fifth Sunday of the Year:** The Pope recalled an occasion when someone said to him: "You talk too much about prayer. It is not necessary". The Pope's reply was emphatic: "Yes, it is necessary. Because if we do not pray, we will not have the strength to go forward in life. Prayer is like the oxygen of life. Prayer draws down upon us the presence of the Holy Spirit who always leads us forward. For this reason, I speak a lot about prayer." *To read the full reflection and find more resources at [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer) A prayer sheet is available.*

**Search for the Light is back again this year!** Take some time out this Easter to come to The Briars for an amazing retreat experience. You can come by yourself or with your friends, no parents or teachers needed, and take part in fun activities and opportunities to learn more about and deepen your faith alongside other like-minded young people. This retreat is open to all in years 10 to 13, between **Thursday 28th – Sunday 31st March**, and costs £55 per person (with bursaries through the St Francis of Assisi fund). Get in contact on our Instagram (@NDCYS) or Facebook (NDCYS – The Briars) or call (01773 852044). Also, Applications for **The Briars Team 24/25** are now open! If you are feeling called to a volunteer year at The Briars you can find more information on our website or get in touch with us via any of our social medias @NDCYS or email [programmeleader@ndcys.com](mailto:programmeleader@ndcys.com)