

We have now begun our **Children's Liturgy each week during termtime**. This will be for children who are at school but have not made their first Holy Communion. **Last Children's Liturgy this weekend and will restart on 14th April**
There is a form to fill in giving your children's details and your consent from Fr Chris.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

17th March 2024
 5th Week Lent
 Psalter Week 1

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
 Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449
 Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

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

The latest episode of the **DIocese PODCAST encounter prayer** is now available. The focus this month is on the Our Father. We speak to Father Jan Nowotnik of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and Rebecca Durham of Playing and Praying: both have recently been involved in creating resources to explore the Our Father. You can download or stream it from Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts and more or by visiting www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer

A REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER, Fifth Sunday of Lent: Prayer is not always easy; often it demands of us a struggle with God and a recognition of our weakness and frailty before him and his will. Yet it is precisely in that struggle and in our woundedness that we experience the healing power of grace and grow in faith. Let us pray for the gift always to be open to this encounter with God, to the conversion of our hearts, and to the many blessings the Lord wishes to pour upon us. *To read the full reflection and find more resources at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer A prayer sheet is available.*

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.
WORSHIP AND PRAYER NIGHT #3: Sunday 24th March, 6pm. Market Harborough Community Church 121 Bath Street, Market Harborough, LE16 9JL.
www.harboroughcommunitychurch.org.uk
officehcc121@gmail.com; 01858 434906

	EUCCHARISTIC	MINISTERS	ROTA	
	6 p.m.	10 a.m.		
17th March	S Jones	W Kwacz	K Crawford	P Green
24th March	J Lowe	S McGlone	C McInnes	J O'Leary

READERS	Sat. 6.00pm	Sunday	10.00am	FINANCE	FEBRUARY
				Envelopes	£ 945.98
16/17 Mar	M Atkins	M Lewin	R Lewin	Loose	£1043.68
23/24 Mar	M Mihovilovic	J Thayaseelan	P Green	Standing Order	£3564.50
				Total	£5554.16

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish
 10.00am Mass: Celia Cates RIP (Doreen & Peter)
 Coffee after Mass

Monday: Lenten Feria

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Tuesday: ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9.30am Mass with school—November dead list.
 2.00pm: School Passion Play (Y3&4) all welcome
 6.30pm: School Passion Play (Y3&4) all welcome

Wednesday: Lenten Feria

9.45am: Morning prayer
 10.00am Mass: Private Special Ints (Rita White)
 6.00pm: Children's Stations of the Cross FHC

Thursday: Lenten Feria

9.40am: Rosary
 10.00am Mass: Sylvia Mitchell (KSC)
 Coffee after Mass
 7.00pm: Holy Hour with Stations of the cross

Friday: Lenten Feria

10.00am Mass: November Dead List
 7.00pm: Penitential Service – visiting Confessors

Saturday: Lenten Feria

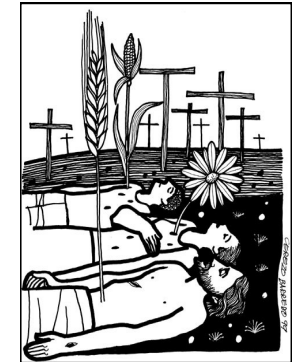
6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

Sunday: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

10.00am Mass: Arthur & Ann Johnson

Please pray for Tom Connelly, Linden Molle and Carmen Wilson who have this last week.

If a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.



CONFESSIONS

Sat: 11.00am
 5.15pm

LENT:

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 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. Many graces are received before the Blessed Sacrament.

OUR ECUMENICAL LENT FRIDAY LUNCH TIME SERVICE at the Methodist Church Northampton Rd on the Fridays of Lent, 30-minute services (12.30pm) **followed by the famous Soup etc,** prepared by our Third World Group. (1.00pm) at the Methodist Church. Services prepared and led by the different churches



THE POPE GOES TO CONFESSION. HAVE YOU THIS LENT? On the **Friday 22nd March 7.00pm** instead of the stations of the Cross, there will be visiting priests available for Confession as well as Exposition of the Blessed sacrament and Benediction. I have asked Fr Jim Cahill Fr Michael Moore and Fr Peter Wade to come for the Confessions. There are confessions every Saturday at 11.00am & 5.15pm



TIMES FOR HOLY WEEK:

We have planned the times for Holy Week
Friday 22nd March . Penitential service with visiting confessors 7.00pm
Palm Sunday Sat 6.00pm & 10.00am (with the blessing of the Palms)
Maunder Thursday 7.00pm with watching till 11.00pm
Good Friday:
Ecumenical Witness: Easter Live on the Square 10.30am
Liturgy of the Passion 3.00pm
Stations of the Cross 7.00pm
Holy Saturday: 11.00am Confessions
12 noon Blessing of easter Food
Easter vigil: 7.30pm – First Mass of Easter: Mother of all Masses
Easter Sunday: 10.00am



WALSINGHAM 2024: Join people from around the Diocese of Nottingham for the annual **Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** Gather together with Bishop Patrick on **Saturday 15th June** at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham as we seek Our Lady of Walsingham's intercession for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and Religious Life in our Diocese.
Could we get a coach together? Please sign up if you are interested

ST JOSEPH SCHOOL NEWS: Our school will be joining us for Mass on 19th March for St Joseph feast day at 9.30am
Also Year 3 & 4 will be performing their Easter Passion of Christ in Church on Tuesday at 2.00pm & 6.30pm. all Parishioners welcome.



CHURCH GIVING: Kate will be at each Mass this weekend with the New envelopes for our giving.

'Do you want to **GO DEEPER** into the treasures of our Catholic faith? Join us on the third Tuesday (**this month that's 19th March**) in the Kavanagh Room 6.30pm to 8pm where we will say Evening Prayer together, discuss a text from St Teresa of Avila (a great teacher of prayer) and share a period of silent prayer together. For more info phone 07714 651756 or email cpblamires@aol.com'

The Diocese of Nottingham is delighted to **offer THREE RETREATS** this Lent. As we celebrate the Year of Prayer and all of us look for ways to grow in our prayer life, a retreat can be a fantastic way. The theme of all three retreats is the **Year of Prayer and Deepening your Prayer Life.** Each retreat day will run from 10am-4pm: **Saturday 23rd March** – Men's Retreat (18+) – Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, Leicestershire (£12). Please see the posters for more information, visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events or email adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk

THE LADIES MIDSUMMER LUNCH in support of Saint Joseph school will be on Thursday the 13th of June 2023 at Marston Trussell Hall at 12:00 – 4.00pm. Tickets are £40. For tickets please contact Kate Crawford 01858 446873.

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 As for all these roles we need to do a DBS check.



ABORTION DECRIMINALISATION PROPOSAL: An amendment has been put forward to the Criminal Justice Bill by pro-abortion MPs which, if successful, would **decriminalise abortion.** This means that it would be possible for women to induce their own abortion, using pills sent through the post, **at any time and for any reason.** In other words, it would be legal to abort an unborn child UP TO BIRTH, if induced by the woman herself. Such a change is not supported by public opinion. Polls suggest that 70% of women would like to see a REDUCTION in the present time limit for abortions (24 weeks) rather than removing all time limits. If passed into law, this radical amendment would increase the number of babies who are aborted. It would also increase the risks to women's health, since these late term abortions would not be carried out under medical supervision but in women's homes. This proposal will be debated in the House of Commons in early March.

Please write now to your MP, asking them to oppose this extreme proposal. You can do this using SPUC's easy to use webtool, at www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments Please also pray for the defeat of this amendment, for protection of unborn babies, and help and comfort for mothers in need.