

WHAT A CATHOLIC BELIEVES AND WHY: Continues Tuesday 17th March: This week: Grace & Beatitudes; Times: Assemble 7.30pm (coffee/tea,) Start 7.45pm (prompt): Finish 9.00pm (prompt). **All welcome**

Ecumenical Events: Easter Live on the Square 3rd April 11-12.30pm Our Good Friday Witness. This Easter, churches from across our town are coming together to make *Easter Live on The Square happen — a vibrant open-air event sharing the Easter story through live drama, music, and a warm welcome in the heart of our community. This is a real opportunity to stand together and serve our town.*

Help Needed: volunteers from across the churches to help with: Set-up and pack-down - Children's activities (DBS required) - Stewarding and security - First aid- Acting roles in the Easter drama. Please click on the link or contact Maureen Douglas: <https://hc.churchsuite.com/events/o7garv4p>

Also Sunday 29th March at 5pm, Harborough Community Church. Prayer session for the Event. All welcome.

All are welcome to join Father Jonathan Cotton in a reflection through slides, music, and prayers of **THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS** on **Tuesday 24th March** in Saint Wilfrid's Church, Coalville LE67 3JB, and on **Thursday 26th March** in Sacred Heart Church, Loughborough LE11 2HE. Both evenings begin at 7.00pm, and conclude at 8.30pm with refreshments.

Bower House The next Bower House fundraising event is a Fashion Show on Friday 27th March at Market Harborough Congregational Church. This will show case lots of lovely clothes at discount prices from High Street Stores such as... Marks and Spencer's, White Stuff, Next, New Look, Asos, Phase Eight, CC, Dash, Monsoon and more! They'll be French and Italian Designs too! Door open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets are £15 and include a glass of bubbles and sweet and savoury nibbles. Please contact Jane on 07708376524 to secure your ticket for a very fun evening

<u>March 2026</u>	EUCCHARISTIC	MINISTERS		
	6 p.m.	10 a.m.		
21/22 March	M O'Malley	C McInnes	J O'Leary	S McGlone
28/29 March	B Phillips	T Page	A Randle	T Ruane
4/5 April	S Jones		J Shellard	M Douglas
11/12 April	J Lowe	K Crawford	P Green	W Kwacz

READERS			
	Sat. 6.00pm	Sunday	10.00am
21/22 March	M. Atkins	C. Sellechia	R van der Liet
28/29 March	J. Rowland	M. Douglas	M. Blake



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

22nd March 2026
5th week of Lent
Psalter Week 1

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor
Tel: House: 01858 462359
Email: parishpriest@olvic.com
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 Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com
Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY: 5th of Lent

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish
10.00am Mass: Gurmen Sari RIP (Agatha)

Coffee after Mass

3.30pm: Rosary outside church

MONDAY: Lenten FERIA

9.00am Mass: Hugh O'Donnell RIP

TUESDAY: Lenten FERIA

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

2.00pm & 6.00pm: School Year 3 & 4 Passion Play(parishoners welcome)

WEDNESDAY: THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

9.40am: Morning Prayer

10.00am Mass: November Dead List

THURSDAY: Lenten FERIA

9.40am: Rosary

10.00am Mass: Monsignor David Forde RIP

Coffee

7.00pm: Confessions Penitential Service.

FRIDAY: Lenten FERIA

12.30pm: Ecumenical Prayer & Lunch

7.00pm Stations of the Cross

7.30pm Mass: Bill Johnson RIP (Cates)

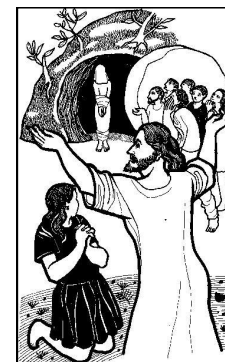
SATURDAY: Lenten FERIA

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

SUNDAY: 6th of Lent - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

10.00am Mass: Matthew Liddle Anniv

Coffee after Mass



*I am the
resurrection
and the life.*

CONFESSIONS
Sat 11 am
5.15am

FR CHRIS WRITES: We are drawing closer to Holy Week and Easter. We have a special opportunity to prepare with the sacrament of reconciliation on Thursday evening with visiting priests. It is a great opportunity to prepare ah ha for the great graces of Holy Week. Do come along and meet the merciful Lord. Even if it is many, many years you will be welcomed with joy!

LENT ACTIVITIES: 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. Many graces are received before the Blessed Sacrament.

Richard (Rick) Wood died on 27th February. His funeral service will take place on Monday 30th March at 2.00pm. We pray for his wife Paula and all the family.

An online **LENT RETREAT WITH NEWMAN**, guided by Father George Bowen, designed to help Catholics to go deeper into the Gospels of Lent through the preaching of Saint John Henry Newman, at: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLITo3ifsRMurBVMGBzCiiUnqrTlusKIA
A **PODCAST** called 'Good Habits', exploring questions of meaning through the wisdom of the virtues, hosted by Father John Church OP (of Leicester Priory) and Fr Toby Lees OP, at: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLITo3ifsRMuqLGc5cGJiy4UT0EGP_hyWe

PRO-LIFE GROUP meet in the Kavanagh room on Tuesday 24th March at 2pm.

LENT LUNCHES: Friday Feb 27th - 27th March. Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church. 12.30pm. A time of prayer (20 mins) followed by Lunch Theme. God's Word: our greatest treasure and our deepest delight. Suggested donation £5
We now have our soup makers and our bakers but we still need more helpers to set up and lay tables, prepare cutlery bundles and clear up, as well as someone to take money at the door. Nothing arduous especially if plenty of people come forward to share the load. See Margaret in the cloister or contact her on 01858 446369; email: margaretatkins52@gmail.com.

THE POPE GOES TO CONFESSION. HAVE YOU THIS LENT? On the **Thursday 26th March 7.00pm** instead of the Holy Hour, there will be visiting priests available for Confession as well as Exposition of the Blessed sacrament and Benediction. There are confessions every Saturday at 11.00am & 5.15pm.



EASTER OFFERING: Traditionally the Easter Offering goes to the Priest of the Parish and forms a major part of his income for the year. Envelopes for the Offering can be found in the Cloister.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Ladies Midsummer Lunch supporting St Joseph's Academy Thursday 18th June 2026. **TICKETS NOW ON SALE.** For tickets please contact Kate Crawford 07814629927.

Diocesan Pastoral plan 2026 to 2030 called "GO MAKE DISCIPLES."

Encounter discipleship and Mission

We hope to begin our response after Easter!

A presentation of the Plan at masses on 18 & 19 April 2026

A Beginning: Where are we as a Parish? Where would we like be?

An initial meeting: Monday 20th April 7.30pm with **representatives from Parish groups & PPC.**

For all Parishioners 6 May 2026 7.30pm in Octagonal Hall;

Please take a summary of the Plan or see all the resources at <https://gomakedisciples.uk/>

Please pray for the Good of our Parish

Go
make
disciples

The Diocese is delighted once again to invite you to a **MEN'S RETREAT** on **Saturday 28th March** between 9.45am and 3.45pm, at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, Coalville. Canon Chris Thomas (Secretary of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales for 10 years) will lead the Day, entitled "Limitless: In the Lenten Gospel readings the Limitless power of God is revealed. In Christ we too can be limitless". The Retreat costs £15 per person; please bring your own packed lunch. All men aged 18 or over are very welcome; to book (by 20th March) visit: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=K0aLivJiz0GWFBy9r3UQDuiJPmfhpEBEo-L5QsatoShUOTNOSThPTzdYV1FXWINEQ0UwT0I2VzM4SC4u&route=shorturl>

The Diocesan Education Service is hosting a Day looking at **GENDER AND FAITH:** Accompanying Young People Well on **Thursday 23rd April** at the Diocesan Centre, Mackworth DE22 4BD. Dr Julia Sadusky will lead the Day, between 11.30am and 2.00pm, which is open to all, especially those accompanying young people at the intersection of questions of embodiment and spirituality. The cost of the Day is £25, and bookings can be made by contacting gill.burns@nottingham-des.org.uk

Safeguarding Sources of Support: Safe Places – a free and independent support service that provides a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with the Catholic Church. Phone 0300 303 1056 Email: safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk **The Bower House – Harborough Christian Counselling Service** offers counselling to those who live in the Harborough District 01858 469257. **NAPAC** offers support and advice to adult survivors of childhood abuse 0808 8010331 **Spiritual Abuse** - www.spiritualabuse.com **Action on Elder Abuse Helpline** – 0808 808 8141

TIMES FOR HOLY WEEK:

Palm Sunday Sat 6.00pm & 10.00am (with Blessing of Palms and Procession)

Wednesday: Chrism Mass 11.30am cathedral

Maundy Thursday 7.00pm

Good Friday:

Ecumenical Witness: Easter Live on the Square 11.00am

Liturgy of the Passion 3.00pm

Stations of the Cross 7.00pm

Easter vigil: 8.00pm – First Mass of Easter: Mother of all Masses

Easter Sunday: 10.00am