



Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Southwell and Calverton

# Our Lady of Victories, Southwell and Saint Anthony, Calverton

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Part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham Diocesan Website: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk)  
Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Company Number: 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449



## 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 : Third Sunday of the Year Sunday of the Word of God

In his Apostolic Letter of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019, *Aperuit illis* Pope Francis established that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be the Sunday of the Word of God. He already proposed something similar at the end of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. It is a day to be devoted to the celebration, study, and spreading of the Word of God. Pope Francis is clear from the very first paragraph of this letter that the relationship between the Risen Lord, a community of believers, and sacred Scripture is essential to who we are as Christians.

The Sunday assembly gathering to celebrate the Eucharist is the unique moment in the week where a community gathers in a particular place and when their communal identity is nourished by Word and Sacrament. An important advance in twentieth-century theological reflection is that every sacramental celebration is founded and constructed upon the Word of God, and that every proclamation of the Word of God is sacramental.



While one might quibble with yet another Sunday being devoted to a particular theme that is superimposed on the liturgical celebration, this Sunday of the Word of God is certainly understood in a different way. It is not a new feast! After all, the Word of God is proclaimed at every Sunday Mass, and one of the great blessings of the liturgical reform and renewal flowing from the Second Vatican Council, is a greater appreciation of the foundational role of the Word of God in every liturgical celebration. The

reform of the lectionary has led to much more scripture being proclaimed during our liturgical gatherings and a greater awareness of the role of the Word of God in the life of faith.

This Sunday builds on the texts and prayers of the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time and is conscious that it comes just after the celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. While we are not yet united around the table of the Eucharist, we do share on many Sundays of the year the same scriptural readings in our different Christian assemblies. Pope Francis urges us to strengthen our bonds with the Jewish people and to continue our prayer for Christian unity.

This Sunday is a time when the community is called to give greater attention not just to the Word of God. It is also urged to reflect on how we honour that Word in our celebrations, the books that we proclaim the Word from. Is the Gospel book carried in procession? Is it a well-made book that shows forth its life-giving content? Is it honoured with incense, and do we sing during the Gospel procession? Are the readers who proclaim the Word formed in the art of proclamation, and the knowledge of what they are announcing?

Pope Francis suggests in his letter that this Sunday is an ideal time to reflect on these issues. For priests, it is also a call to reflect once again on their preaching of the Word of God. This Sunday might be an appropriate time to consider how we use the Word of God in our liturgical celebrations, and perhaps to put into practice something to give special honour to the Word of God, to highlight both its centrality and its importance for the gathered congregation. It might also be a time to consider how we pray with Scripture, for example when praying quietly together in a *lectio divina* style of prayer.

**The Word of God is something alive and active** (Hebrews 4:12)

## **Prayers before Mass : and the Year of the Word**

We continue to pray before Mass the Angelus (in preparation for the Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary) and the Prayer of the Year of the Word. Thanks to those parishioners who have taken it upon themselves to lead these prayers, about five minutes before the Mass is scheduled to begin; it would be good for a parishioner to spontaneously undertake this just before the 9.00am Sunday Mass in Southwell also.

As we continue to celebrate the Year of the Word various initiatives will be suggested over the coming months. Note the Roadshow in Newark during February (details on the next page). We might consider reading the Gospel of Saint Matthew during Lent.

## The God who Speaks : The Year of the Word 2020

As part of the Year of the Word Nottingham Diocese is hosting the National Scripture Tour on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**, from 10.30am, in Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Newark, NG24 4AU. The keynote speaker will be the artist for the Year, Pete Codling. The Scripture Tour aims to bring the Word of God alive. The six themes are:

1. Welcome the Word – welcome tent, resources and other promo resources from the diocese Whoever welcomes you welcomes me... Matthew 10.40
  2. Mary and the Word – all things Marian My soul magnifies the Lord... Luke 1: 46
  3. Seeing the Word – art, culture He has made everything beautiful for its time... Ecclesiastes 3: 11
  4. Exploring the Word – bible studying, going a bit deeper, getting into the Bible Your word is a lamp for my steps... Psalm 118 (119): 105
  5. Sharing the Word - evangelisation/music You will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth... Acts 1:8
  6. Living the Word – social justice Let justice roll down like waters... Amos 5: 24
- For more information visit [www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/)

“Scripture lies at the centre of everything the Church does. This is a great opportunity to attract and encourage more people to read the bible and deepen awareness and understanding. What is your parish doing? Why not organise something yourself? Discuss your ideas and suggestions with your parish priest. ‘The God who speaks’ initiative serves to teach us how important the scriptures are in helping us to encounter God: to hear afresh what he asks of us in our daily lives, and to share with Him our joys, sorrows and anxieties.” *Bishop Patrick*

## Year of the Word : Day of Prayer

The Nottingham Diocesan Spirituality Network are holding days of prayer throughout 2020 entitled : Encounter Jesus and be Missionary Disciples through Saint Matthew's Gospel, beginning at 10.00am with arrivals from 9.30am and finishing at 3.00pm with Liturgy. Refreshments are provided, please bring a packed lunch. All are welcome.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Saint Hugh’s church hall, Lincoln LN2 5AQ**

If parishioners have any ideas about how we might celebrate the Year of the Word in our parish, please speak with Father Simon. It’s hoped to have a spiritual reading of Saint Matthew’s Gospel during the year (perhaps in Lent, or maybe Eastertide) – have a think about other ways in which we might make this year special!

## Changes to Mass times this week

There will be no public Mass on Tuesday; on Thursday Mass will be celebrated at 6.30pm, just before the meeting for parish musicians.

## Parish Meetings

Meetings are being held with the parishioners who undertake some of our parish ministries, so that Father Simon knows who does what. Each meeting will be held in the presbytery meeting room; if you can't make a meeting, let Father Simon know:

- ✘ Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January – 7.00pm – Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- ✘ Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January – 7.00pm – parish musicians

## Forthcoming Events in our parish, community and diocese

**Holocaust Memorial Day** this year falls on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January**. We might pray especially for those suffering any form of racial hatred on this day.

**Inherit the Earth** an open meeting and exhibition launch will be held at Saint Peter's church, Nottingham, on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January** at 6.30pm (with light refreshments from 6.00pm). It will focus on the effects of the Climate Emergency on the people of some of the world's poorest nations, especially Bolivia, and marks the beginning of a three-week exhibition showing the effects of deforestation and global warming. Speakers include Nick Thorley (Christian Aid), Paul Bodenham (Green Christian) and Councillor Sally Longford (environment portfolio, Nottingham City). All welcome.

## Another Day for Catholic Women : Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February

**One Faith: Different Cultures** will be held on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February**, 10.30am – 4.00pm, at Saint Joseph's parish, Leicester LE5 6RA. As with previous events the women speakers share their experience, understandings and vision for our Catholic Church through interviews. The women on 29<sup>th</sup> February are representative of the diverse cultures that make up our universal Church and are currently living here in the United Kingdom. The morning opens with prayer followed by the interviews and concludes with a music meditation. After lunch there is an afternoon of questions and small group discussions inspired by the issues raised during the morning session. The day is open to all women who identify as Catholic, whether or not they are still actively involved in parish life, and we also welcome those who no longer practise

their faith and perhaps feel the Catholic Faith is no longer relevant to them. There is no charge for the day although lunch (soup, rolls, cakes, etc.) is available at £3.50. To book a place telephone 0116 220 7881 or email [Alison.CWS@outlook.com](mailto:Alison.CWS@outlook.com) or [CatherineMaryBrady@gmail.com](mailto:CatherineMaryBrady@gmail.com)

## **World Day of Prayer : Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

A Women Led, Global, Ecumenical Movement, this year the Women of Zimbabwe have prepared the service and they encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years. The service will be held on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March** at 6.30pm in Holy Trinity Church, Southwell. All are invited.

## **Saint John's Passion : Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

J S Bach's setting of Saint John's Passion will be performed by the Cathedral Choir as we begin Lent. Join Bishop Patrick in this Year of the Word event on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March** beginning at 7.45 pm. Experience the spiritual and artistic grandeur of Bach's great reading of Christ's passion in Saint Barnabas Cathedral. Tickets are £16, £12, £10, and available online from [www.nottinghamcathedralmusic.com](http://www.nottinghamcathedralmusic.com) or in person from the Nottingham Tourism Centre. Flyers are available at the back of church.

## **Faith in Action : Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

God is love, and he calls us to love, generously and joyfully. In Nottingham Diocese an opportunity is emerging to respond to that call afresh. The Diocese is on the way to becoming part of the global Caritas network—and if you are a parishioner in the diocese, you will be part of it too. On **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March** from 10.30am until 4.00pm we have the invitation to come to Cathedral Hall in Nottingham and to join with Bishop Patrick, Caritas Social Action Network, the Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission, and people from parishes, chaplaincies and organisations all round our diocese, for a day to:

- ✘ nourish the work we do for the common good
- ✘ be inspired for the adventure of missionary discipleship
- ✘ build our parishes as confident, outward-looking communities
- ✘ make common cause and achieve more together.

To book a place contact Paul Bodenham at [justice.peace@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:justice.peace@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or telephone 07470 907656.

## Pilgrimages by Coach

**Pilgrimage to Lisieux by Coach March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>** Picking up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, the cost is £345 per person. We begin with a visit to Lisieux cathedral, then the basilica dedicated to Saint Therese, to the house where she grew up and to the Carmel where she lived and died; there's also an optional excursion to Hon Fleur.

**Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Nevers by Coach June 13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>** Picking up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, the cost is £595 per person. This price includes coach and ferry travel, overnight stay in Orleans on the way out, full board at the Hotel Irlande in Lourdes, half board in Nevers on the way back; there's an optional excursion to Gavarnie, a ski resort in the Pyrenees.

For more information about either pilgrimage, and a booking form, please contact Father John McCay at [jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk) or 0115 981 0320.

## Churches Together in Southwell : Lent 2020

CTS are running the Superstar programme, an ecumenical Lent course in five sessions. Eight groups will use the York Course written by David Wilbourne, theologian, former Anglican vicar and assistant Bishop of Llandaff. We will explore five themes:

### **Who is Jesus, Miracles, The Psalms, The Church, Cross Purposes**

The course starts in the week commencing Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, and leaflets about the programme, including a booking form, are in the narthex at Our Lady of Victories' church. A contribution of £8 per person is kindly requested; if you wish to be involved please reserve a place before Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

## Cafod : what's happening now?

CAFOD nationally, our own church supporters and the Coffee for CAFOD group have put Catholic social teaching into action all through 2019.

A petition was signed calling on the government to commit to a net zero emissions target and in June it happened. The UK became the first major economy in the world to commit to ending its contribution to climate change. 30,000 of us have followed this up with a further petition calling on the government to put in place urgent and transparent policies to make the announcement a reality. This petition is ongoing and will be handed into the Prime Minister soon.

On 26<sup>th</sup> June 12,000 people, including members of our own community, gathered at Westminster for ***The Time is Now*** mass lobby of parliament to tell our MPs that the climate crisis is not the legacy we wish to leave our grandchildren. 381 MPs attended and we know that we have not been ignored.

In November some of us joined in a ***Faith in Action Day*** to explore the links between faith and politics, reflecting on Scripture and Church Teaching and on what inspires us to act for the common good. The focus was on the document written by the Bishops' Conference in 1996 – **The Common Good and The Catholic Church's Social Teaching**. This publication is available on-line at <https://cbcew.org.uk/plain/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2018/11/common-good-1996.pdf>



In December we sent Christmas cards, messages of support and prayers to environmental and human rights defenders around the world letting them know that we are praying for their safety.

As we enter 2020 the work goes on.

The 2019 UN COP25 climate change talks in Madrid ended with complaints that governments have not shown enough ambition in their commitments to tackle the climate crisis. Countries formally recognised the need to set more ambitious targets for cutting greenhouse gas emissions ahead of COP26 in 2020. But decisions on the final rules underpinning the Paris Agreement were postponed until the next summit, which will take place in Glasgow. CAFOD, as part of the new ***Generations Unite Campaign***, will be asking us shortly to sign a new petition to the Prime Minister requesting that he shows leadership and action in Glasgow

CAFOD wishes to express its thanks to the generous response to the Lent Fast Day 2019 which enabled aid to reach over 1.3 million people in Mozambique and Zimbabwe who were victims of Cyclone Idai. Currently crippling drought and spiralling food prices continue to worsen the food shortages in Zambia and Zimbabwe and millions are hungry. Local Church aid workers have been working around the clock to get food and safe, clean water to communities in need and an emergency appeal has gone out for funds.

Our own community is making efforts to fill the Co-Op's box for plastic waste to send a message to the Co-Op that we want plastic free packaging and the Coffee for CAFOD Group is pleased that donations for refreshments have raised £722 since the group's formation in January 2017. This has been used to create a virtual village and allowed CAFOD to provide items as diverse as bees, latrines and reading schemes.

In support of Cafod's work an extra Urgent Second Collection will be held on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February to help address the food crisis in Zimbabwe and Zambia

## Two interesting news articles about Pro Life issues

*The Church has constantly taught the sanctity of life, from conception to natural death, and this week the film Unplanned has been shown twice in a Nottingham cinema. Here are two news articles which appeared this week, highlighting different aspects of how the sanctity of life emerges in the public sphere:*

An undergraduate student in a midwife program was barred from placement in a hospital, reportedly due to her pro-life beliefs. The decision was overturned last week, but free speech advocates say the case is troubling.

According to The Daily Telegraph, Julia Rynkiewicz, a 24-year-old student at the University of Nottingham, was blocked from entering her program's hospital placement phase, after the university learned of her pro-life beliefs and her leadership in a pro-life student group. Rynkiewicz underwent a "fitness to practice" hearing by the school last Monday. While the university overturned its decision and will allow Rynkiewicz to continue as a midwife student, the investigation and temporary ban from the placement set her back a year in her studies. Concerns were raised by school officials about Rynkiewicz's fitness to practice as a midwife after they saw her tending a booth at a school fair in her position as president for Nottingham Students for Life (NSFL), an approved pro-life student group that supports life from conception to natural death.

Just days after the fair last September, Rynkiewicz said she received a letter from officials at her Midwifery School saying that a formal complaint had been filed against her due to her pro-life activities. The complaint alleged that she had "provided reproductive health advice without the support of a registered midwife and...expressed personal beliefs regarding reproductive sexual health in the public domain (including the press and social media) to the effect that it may create the perception of an impact on patient care," "I think it's important to remember that being pro-life isn't incompatible with being a midwife," Rynkiewicz, who is a Catholic, said. The Abortion Act of 1967 in the UK allows for conscientious objection to abortions for healthcare providers.

Rynkiewicz said she is concerned about what her case could mean for freedom of speech on university campuses. "But (universities) should be a place where we can speak up about your beliefs and debate with people in a civilized way so I'm shocked that this happened." Pro-life advocacy and legal groups spoke out on behalf of Rynkiewicz, arguing for her freedom of speech and right to conscientious objection. "What has happened to Ms. Rynkiewicz is a flagrant violation of her moral and legal right to freedom of expression," said Mark Bhagwandin, senior education

and media officer at pro-life group Life Charity. Laurence Wilkinson, legal counsel at Alliance Defending Freedom International, said that this case “represents a very chilling prospect for freedom of speech on campus. Despite the allegations being dismissed, the practical effect of this investigation is that Julia is now forced to graduate one year later than her classmates. It is to Julia’s credit that she remains absolutely committed to completing her training, caring for women and bringing life into the world, she is now considering her options, as no student should have to go through this daunting process in the absence of clear and compelling reasons.”

Rynkiewicz says that “It all felt a bit ridiculous and I have had to put my life on hold for a year and that’s been frustrating. I have been suspended for almost four months as a result of not being able to attend my placement and been forced to take year-long interruption to my studies. I won’t be back until September and will now be graduating a year later than I wanted to. “I would quite like an apology for everything they have put me through. I feel fine about it all now but I would still like them to apologize as a matter of justice. I suppose that they have realized they have done wrong and (I hope they) will change it so no one else has to go through what I have.”

A spokesperson for the University of Nottingham said that it takes fitness to practice investigations seriously, “to ensure they can provide appropriate and professional advice and care to patients.” The university added that it would be considering ways to help Rynkiewicz reconvene her studies without further delay. “The student’s complaint will be carefully considered while their School is actively considering how they can recommence their studies without delay.”

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President Donald Trump declared 22<sup>nd</sup> January to be National Sanctity of Human Life Day, in a proclamation signed last Monday. “On National Sanctity of Human Life Day, our Nation proudly and strongly reaffirms our commitment to protect the precious gift of life at every stage, from conception to natural death,” Trump wrote in the proclamation. “Every person -- the born and unborn, the poor, the downcast, the disabled, the infirm, and the elderly -- has inherent value. Although each journey is different, no life is without worth or is inconsequential; the rights of all people must be defended,” the president added.

The landmark decision *Roe v. Wade*, which declared a US constitutional right to abortion, was decided on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1973. President Ronald Reagan declared 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1984 to be National Sanctity of Human Life Day, and annually declared a similar day each year of his presidency. President George Bush did the same, as did President George W. Bush. President Donald Trump declared a National Sanctity

of Human Life Day in 2018 and 2019. The president's 2020 proclamation said that the US "must remain steadfastly dedicated to the profound truth that all life is a gift from God, who endows every person with immeasurable worth and potential. Countless Americans are tireless defenders of life and champions for the vulnerable among us. We are grateful for those who support women experiencing unexpected pregnancies, those who provide healing to women who have had abortions, and those who welcome children into their homes through foster care and adoption. "On National Sanctity of Human Life Day, we celebrate the wonderful gift of life and renew our resolve to build a culture where life is always revered."

The proclamation noted a decline in U.S. abortions and the abortion rate since 2007, and a decrease in teen pregnancies, which have contributed "to the lowest rate of abortions among adolescents since the legalization of abortion in 1973." Several state legislative efforts to restrict or prohibit abortion have been challenged in court in recent years, and some pro-life activists predict those judicial challenges could lead to a reversal of the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

## **Pope Francis's message to the World Economic Forum**

*Much of what has been happening in Davos this past week has been reported in the news, speeches from Prince Charles and President Trump especially, but perhaps the intervention of the Holy Father wasn't as widely publicised:*

As the World Economic Forum celebrates its fiftieth anniversary, I send greetings and prayerful good wishes to all taking part in this year's gathering. I thank you for your invitation to participate and have asked Cardinal Peter Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, to attend as the Holy See's representative.

In these years, the World Economic Forum has offered an opportunity for the engagement of diverse stakeholders to explore innovative and effective ways of building a better world. It has also provided an arena where political will and mutual cooperation can be guided and strengthened in overcoming the isolationism, individualism and ideological colonization that sadly characterizes too much contemporary debate. In light of the ever growing and interrelated challenges affecting our world (cf *Laudato Si'*, 138ff), the theme you have chosen to consider this year – Stakeholders for a Cohesive and Sustainable World – points to the need for a greater engagement at all levels in order to address more effectively the diverse issues facing humanity. Throughout the past five decades, we have witnessed geopolitical transformations and significant changes, from the economy and labour

markets to digital technology and the environment. Many of these developments have benefitted humanity, while others have had adverse effects and created significant development lacunae. While today's challenges are not the same as those of half a century ago, some features remain relevant as we begin a new decade.

The overriding consideration, never to be forgotten, is that we are all members of the one human family. The moral obligation to care for one another flows from this fact, as does the correlative principle of placing the human person, rather than the mere pursuit of power or profit, at the very centre of public policy. This duty, moreover, is incumbent upon business sectors and governments alike, and is indispensable in the search for equitable solutions to the challenges we face. As a result it is necessary to move beyond short-term technological or economic approaches and to give full consideration to the ethical dimension in seeking resolutions to present problems or proposing initiatives for the future.

All too often materialistic or utilitarian visions, sometimes hidden, sometimes celebrated, lead to practices and structures motivated largely, or even solely, by self-interest. This typically views others as a means to an end and entails a lack of solidarity and charity, which in turn gives rise to real injustice, whereas a truly integral human development can only flourish when all members of the human family are included in, and contribute to, pursuing the common good. In seeking genuine progress, let us not forget that to trample upon the dignity of another person is in fact to weaken one's own worth.

In my Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'*, I drew attention to the importance of an "integral ecology" that takes into account the full implications of the complexity and interconnectedness of our common home. Such a renewed and integrated ethical approach calls for "a humanism capable of bringing together the different fields of knowledge, including economics, in the service of a more integral and integrating vision" (*ibid*, 141). In acknowledging the achievements of the past fifty years, it is my hope that the participants in today's Forum, and those to be held in the future, will keep in mind the high moral responsibility each of us has to seek the integral development of all our brothers and sisters, including those of future generations. May your deliberations lead to a growth in solidarity, especially with those most in need, who experience social and economic injustice and whose very existence is even threatened.

To those taking part in the Forum I renew my prayerful good wishes for a fruitful meeting and I invoke upon all of you God's blessings of wisdom.

*From the Vatican, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020*

FRANCIS

## Sunday of the Word of God

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – ‘Sunday of the Word of God’ – this Sunday!

By Papal Decree, the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – this year January 26<sup>th</sup> – is to be observed as a special day devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God.

This newly established “Sunday of the Word of God” is an invitation to Catholics across the world to deepen our appreciation, love and faithful witness to God and His Word. Parishes have been invited by the Holy Father to respond with creative initiatives. Two simple suggestions which the Holy Father makes are as follows:

- ✘ To enthrone the Bible in some special way during the Sunday Mass, to emphasise the honour and sacred nature of the text.
- ✘ To encourage parishioners to bring a copy of the Bible to be blessed during Mass on this special Sunday.

During our Sunday Masses this Sunday Father Simon will process the Lectionary into church at the start of Mass. The Lectionary is the book which contains all the breadings used during Mass each day, and is taken exclusively from the bible. Although it’s not a bible, it’s simply the portions of the bible, those readings, which we hear Sunday by Sunday, arranged so that they’re easier for the readers (and the priest!) to find which portion is to be proclaimed on any given day. Imagine, as a reader, coming to the lectern and finding simply a bible and a reference at the start of the reading: it might take some time to find the right place! So the only difference between the Lectionary and a bible is the way in which the texts are presented.

Looking at the second suggestion, how wonderful would it be if every family in our parish brought a bible to Mass on Sunday, for Father Simon to bless? This is a great opportunity for us to be reminded of the importance of having bibles in our homes, and reading them often, even daily. **So, bring your bibles to Mass on Sunday for Father Simon to bless!** There’s no need to read loads and loads; sometimes God speaks to us with just a few simple verses of the bible. However sometimes reading a longer portion of the bible, perhaps the part just before a Sunday reading, can really help to put things into perspective. Don’t forget that not all bibles are the same! Catholic bibles have 73 books (the Protestant reformers got rid of seven books at the time of the Reformation), so if your bible has only 66 books, you’re missing out. Maybe consider buying a new – Catholic – one ...

## Parish Pastoral Council

The PPC is a source of advice and counsel for the parish priest and a forum for debate amongst parishioners about the pastoral activities of our parish. There are now vacancies on this body, which should number 12 members. If you have some time and energy to give to our parish please consider whether you could join the PPC. We will meet and consider areas such as the Year of the Word, evangelisation and ecumenical outreach, pilgrimages, prayer and worship, devotions, charitable activity – all those things that bring us personally closer to Christ, and bring Christ closer to other people. **Speak to Father Simon during January if you're interested.**

## Newsletter via email

If you'd like to receive the parish newsletter by email each Friday, please send an email to the parish secretary, Justine ([olv.rcchurch@gmail.com](mailto:olv.rcchurch@gmail.com)), asking to be added to the circulation list. You can still collect a paper copy at church if you wish, and it will be made available on the parish website also.

## Coffee Rota

Many thanks to our four new volunteers who have come forward to serve coffee after Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Victories church. We now have sufficient volunteers to offer coffee every Sunday, but anyone else who wishes to volunteer will always be very welcome!!

## Sharewear

Clothes are not presently being collected for Sharewear as they are hoping to source their stock in a different way. Thank you for all your previous generous support.

## Saint Vincent de Paul Society : Cash for Coins

The SVP is very grateful for the support of the parish and once again we are asking parishioners and friends for any foreign coins that you might have left over from your holiday or business trips. We would also like any redundant British coins such as old £1 coins, old shillings and pence, as well as redundant foreign coins such as French francs, German marks, etc. There is a container for all your old and redundant coins in the narthex of each church. Thank You!

## Pope's Prayer Intentions for January

**Promotion of World Peace** We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

*Look for an external place or interior space of silence, or at least rather less noise; become aware, as Saint Ignatius always suggested, of the gaze of the Trinity on you and in this world, and on this new year of 2020. Prayer is God's gift to us and, as Saint Paul noted, it's God's Holy Spirit who prays within us, if we're open to that gift. Let God look at you now and let God's Spirit pray within you.*

## Prayers for ...

Please remember in your prayers especially:

- ✘ **Monsignor Joe Phelan**, a retired priest of our diocese, who died on 10<sup>th</sup> January, and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated in Asbhy-de-la-Zouch on 4<sup>th</sup> February: may he rest in peace!
- ✘ **Sister Carmel Fitzpatrick**, a Sister of Mecs in Derby, who died on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: may she rest in peace!
- ✘ **Bobbie (Irene) Thornton**, a parishioner who died recently. May she rest in peace!
- ✘ **Canon David Oakley**, a priest of Birmingham diocese, and presently Rector of Oscott Seminary, who has been named by Pope Francis as the next Bishop of Northampton (our neighbouring diocese). He will be ordained bishop by Cardinal Nichols on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

## Thank You for your Generosity

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January : £141.00

Second Collection for the Sick and Retired Priests of our Diocese : £133.70

## Next Sunday : The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Since 2<sup>nd</sup> February falls on Sunday this year, next week we'll celebrate this beautiful feast of Candlemas, when we remember Jesus' coming into the Temple. Mass begins with the blessing of candles, so if you have any candles at home you wish to have blessed, especially those used for prayer, do bring them to Mass next Sunday!



## A reflection from 'Marriage Matters'

### God has a stake in our marriage

Today, we see two aspects of God's plan for our marriage: '... (I will make) their joy increase' (Isaiah) and 'I will make you fishers of men' (Matthew). God wants us to make our love for each other as close to Jesus' love for us as possible, that all whose lives we touch might experience how much God loves them.

## Readings at Masses this week

Monday	2 Samuel 5:1-7.10; Psalm 88(89):20-22.25-26; Mark 3:22-30
Tuesday	2 Samuel 6:12-15.17-19; Psalm 23(24):7-10; Mark 3:31-35
Wednesday	2 Samuel 7:4-17; Psalm 88(89):4-5.27-30; Mark 4:1-20
Thursday	2 Samuel 7:18-19.24-29; Psalm 131(132):1-5.11-14; Mark 4:21-25
Friday	2 Samuel 11:1-4.5-10.13-17; Psalm 50(51):3-7.10-11; Mark 4:26-34
Saturday	2 Samuel 12:1-7.10-17; Psalm 50(51):12-17; Mark 4:35-41

## Parish Ministries

	<i>This week</i>	<i>Next week</i>
	<b>Third Sunday</b>	<b>Presentation of the Lord</b>
<i>Welcomers OLV 6pm</i>	Bernadette Murtagh Eileen Thomas	Margaret Bell Cathy Smith
<i>Welcomers OLV 9am</i>	Pati Colman	Paul Wilkinson
<i>Welcomers StA 10.45am</i>	Bernadette Carter	Michael Wilkes
<i>Readers OLV 6pm</i>	Barrie Birch	Madeleine Birch
<i>Readers OLV 9am</i>	Pati Colman	Michael Joyce
<i>Readers StA 10.45am</i>	Charlotte Parish	Alex Duffy
<i>Communion OLV 6pm</i>	Cathy Smith Madeleine Birch	Cathy Smith Madeleine Birch
<i>Communion OLV 9am</i>	Mike Asker Theresa Martin	Theresa Martin Mike Asker
<i>Coffee OLV 9am</i>	Catriona Carr Stephen Carr	Mike Asker Marguerite Asker
<i>Cleaners OLV</i>	Mary Joyce	Annabel Kingsbury
<i>Counters</i>	Marie Baldwin	Michael Wilkes

## Masses and Services this week

*C = Saint Anthony's church, Calverton; S = Our Lady of Victories' church Southwell*

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January

C 9.00am Mass

### Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul

For the Unity of Christians

S 5.15pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions

S 6.00pm

Vigil Mass

John and Cora Lynch RIP

### THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January

S 9.00am Mass

### THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Paniz Soltani RIP (Iranian air crash victim)

C 10.45am

Mass

Pro Populo (people of the parish)

S 6.00pm

Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church)

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January

S 9.30am Mass

### Feria

Intentions of Catriona Carr

### Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January

*No public Mass*

### Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas, doctor

### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January

S 9.30am Mass

### Feria

Mozie Mafi RIP

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January

S 6.30pm Mass

### Feria

Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter

### Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January

C 9.00am Mass

### Memorial of Saint John Bosco, priest

Eileen and Barry Thomas RIP

### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February

C 9.00am Mass

### Saturday Memorial of Our Lady

Conor and Angela Clark

### FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

<b>Second Collection : Cafod's Emergency Appeal</b>
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<b>for the food crisis in Zambia and Zimbabwe</b>
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S 5.15pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions

S 6.00pm

Vigil Mass

Vocations to the Priesthood

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

S 9.00am

Mass

### FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Sabina May Crosse RIP

C 10.45am

Mass

Pro Populo (people of the parish)

S 6.00pm

Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church)