



*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)

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**13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 : Fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare Sunday**



*As we remember Mothering Sunday today we might pray for our own Mother, in this world or in the life to come, and remember all those who have a maternal role in our lives, especially our Holy Mother, the Church, and our Heavenly Mother, Mary.*

*Over the season of Lent we have reflections prepared by clergy of Nottingham Diocese to help us reflect on each Sunday's readings.*

Mothering Sunday or Mother's Day. The day when sons forget to send their mother a card and some flowers, and then feel guilty about it, especially if she's upset! But it's also Laetare Sunday. Rejoice! A pause for refreshment in the middle of Lent.

The old tradition for Mothering Sunday extended to honouring Mary, our spiritual mother, and mother of all our brothers and sisters throughout the world, for she gave birth to the light of the world. So it is appropriate that the theme which runs through our readings today is God's light and love and mercy, emphasised by Saint Paul in the second reading and by Saint John in the gospel.

In Christ, divine light and love has come into the world. Sadly, we humans have often shown that we prefer darkness to the light. We filled the twentieth century, and already now the twenty-first century, with conflict, bloodshed and hatred, turning away from our homeless and starving brothers and sisters, turning away from the light and love and mercy of God.



Humanity's fundamental besetting sin is pride and the belief that we are always right. We so often lack the humility to seek forgiveness. I recall a husband and wife who had faced a dreadfully difficult

dilemma and the man sought reassurance that their decision had been the right one. All I could do was to assure him of God's love and forgiveness. To my distress, he cried out: "I don't want forgiveness. I want to know I was right!"

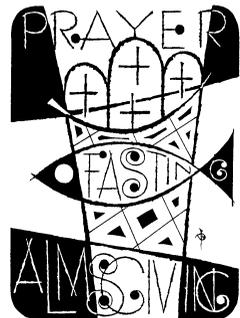
Aren't we all in a similar situation? Don't we want to believe that we are in the right? It takes courage probe our failings and to admit our worst thoughts, our bad actions and desires, even to ourselves. But when we expose the most private depths of our souls to the light of Christ, in his mercy we are wonderfully set free. The truth will set us free.

As Catholics, we are greatly privileged because God has given us, through the Church, the liberating sacrament of reconciliation – confession and absolution. When we open our hearts to God, we are caressed and warmed by his love. The gospels tell us that the loving kindness of God visits us like the dawn from in high – gradually, gently, rather like our journey through Lent as the darkness of winter slowly gives way to the light of spring.

When the light of God's love warms us and enters into our hearts, we find that we are moved to love and serve others, even to become, ourselves, a light in the world, a light for others. A teacher once told his students how to determine the hour of dawn when the night ends and the light of day begins. "The darkness ends when you can look into the face of other people and have enough light in you to see Christ in them and recognise them as your brothers and sisters. Until then it is night and you are still in the darkness."

Sadly, we are always letting God down, but his love will never come to an end. Indeed, God loves us so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have the light of life, eternal life.

What amazing love! Let us rejoice! And on Mother's Day especially, give praise and honour to Mary our mother, now Queen of Heaven and our shining light.



## Holy Week and Easter 2021

Thank you to those parishioners who have sent in suggestions about how we might celebrate the Masses and Services of the Great Week this year. These ideas have been considered alongside the norms laid down by the Holy See for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter this year, the directions from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, the norms of our own Bishop for the Diocese of Nottingham, and the prescriptions in the liturgical books. Clearly, it's not going to be possible to please everyone with so much official direction being given! It is hoped that parishioners are able to be flexible and generous in their response, recognising that Holy Week this year will be different to other years, and that whilst it might not be possible to come to every Mass and Service, there is opportunity for each parishioner to participate at least sometimes, for those who wish to come to church.

- ✘ Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March, Southwell, 6.00pm – **Mass in anticipation of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord** (blessed palms will be available after Mass) – bookings in the usual way from 8.30am on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.
- ✘ Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Calverton, 10.45am – **Mass of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord** (blessed palms will be available after Mass) – bookings in the usual way from 8.30am on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.
- ✘ Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April, Calverton, 7.30pm – **Mandatum Mass of the Lord's Supper** (without the Washing of Feet, Altar of Repose, or the Watching after Mass) – bookings in the usual way from 8.30am on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March.
- ✘ Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, Calverton, 3.00pm – **Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion** (without the individual Veneration of the Cross) – bookings in the usual way from 8.30am on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- ✘ Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, Southwell, 9.00pm – **Solemn Vigil and First Mass of Easter** (without the Liturgy of Light, fewer readings, reduced Liturgy of Baptism) – bookings in the usual way from 8.30am on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- ✘ Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April, Southwell, 8.30am – **Mass of Easter Day** – bookings in the usual way from 8.30am on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March.
- ✘ Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April, Calverton, 11.00am – **Mass of Easter Day** – bookings in the usual way from 8.30am on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

Parishioners are very welcome to book for any of the Masses and Services, on a first come, first served basis. Please note in particular the days from which bookings will be taken, to ensure a fair distribution of opportunities to all parishioners.

**As ever if you have any concerns please get in touch directly with Father Simon.**

## Year of Saint Joseph : Solemnity of Saint Joseph



In this Year of Saint Joseph we reach a highpoint this week when we celebrate the solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of Our Blessed Lady on Friday. This is the perfect time to pray this beautiful prayer for the year, especially if you've not done so yet:

**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.**

**Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.**

**Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.**

*Alongside the two Novenas for Saint Joseph, consider praying the Litany of Saint Joseph over these coming days, and especially on Friday, recognising that Saint Joseph, as Guardian of the Church, can intercede powerfully for each one of us:*

Lord, have mercy on us, *Lord, have mercy.*  
Christ have mercy on us, *Christ, have mercy.*  
Lord, have mercy on us, *Lord, have mercy.*  
Christ, hear us, *Christ, graciously hear us.*  
God the Father of heaven, *have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the World, *have mercy on us.*  
God the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*  
Holy Trinity, one God, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Mary, *pray for us.*  
Saint Joseph, *pray for us.*  
Noble offspring of David, *pray for us.*  
Light of Patriarchs, *pray for us.*  
Spouse of the Mother of God, *pray for us.*  
Chaste guardian of the Virgin, *pray for us.*  
Foster father of the Son of God, *pray for us.*  
Zealous defender of Christ, *pray for us.*  
Head of the Holy Family, *pray for us.*  
Joseph most just, *pray for us.*

Joseph most chaste, *pray for us.*  
Joseph most prudent, *pray for us.*  
Joseph most courageous, *pray for us.*  
Joseph most obedient, *pray for us.*  
Joseph most faithful, *pray for us.*  
Mirror of patience, *pray for us.*  
Lover of poverty, *pray for us.*  
Model of artisans, *pray for us.*  
Glory of home life, *pray for us.*  
Guardian of virgins, *pray for us.*

Pillar of families, *pray for us.*  
Comfort of the afflicted, *pray for us.*  
Hope of the sick, *pray for us.*

Patron of the dying, *pray for us.*  
Terror of demons, *pray for us.*  
Protector of Holy Church, *pray for us.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *spare us, O Jesus.*  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *graciously hear us, O Jesus.*  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *have mercy on us, O Jesus.*  
He made him the lord of his household, *and prince over all his possessions.*

Let us pray: O God, who, in your loving providence, chose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most Holy Mother, grant us the favour of having him as our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our protector: You, who live and reign forever and ever. Amen

## National Novena to Saint Joseph

The National Novena to Saint Joseph will take place from **until 18<sup>th</sup> March** at Saint Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. In this Year dedicated to Saint Joseph, the Mill Hill Missionaries are preparing for the Feast of Saint Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society's missionary outreach, and for the intentions of all those who support their work.

If you wish to join the Masses from home, they will be celebrated on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00am; Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00am; Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

Join in via Zoom or YouTube from the parish website: <https://stjosephsparish.co.uk> or the Mill Hill website: [www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena](http://www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena) where you will also find the Novena prayer leaflet.

Parishioners are welcome to send in petitions by email at: [novenamhm@gmail.com](mailto:novenamhm@gmail.com)

## Another Novena to Saint Joseph

To join in these 'Year of Saint Joseph' celebrations the Diocese has produced a Novena to Saint Joseph leading to his feast day on 19<sup>th</sup> March. The Novena takes as its focus the different groups or causes that claim Saint Joseph as their Patron Saint, as well as the themes of Pope Francis' letter launching the year. The Novena can be downloaded as a whole booklet from the parish website (front page) or email: [adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk) with 'Saint Joseph Novena' in the subject line to receive daily emails with the prayers for that day leading up to **18<sup>th</sup> March**.

## Coming to Mass

Even in the current national lockdown public Mass is available on Saturday in Southwell at 6.00pm and on Sunday in Calverton at 10.45am. Being in a national lockdown we are precluded from any social interaction in or at church (outside of our bubble), but we can come to church with a maximum (including priest and stewards) of 20 people in Southwell and 24 people in Calverton.

To book a place telephone Kathleen and Robert Dixon on 01636 813874, at any reasonable time from 8.30am Monday morning until 4.30pm Friday afternoon; if there's no reply leave a message with your name and number, or try ringing again a few minutes later. Don't use any other number to contact Kathleen and Robert, and please also note:

- ✘ A place needs to be booked for each individual who plans to attend;
- ✘ You'll be asked to provide a telephone number, to be passed onto Public Health England if needed as part of the 'Test and Trace' system;
- ✘ Sunday Masses bookings can be made during the preceding week only.

## What to expect when coming to Mass

In order to comply with the Bishop's guidelines on celebrating Masses in the covid-19 period there'll be some differences in that way we come to Mass and the way Mass is celebrated. Please follow these directions, and recognise that those asking you to follow the directions are volunteers themselves:

- ✘ Please don't attend if you show any symptoms of covid-19;
- ✘ Try to arrive no earlier than half an hour before Mass, and no later than ten minutes before Mass, to allow time for each person to enter one-by-one;
- ✘ Enter via the car park and follow the one-way signs, waiting by the 2 metre markers in front of the church door if others have arrived before you;
- ✘ Ensure you bring a mask to wear throughout the time in church, except when receiving Holy Communion; the mask should be worn so as to fully and snugly cover the wearer's mouth and nose;
- ✘ Please use the hand-sanitiser (provided) on arrival;
- ✘ Please take one of the Mass Sheets, and a Newsletter, and take them home with you after Mass;
- ✘ Put your weekly offering into the basket in the narthex;
- ✘ There won't be any holy water available, the repository will be closed, and there are no Catholic papers currently available;

- ✘ Please sit on the seat to which you are directed, following the one-way system; seating is at two-metre intervals (in Southwell couples can sit next to each other, and families in a single pew; in Calverton the chairs have been laid out singularly);
- ✘ Please avoid any contact with other parishioners; don't speak unless necessary;
- ✘ Only the disabled toilet will be available for use, and only if absolutely necessary. If you do use the toilet, please do so before you are seated, and then go to your seat (in Southwell, by exiting the hall lobby, walking around the side of the church, and re-entering the church through the main door, following the one-way system);
- ✘ Windows and some doors will be open to enable as much ventilation as possible;
- ✘ The Mass Sheet will explain the changes in the way Mass is celebrated, especially:
  - There will be no congregational singing;
  - Responses will be made with quiet voices;
  - There will be no ministries (eg altar servers, readers) during Mass;
  - There will be no sign of peace;
- ✘ After Mass you will be invited to receive Holy Communion; then exit the church following the one-way system, out into the car park, and leave immediately.
- ✘ Since it is not permitted to gather publicly please ensure that you don't linger in the car park after Mass, tempting as it is to chat with fellow parishioners!
- ✘ As the weather is now cooler please dress appropriately for the weather and temperature.

## NHS Covid-19 App and the QR Code in Church

If you have a smart-phone please scan the QR code as you come in to either church, enabling you to 'check in' and assisting with the Government's Track and Trace system. Please note this is in addition to booking a place at Mass, and not instead – please continue to book for Mass as well!

## Covid Precautions : A Reminder

- ✘ An effective vaccine is the best way to protect people from coronavirus and will save thousands of lives.
- ✘ Following extensive safety trials and authorisation by the independent medicines' regulator, the MHRA, effective COVID-19 vaccines are available in the UK for free.
- ✘ It is essential that everyone continues to stay at home if possible whether they have had the vaccine or not to protect the NHS and save lives.

Follow the link to make a vaccine booking if you are aged 60 or older:

**[https://www.swiftqueue.co.uk/nottinghamc19vpatient.php?fbclid=IwAR0nHe0lfONdVaFT8vwQIDjb5UQJ0\\_DQbEjxdLAKEdqdeGIHHATF35ENOEI](https://www.swiftqueue.co.uk/nottinghamc19vpatient.php?fbclid=IwAR0nHe0lfONdVaFT8vwQIDjb5UQJ0_DQbEjxdLAKEdqdeGIHHATF35ENOEI)**

## Ways to continue to participate in the life of the Church

The **readings and prayers for Mass** each day can be found here:

- <https://universalis.com/europe.England.nottingham/mass.htm>

**Daily Mass** is broadcast from our Cathedral in Nottingham at the following times:

- Sundays and Saturdays: 10am; Weekdays: 1pm

The link to the televised Mass is here:

- [http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01\\_Community/livestream.html](http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01_Community/livestream.html)

**Daily Mass** is broadcast from the National Shrine and Minor Basilica of Our Lady in Walsingham each day at 12 noon:

- <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>

**Sunday Mass**, celebrated by Bishop Patrick, will be broadcast from his chapel at Bishop's House each Sunday at 10am, and other days and times during the week:

- [www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3Kl8GD79FotjQ/featured?fbclid=IwAR1JRpqkdOOrHZY98bsnSC\\_N9TKbvSKXv0L5bT4yVCcMTHaVmAwaW4g-rAk](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3Kl8GD79FotjQ/featured?fbclid=IwAR1JRpqkdOOrHZY98bsnSC_N9TKbvSKXv0L5bT4yVCcMTHaVmAwaW4g-rAk)

**Resources for children and young people** can be found via the Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service's (NDCYS) website:

- <https://ndcys.com>
- <https://www.youtube.com/ndcyslive>

There are ideas for **children's liturgy** on Cafod's website:

- <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

## Pope's Prayer Intention for March

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

## A reflection from 'Marriage Matters'

### Called to be a 'sign'

The world often ridicules marriage saying 'it's just a piece of paper', but Scripture draws attention to God's powerful message. Saint Paul says: "We are God's work of art; created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning He had meant us to live it." Let us shine out so the world sees what it's missing.

## A Spiritual Communion

Spiritual Communion is the heartfelt desire to receive Our Lord, even when we are unable to do so. If you are live-streaming the Mass, or praying the texts of the Mass, when it comes to the time for receiving Holy Communion pray instead the prayer:

### *From Saint Alphonsus Liguori:*

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as being already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

## Prayer during the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

## A Prayer to my Guardian Angel when I can't get to Mass

Dear Guardian Angel, go for me to the church, there kneel down at Mass for me. At the Offertory, take me to God, and offer him my service: what I am, what I have, offer as my gift. At the Consecration, with your seraphic strength, adore my Saviour truly present, praying for those who have loved me, for those who have offended me, and for those now deceased, that the blood of Jesus may purify them all. During Holy Communion, bring to me the Body and Blood of Jesus uniting him with me in spirit, so that my heart may become his dwelling place. Plead with him, that through his sacrifice all people throughout the world may be saved. When the Mass ends, bring home to me and to every home, the Lord's blessing. Amen.

## The Year of the Word

The Year of the Word has been extended to continue through 2021, and so we can continue to pray the Prayer for the Year day by day:

Living God, you walk alongside us and speak to us throughout the Scriptures.  
Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears  
and shows us how to live for one another.  
Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds  
so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world. Amen.

V. Your word is our path and your truth is our light. R. This day and every day.

Our Lady of the Annunciation : Pray for us.  
Saint Matthew : Pray for us. Saint Jerome : Pray for us.

Another initiative for the Year of the Word is a **Weekly Scripture Webinar**. The Dominican Sisters of Saint Joseph lead a weekly webinar on Wednesdays at 7.00pm looking at the coming Sunday's Gospel. To join with this webinar either follow on Facebook or register at: [https://ffm.clickmeeting.com/wednesday-gospel-webinar/register?\\_ga=1.124092682.1222817271.1481139698](https://ffm.clickmeeting.com/wednesday-gospel-webinar/register?_ga=1.124092682.1222817271.1481139698)

## Bishop Patrick's Lenten Talks

You are invited to join Bishop Patrick and people from across the diocese this Lent in reflecting on our relationship with God. To be a disciple of Jesus means to know and love him, but to also know we are known and loved by him too. Bishop Patrick will give a further talk on Zoom exploring God's Love for us and how we can respond to it.

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March, at 7pm** Knowing the Love of God (understanding our identity as God's sons and daughters)

The talk will include input from Bishop Patrick, a time for questions and answers, and small group discussion. You can register at: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk)

## Cafod actions in Lent

- ✘ **Walk for Water this Lent:** [cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-for-Water](http://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-for-Water)
- ✘ **Lent Calendar:** [cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent-Calendar](http://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent-Calendar)
- ✘ **Spring Raffle 2021:** [www.raffleplayer.com/cafod](http://www.raffleplayer.com/cafod)

## From Christians Together in Calverton

We are planning to record a Calverton blessing song during Lent for release at Easter. This is the link to the music and CTC wonder if you anyone who might like to record themselves singing might want to do so and send the recording of that to add it in. A couple of points to note:

- ✘ individuals should record themselves singing with headphones rather than the music as well that will help put it together;
- ✘ individuals should be recorded singing as a video not just an mp3 (audio) file;
- ✘ This initiative is open to all to join in with, not just those who live in the Calverton portion of our parish.

The link is:

<https://1drv.ms/u/s!Ak4lK6SEmZ51kHGyFXDFzJMox7OK?e=OLCaXA>

And here's a link to a YouTube video of the original UK Blessing for inspiration:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtl3mNj5U>

## Forthcoming and On-Going Events

**Grief and loss workshops, Tuesday mornings, 10.00am.** These workshops are an opportunity to understand more about grief and loss and its impact, particularly as a result of the covid-19 pandemic. There will be time to share, discuss and look at ideas for ways that you could support those in your community helping them to remember those who have died and opportunities they have lost, with more love than pain and to live fully in the face of that loss. The workshops are provided online for free by the ecumenical partnership Transforming Notts Together. They come highly recommended by parishioners of our diocese who have attended them, and have kindly been made available to Catholics throughout our diocese. Find out more and book your place, or watch the video below for more information:

<https://transformingnottstogether.org.uk/areas-of-work/grief-bereavement-befriending>

**Making Active Nonviolence our Way of Life:** An introduction to non-violence from a Catholic perspective, from **Tuesdays in March** at 7.00pm. The Pax Christi group in the Leeds Diocese have organised this course of five weekly evening sessions to explore the new thinking in the Catholic church engendered through the Catholic Nonviolence Initiative of Pax Christi International. To book a place visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/making-active-nonviolence-our-way-of-life-an-introductory-course-tickets-136279127539>

## More Forthcoming and On-Going Events

**Creating the new normal; Thursdays, 7.30pm-9.00pm.** FaithJustice are hosting a new series of discussion for young adults (18-40), focusing on the current time of crisis and exploring what kind of world we want to create in coming weeks and months. Over the last year the pandemic has forced us into a different way of life, we have had to live differently, and inevitably many of us have begun asking big questions. Creating the New Normal provides a space for young adults to listen to each other and to share how they are thinking and feeling.

<https://faithjustice.org.uk/creating-the-new-normal>

**Global Healing – How our faith helps us to care for our common home.** On six Thursdays 7.30pm – 8.30pm from **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February** until 25<sup>th</sup> March; and a further session on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April**.

In 2015, Pope Francis published his ground-breaking letter on the environment *Laudato Si'*. Since then, millions of people worldwide have joined the global movement to address the environmental crisis our world is facing. We are invited to join a series of reflective evenings with inspiring speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film-based resource Global Healing. These engaging documentaries inform and challenge us to respond to Pope Francis' call to care for Our Common Home. Suitable for all who are concerned about what is happening to our world and who want to take action. To register follow this link:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvcOuuqzsvEtMBwz2hxBzhhvwy0hcgyoEb>

**Here: Now: Us** Missionary disciples for a post-Covid world: a three-part programme

In 2021 here in the Diocese of Nottingham, we're launching a new scheme to help you put your faith into action, bring Catholic social teaching to life in your neighbourhood, and build your parish into a confident, outward-looking community when the pandemic subsides. We have teamed up with the national charity Together for the Common Good (T4CG). Here: Now: Us is a three part programme which fosters lay leadership for Catholic social action. Here: Now: Us will lay foundations for our Caritas network, in your parish and in the diocese as a whole.

In *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis says: 'The essential vocation and mission of the lay faithful is to strive that earthly realities and all human activity may be transformed by the Gospel.' Here: Now: Us will help you take up that great challenge and invitation. To sign up, visit:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScf7sjc\\_m1WvDYkcRRH\\_hjVU4bBiGJSL\\_agCrDYDv1Q1ZgaMQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScf7sjc_m1WvDYkcRRH_hjVU4bBiGJSL_agCrDYDv1Q1ZgaMQ/viewform)

Prepare the Future: workshop 4 **Building parishes of welcome, listening and hope**, on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March** from 3.00pm until 4.30pm, via Zoom. People from about 20 parishes gathered for the last Prepare the Future workshop; they found it so useful that the diocese was asked to make it a regular thing. Among the issues to be covered at the workshop are:

- ✕ Establishing a telephone befriending service
- ✕ Developing a toolkit to help navigate safeguarding, data protection and other parish requirements
- ✕ Building a new census or database for the post-pandemic missionary parish
- ✕ Reaching out with minority ethnic and diaspora communities in our parishes
- ✕ Exploring a model for mutual aid and practical support for families and individuals, rooted in Catholic social teaching

To sign up visit:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfSgiK58D411dE8yp1SrQL8NAZmkZAnD16eEyUw4GYsyeRsw/viewform>

**Dementia Prayer Week** will be held from **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March**. Frances Molloy, of the Pastoral Care Project, is leading the initiative; and more information and resources can be found at:

<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/dementia-prayer-week>

The **Marriage Encounter** experience is normally available as a residential or non-residential weekend but in response to the ongoing restrictions of the covid pandemic, it is now available as a live, on-line experience. The experience is an opportunity to learn from couples who are willing to share their personal journeys and tools for reclaiming the spark and living in love together. Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) offers an experience that helps couples to listen, share and connect more deeply; for over 50 years it has helped millions of Catholic couples and others, throughout the world, unlock the power of their relationships.

There is no group discussion, it is just about the couple learning to be the best, most loving couple they can be. The new format has proved popular, especially with younger couples and is being rolled out during 2021, the first was in January and is followed by **20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> March and 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May**. To book or to find out more information about WWME follow the link: [www.wwme.org.uk](http://www.wwme.org.uk)

**Chrism Mass** This year the Chrism Mass will be closed to the public, with only priests invited to attend. The Mass will be live streamed on **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March** at 11.30am, and can be watched via the Cathedral website: [stbarnabascathedral.org.uk](http://stbarnabascathedral.org.uk)

## For young People : With Mary and Saint Joseph

LACY (Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth) will be celebrating a **Young People's Liturgy** on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March** at 4.00pm via Zoom. The theme will be "Mary and Joseph saying YES to God". A warm invitation is extended to all young people, their families and friends to join us as we look upon the miracle of The Annunciation and the gift of Saint Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus, looking at the salvation that Jesus, in the Holy Family of Mary and Joseph, brought to the world. The join-in information, via Zoom, is: ID 833 8950 5705 and Passcode: 322285. For further information contact [paulinepayne@hotmail.com](mailto:paulinepayne@hotmail.com) Young people (under 18) sharing the occasion should have an adult present with them. We look forward to seeing you!

## Southwell Minster's 2021 Lenten Focus on Giving

On **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March** people all over the country will be combining their daily exercise with raising some money to help end poverty and destitution in the UK, with the **Trussell Trust Race Against Hunger 5K**. This is the Southwell Minster's Lent Focus on Giving for this year. Please join in! The Race Against Hunger 5k can be completed in your own time and at your own pace: take on the challenge in a way that works for you. Get friends and family to sponsor you, then donate online at

**<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/raceagainsthungersouthwellminster>**

The Trussell Trust runs the largest network of food banks in the UK, giving 1.9 million three-day emergency food supplies and support to people in crisis in the last year. The Newark Foodbank is one of the 428 food banks making up their national network. More information is at <https://www.southwellminster.org/ready-steady-race-against-hunger-5k-with-southwell-minster/>

## On-Line Stations of the Cross

Walking with Christ on the Way of the Cross, in the Time of the covid pandemic, is an on-line Resource for Lent 2021. The Stations of the Cross begins and ends in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of Saint Barnabas Cathedral. As we journey together with Christ on the road towards Calvary, so we meditate at different Stations along the way, where we hear short reflections from a number of students, filmed by them from wherever they are during this time of the Pandemic. To access the resource please visit: **<https://youtu.be/dQ09wqJcxX0>** There is also an accompanying booklet at: **[www.uoncatholiccommunity.com/p/resources](http://www.uoncatholiccommunity.com/p/resources)**

## Pope Francis Prayer for Peace

*As sons and daughters of Abraham, Muslims, Jews, Christians and other religious minorities in the Iraqi city of Ur joined with Pope Francis last week to pray for reconciliation, peace and the strength to rebuild the ravaged nation.*

Almighty God, our Creator, you love our human family and every work of your hands. As children of Abraham, Jews, Christians and Muslims, together with other believers and all persons of good will, we thank you for having given us Abraham, a distinguished son of this noble and beloved country, to be our common father in faith. We thank you for his example as a man of faith, who obeyed you completely, left behind his family, his tribe and his native land, and set out for a land that he knew not.

We thank you too, for the example of courage, resilience, strength of spirit, generosity and hospitality set for us by our common father in faith. We thank you in a special way for his heroic faith, shown by his readiness even to sacrifice his son in obedience to your command. We know that this was an extreme test, yet one from which he emerged victorious, since he trusted unreservedly in you, who are merciful and always offer the possibility of beginning anew. We thank you because, in blessing our father Abraham, you made him a blessing for all peoples.

We ask you, the God of our father Abraham and our God, to grant us a strong faith, a faith that abounds in good works, a faith that opens our hearts to you and to all our brothers and sisters; and a boundless hope capable of discerning in every situation your fidelity to your promises. Make each of us a witness of your loving care for all, particularly refugees and the displaced, widows and orphans, the poor and the infirm.

Open our hearts to mutual forgiveness and in this way make us instruments of reconciliation, builders of a more just and fraternal society. Welcome into your abode of peace and light all those who have died, particularly the victims of violence and war.

Assist the authorities in the effort to seek and find the victims of kidnapping and in a special way to protect women and children. Help us to care for the earth, our common home, which in your goodness and generosity you have given to all of us.

Guide our hands in the work of rebuilding this country, and grant us the strength needed to help those forced to leave behind their homes and lands, enabling them to return in security and dignity, and to embark upon a new, serene and prosperous life. Amen.

## What are you doing extra giving up in Lent?

*Each week we'll hear what some Catholic writers and thinkers are doing, or not doing this Lent. Maybe it will give some inspiration to us too?*

### **The Office and the Pantry** (Mary Pezzulo)

This Lent I have a spiritual practice for myself and a work of mercy for the community: I'm going to pray the Divine Office at least once per day. Then I'm going to find recipes for meals that can be made entirely from shelf-stable ingredients, buy



at least one complete meal a week, put all the cans together and donate them to my community's free pantry. Prayer helps me remember my duty to help my neighbour, and coming up with effective ways to help my neighbour always brings me back to prayer.

### **Living through Lockdown's Long Lent** (Philip Booth)

I work at Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, and happened to be staying overnight in a hotel when lockdown was announced last year. The university had gradually been getting more deserted and somewhat eerie. The following day I went back to collect what I needed to work at home and left the university having no idea what would happen in the following months. It was Lent and the chapel was dressed in purple. In the late summer I returned and, as soon as the chapel was opened, I went in to pray and found it still dressed in purple. It was as if time had stood still and we had been living through months of Lent. Given the restrictions on worship at Easter, there is a sense in which we have.

### **A Craving for Tea** (Victoria Seed)

I wake up each morning wanting a cup of tea, but not just *any* cup of tea: I want the last one I have each evening when I've put the kids to bed and collapsed into my chair *without* my laptop. The other six cups of tea I drink between getting up and making dinner are just hydration with a dash of caffeine, but this one is a reward, an indulgence. It says "well done, good and faithful servant: the house is still standing and you have the same number of children you began the day with."

I crave this all day. And so I give it up for Lent. Like many mothers, I find it difficult to give up or take on really big things without it also being a penance for my family, and sometimes I can't maintain the same Lenten penance each day. Instead I look for small consolations and pleasures that I cling to and see what I can offer, to God each day, even if it is "just" a cup of tea.

## Job Opportunity in our Diocesan Education Service

The Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service is seeking to appoint a Deputy Director of Education who will provide a strategic lead in the areas of Catholic Life, Formation, Inspection, Religious Education and Collective Worship. For further information / application pack or if you wish to arrange an informal conversation with the Director of Education, please contact Julie Sweeney: [julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk](mailto:julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk) The closing date is Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

## Parish Newsletter by email

If you'd like to receive the parish newsletter by email simply email Father Simon at [simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk), asking to be added. It's necessary to have parishioners' consent to send the newsletter, and other messages, via email.

Likewise if you haven't filled in a parish census form please consider doing so. The form can be found on the forms tab of the parish website. Without this basic contact information it's not possible for the parish to keep in touch with you. At this time when it's difficult to come to church being able to post out some newsletters and prayer resources to parishioners is one simple way of keeping in touch.

## Financial Support of our Parish

Thank you to those parishioners who give regularly via standing orders. If you don't do so, please consider what you can give. Our parish is projected to make a loss of almost £25,000 this year, due to the lack of parish hall bookings and the reduction in weekly collection income. If you've able to set up a standing order, the details are:

- Account name: **Our Lady of Victories Southwell RCP**
- Sort Code: **30-67-76**
- Account number: **45368360**

**Many thanks to all our parishioners for your continuing generosity!**

## Supporting Newark Foodbank

The following items are especially needed at the moment:

- |                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| ☒ Tinned cold meat | ☒ Long-life milk              |
| ☒ Passata          | ☒ Jam                         |
| ☒ Tomato ketchup   | ☒ Sugar (small – 500g – bags) |

Items can be donated at the Co-op, One Stop, and Lloyds Chemist in Southwell.

## Nottingham 40 Days for life 2021

**40 Days for Life** is a peaceful and prayerful way to work for an end to abortion. In Nottingham Diocese, with the support of Bishop Patrick, we have prayed outside the abortion facility at the Queen's Medical Centre during Lent for several years. Routine abortions no longer take place there so last year we prayed at the Stapleford Care Centre, which contains a BPAS abortion clinic, until the Covid lockdown meant that we could no longer pray outside the clinic. We completed the prayer campaign by praying at home.

During Lent until **28<sup>th</sup> March** people in our Diocese are invited to pray and fast for an end to abortion. We planned to return to Stapleford but are currently prevented from doing so by lockdown (although the abortion clinic continues to see women). So, we plan to start our 2021 campaign online.

You are invited to peacefully pray for an hour or more during a 40-day vigil running for 12 hours daily during Lent. Please **sign up now** to pray with us at [40daysforlife.com/nottingham](https://40daysforlife.com/nottingham), or contact us at [40daysforlifennotts@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlifennotts@gmail.com)

## A prayer for life

As we celebrate Mother's Day, we pray for all mothers who are expecting. We pray for an overwhelming sense of hope and joy to fill their lives, and for increased support to be given by their family, friends and local communities, as they journey through this life-changing experience. Lord hear us

## Pro-Life Virtual Prayer Vigil

On **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March**, the Vigil of the solemnity of the Annunciation, when Jesus was conceived in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. On this month's Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life, Catholics across England and Wales are asked especially to fast and pray for the end of DIY abortions at home. Please join in and invite others to join as well: <https://www.facebook.com/events/725021905067267>

## Prayer Intentions for Lent

*Although we can't pray the Universal Prayer (bidding prayers) at Mass presently, Bishop Patrick gives us some suggestions for our prayers during each week of Lent.*

- ✘ For the Church, that we may always live the truth of the gospel message of Christ, doing all our works in God, and welcoming the light of Christ into our hearts and lives. Lord, hear us; *Lord, graciously hear us.*
- ✘ Today on Mothering Sunday we pray for all mothers; may they always experience joy and love from their children. Lord, hear us; *Lord, graciously hear us.*
- ✘ For our diocesan family, that during these days of Lent each of us may grow in faith, hope and love, and in our encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. May our lives become more deeply grounded in prayer, and in the service of God, and of one another. Lord, hear us; *Lord, graciously hear us.*
- ✘ We pray for all people who are searching for meaning and true happiness in their lives; may we help them to discover Christ as the one who fulfils their needs abundantly. Lord, hear us; *Lord, graciously hear us.*
- ✘ We pray for all catechumens of the Church, that God's holy light may find them eager and watchful, and that they may know the loving support of their parish communities. Lord, hear us; *Lord, graciously hear us.*
- ✘ For those lost in the darkness of illness, depression, and addiction, that they may see the light of Christ in our care and outreach to them. Lord, hear us; *Lord, graciously hear us.*
- ✘ We pray for those who mourn the death of loved ones, and for those who miss the companionship and care of those dear to them. We remember especially those who have died recently and all whose anniversaries occur about this time. Lord, hear us; *Lord, graciously hear us.*

## Prayers for ...

Please remember in your prayers especially:

- ✘ **All those affected by the coronavirus outbreak** – those infected, those caring for them, those who have died, and those who mourn.
- ✘ **Peter Armstrong**, a parishioner in Southwell who died on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, and whose funeral service will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. May he rest in peace!
- ✘ **Doreen Beresford**, who died on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February. May she rest in peace!
- ✘ **Joan Hyde**, a parishioner in Calverton.
- ✘ **Sister Francesca**, a Poor Clare sister in Bulwell.
- ✘ **Clergy of our diocese who are sick at this time**: Monsignor Jonathan Moore, Canons Michael Moore and Owen O'Neill, Fathers John Cairns, Tony Colebrook, John Daley IC, Hugh Doherty, Kevin Gradwell, James Hannigan, Peter Harvey, Christopher Hogan, James Lynch, Frank McLaughlin, Robert Rutledge, Michael Tutcher; Deacons Tom Berrie, Stephen Doona, William Hutchinson.

## Masses and Services this week

<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lenten feria</b>
<i>No morning Mass</i>	
S 6.00pm Mass	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE SUNDAY</b> Pro Populo (people of the parish)
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE SUNDAY</b>
C 10.45am Mass	Deceased members of the O'Brien family
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lenten Feria</b>
Mass	Frank Newman RIP and David Gammons RIP
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lenten feria</b>
Mass	Father John Garrett RIP
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Feast of Saint Patrick, bishop, Patron of Ireland</b>
Mass	Sean Moore RIP
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lenten feria</b>
Mass	Special Intention (DS)
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH,</b>
Mass	<b>SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b> Gwen Joyce RIP
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lenten feria</b>
<i>No morning Mass</i>	
S 6.00pm Mass	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – PASSION SUNDAY</b> Jenny Holder RIP (anniversary)
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – PASSION SUNDAY</b>
C 10.45am Mass	Pro Populo (people of the parish)

## Readings at Masses this week

<b>Sunday</b>	2 Chronicles 36:14-16.19-23; Psalm 136(137):1-6; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21
<b>Monday</b>	Isaiah 65:17-21; Psalm 29(30):2.4-6.11-13; John 4:43-54
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ezekiel 47:1-9.12; Psalm 45(46):2-3.5-6.8-9; John 5:1-3.5-16
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Peter 4:7-11; Psalm 95(96):1-3.7-8.10; Luke 5:1-11
<b>Thursday</b>	Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 105(106):19-23; John 5:31-47
<b>Friday</b>	2 Samuel 7:4-5.12-14.16; Psalm 88(89):2-5.27.29; Romans 4:13.16-18.22; Matthew 1:16.18-21.24
<b>Saturday</b>	Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 7:2-3.9-12; John 7:40-52