



Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Southwell and Calverton

Our Lady of Victories, Southwell and Saint Anthony, Calverton

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Saint Anthony : Mansfield Lane, Calverton, Nottinghamshire NG14 6NP

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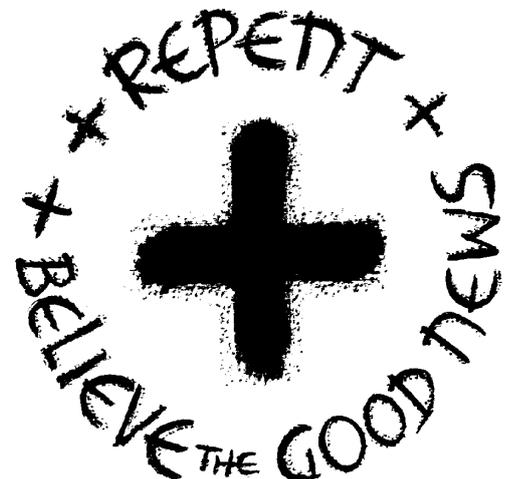


29th February & 1st March 2020 : First Sunday of Lent

Celebrating the First Sunday of Lent this Sunday we might ponder on these words of Pope Saint Clement I, calling us to recognise, through the history of our faith, what is really important in this holy season of prayer, fasting and alms-giving.

Let us fix our attention on the blood of Christ and recognise how precious it is to God his Father, since it was shed for our salvation and brought the grace of repentance to all the world.

If we review the various ages of history, we will see that in every generation the Lord has *offered the opportunity of repentance* to any who were willing to turn to him. When Noah preached God's message of repentance, all who listened to him were saved. Jonah told the Ninevites they were going to be destroyed, but when they repented, their prayers gained God's forgiveness for their sins, and they were saved, even though they were not of God's people. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the ministers of God's grace have spoken of repentance; indeed, the Master of the whole universe himself spoke of repentance with an oath: *As I live, says the Lord, I do not wish the death of the sinner but his repentance.* He added this evidence of his goodness: *House of Israel, repent of your wickedness. Tell the sons of my people: If their sins should reach from earth to heaven, if they are brighter than scarlet and blacker than sackcloth,*



you need only turn to me with your whole heart and say, "Father," and I will listen to you as a holy people.

In other words, God wanted all his beloved ones to have the opportunity to repent and he confirmed this desire by his own almighty will. That is why we should obey his sovereign and glorious will and prayerfully entreat his mercy and kindness. We should be suppliant before him and turn to his compassion, rejecting empty works and quarrelling and jealousy which only lead to death. Brothers, we should be humble in mind, putting aside all arrogance, pride and foolish anger. Rather, we should act in accordance with the Scriptures, as the Holy Spirit says: *The wise man must not glory in his wisdom nor the strong man in his strength nor the rich man in his riches. Rather, let him who glories glory in the Lord by seeking him and doing what is right and just.* Recall especially what the Lord Jesus said when he taught gentleness and forbearance. *Be merciful, he said, so that you may have mercy shown to you. Forgive, so that you may be forgiven. As you treat others, so you will be treated. As you give, so you will receive. As you judge, so you will be judged. As you are kind to others, so you will be treated kindly. The measure of your giving will be the measure of your receiving.*

Let these commandments and precepts strengthen us to live in humble obedience to his sacred words. As Scripture asks: *Whom shall I look upon with favour except the humble, peaceful man who trembles at my words?* Sharing then in the heritage of so many vast and glorious achievements, let us hasten towards the goal of peace, set before us from the beginning. Let us keep our eyes firmly fixed on the Father and Creator of the whole universe, and hold fast to his splendid and transcendent gifts of peace and all his blessings.

Prayers before Mass : and the Year of the Word

We 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 the parishioners who lead these prayers, about five minutes before the Mass each day.

Changes to Mass times this week

Father Simon is undertaking further studies in Canon Law in the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. During his time out of the parish he will offer Mass each day for parishioners' intentions, especially each Sunday, when he will offer Mass for all the people of our parish, living and dead. Father Simon returns on Saturday 7th March.

Welcome to Father Frank

During Father Simon's time in Leuven Father Frank Carvill will celebrate our Sunday Masses. It's good to have a 'permanent supply' with Father Frank, who will no doubt be made very welcome in our parish.

Forthcoming Events in our parish, community and diocese

On **Thursday 5th March** (and subsequent Thursdays) at 7.30pm the Rosmini Centre, LE7 4SJ, is hosting a Lenten Series : **Paths to Deeper Prayer**. Further details from www.rosminicentre.co.uk or contact 01509 813078

Cafod's Lent Fast Day will be held on **Friday 6th March**. Look out for more details later in this newsletter, and take an envelope with you after Mass this Sunday.

On **Friday 6th March** at 7.00pm there is a **Healing Mass** at the Rosmini Centre, LE7 4SJ. Further details from www.rosminicentre.co.uk or contact 01509 813078

On **Saturday 14th March** at 2.00pm Deacon Bill Myers is speaking about **Firmly I believe and truly, Newman's Vindication**, at the Rosmini Centre, LE7 4SJ. Further details from www.rosminicentre.co.uk or contact 01509 813078

Have you ever thought about becoming a Religious Sister or Brother? **Come and Ask afternoon** on **Saturday 14th March**, from 2.30pm until 4.00pm, at Our Lady and Saint Edward, Nottingham NG3 2LG. See the poster in the porch for more details, or contact Sister Susan Richert religious@nrcdt.org.uk or 07751 196124

A **Charity Saint Patrick's Folk Night** will be held on **Saturday 14th March** in Our Lady of Victories' parish hall, from 7.00pm until 11.00pm, including a buffet, tea and coffee (but bring your own tippie if you wish), music and singing. Tickets cost £5, with the proceeds going to the Newark Emmaus Trust, and will be on sale after each Sunday Mass from this weekend. All are very welcome.

Fields of Hope: the annual Churches Together in Southwell Ecumenical Lent Lunch, takes place on **Sunday 15th March** in the Minster State Chamber at 12.45pm for 1.00pm. Please join us for this sociable soup lunch and compete in the table top quiz. Tickets are £5.00 per person, available from Theresa Martin or Lesley McKenzie, or contact SouthwellChristianAidCommittee@gmail.com. Funds raised will go to Christian Aid.

The Rosmini Centre's **Lenten Retreat Day** is being held on **Saturday 21st March**, from 10.00am. Further details from www.rosminicentre.co.uk or contact 01509 813078

Saint Vincent de Paul Society members invite you to join them for **Coffee and Croissants** after Mass on **Sunday 22nd March** : any donations made will go towards projects including the Children's Summer Camp sponsorship. They have appreciated parishioners' support in the past which has helped in many ways.

On **Saturday 28th March** at 3.00pm the Rosmini Centre (LE7 4SJ) is hosting a session entitled **Sharing Scripture in my life**. Full details are available from www.rosminicentre.co.uk or contact 01509 813078

Some events for Lent

Wednesday **Soup and Reflection** will be led in Calverton from 12.00 noon until 1.00pm in the following churches:

- ✠ Wednesday 4th March in the Methodist church
- ✠ Wednesday 11th March in Saint Anthony's church
- ✠ Wednesday 18th March in Saint Wilfrid's church
- ✠ Wednesday 25th March in the Baptist church

Outside the Walls : Further Screenings

It appears to be too costly to produce a DVD, however further screenings of this film documenting life at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey in Leicester have been arranged:

- ✠ The Venue Cinema, Lincoln, Friday 6th March, 7.30pm
www.thevenueincoln.co.uk
- ✠ The Ritz Cinema Belper, Thursday 12th March, 7.30pm
www.ritz-belper.co.uk
- ✠ QUAD Cinema Derby, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th March
www.derbyquad.co.uk

World Day of Prayer : Friday 6th 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 6th March** at 6.30pm in Holy Trinity Church, Southwell. All are invited.

Saint John's Passion : Saturday 7th 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 7th 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 or in person from the Nottingham Tourism Centre. Flyers are available at the back of church.

Year of the Word : Day of Prayer : Saturday 16th May

Come to a **Day of Prayer** hosted by the Diocesan Spirituality Network entitled : **Encounter Jesus and be Missionary Disciples through Saint Matthew's Gospel**, on **Saturday 16th May**, in Saint Hugh's hall, Lincoln LN2 5AQ. Arrivals from 9.30am, starting at 10.00am, and closing with a Liturgy at 3.00pm. Refreshments are provided, please bring a packed lunch. All are welcome.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

From **Saturday 4th until Sunday 5th July** there is an opportunity for all married couples to enrich their marriage and renew their commitment to one another. A non-residential **Marriage Encounter Weekend** will be held at Savio House, Bollington, SK10 5RW. Most couples and many priests find this a very rewarding experience. Book now at www.wwme.org.uk or for more information contact Charles and Krysia Golabek on 01625 263627 (charles.golabek@ntlworld.com).

Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

Bishop Patrick will lead parishioners from around the diocese to Lourdes this summer, responding to Our Lady's call to come in pilgrimage to this holy place. The Pilgrimage departs (by train from Nottingham and air from East Midlands) on Sunday 12th July, returning on Friday 17th July, and with prices starting from £655 for full board and all transfers, etc. Posters are in each church porch giving more information, or ask Father Simon for a booking form and further details. This year's theme is 'I am the Immaculate Conception', a beautiful way to deepen our devotion to Our Blessed Lady, especially as parishioners in a parish dedicated to Mary under her title of Our Lady of Victories.

Forthcoming Pilgrimages

An **Easter Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine**, will be held from 8th April, costing £649 per person, with a single person supplement of £100. Further information is available from Patricia on 01268 762278, or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Nevers by Coach June 13th – 20th Picking up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, the cost is £595 per person. For a booking form, please contact Father John McCay at jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk or 0115 981 0320.

Job Opportunity within the Diocese

The directors of the Nottingham Roman Catholic Education Service are seeking to appoint an Assistant Director to take a leading role in the continuing development of all areas of Catholic Life within our diocesan schools. Full details are available at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/education/recruitment/diocesan-education-service
The closing date for applications is Thursday 2nd April.

Saint Vincent de Paul Society : Cash for Coins

The SVP is collecting foreign coins, or old British coins, or any old foreign coins. There is a container for old and redundant coins in the narthex of each church. Thank You!

Parish Financial Statement, Standing Orders, and Gift Aid Forms

Following the presentation of parish finances last Sunday there are copies of the presentation printed in last Sunday's newsletter for any parishioners who weren't at Mass last Sunday. There are also standing order forms and gift aid forms available at the back of each church. They're printed on bright yellow paper, so they're hard to miss – please take one and complete it. If you already have a standing order in place please consider cancelling it (since it's paid to the diocese) and completing a new one (on the form provided) in favour of the parish. Thank you as ever!

Newsletter via email

If you'd like to receive the parish newsletter by email simply email Justine (the parish secretary, at olv.rcchurch@gmail.com, asking to be added to the list. You can still collect a paper copy if you wish, and it will be available on the parish website also.

Cafod's Lenten Fast Day : Friday 6th March

*Each year, during Lent, Cafod, the official overseas aid agency of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, invites us to have a day when we fast from some food, and donate the money we save to helping those of our brothers and sisters around the world who have less than we do. This year the Lenten Fast Day is this coming week, **Friday 6th March**, and envelopes for Cafod's collection will be distributed at Mass this Sunday, and the collection will be taken next Sunday. Our donations this year will be assisting especially people in Zimbabwe, and Cafod has given us some further information about their situation so that we know how our donated money is spent.*

Today we are asked to consider the expertise at our fingertips that we might take for granted. If we caught an illness, we would see our nearest doctor. And if we needed medicine, we would take a quick trip to the chemist to see a pharmacist. If we didn't go to the doctor or chemist, who knows what might happen? So imagine if we were sick and the medicine we needed wasn't nearby, but was four hours away. Four hours on foot...when we're sick.

This is the reality for countless people around the world who are not able to get to a pharmacist or doctor. They walk miles in the hope that they might get treatment. Sister Consilia lives in Zimbabwe. When she was a little girl, she caught malaria. She told Cafod: "It was raining and we had to walk for four hours to get treatment." Thankfully, Sister Consilia survived and she is now a trained pharmacist who treats people with malaria, typhoid and other preventable diseases. Her faith motivates her work, she said: "I feel happy to be among the people. Through treating and caring for them, I try to show them the love that Christ shows us."

Sister Consilia is just one of the amazing highly-trained, highly-skilled local experts we help around the world through CAFOD. Our donations to CAFOD are like an outstretched arm offering support. And these experts are the hands that reach people living in the most remote places. They might be: Ebola doctors in the Democratic Republic of Congo; peace activists in Colombia, or disability rights campaigners in Bangladesh. The global family of local experts is on the ground day and night treating people in the most difficult to reach places on earth. But there are many still suffering because we need more trained health workers.

If each person could give up chocolate for a week this Lent, the £6.00 saved could train a health worker to check babies for malnutrition. But if our parish digs a little deeper ... where Sister Consilia lives and works, it costs £194 to train two health workers and a team of mothers to keep babies healthy. If we could give up chocolate for 40 days, the money we save could start to help to train more lifesavers like these

in other remote communities around the world. Please keep Sister Consilia in our prayers today. And please take some time during Lent to remember the women and men living and working in some of the most dangerous and difficult-to-reach places. They tell us that our thoughts and prayers give them strength to do their work. Thank you to each parishioner for everything each one of us does.

The collection for Cafod will be held at each Mass next Sunday
Please consider how much you can give in Lent to help those in so much need

Message of Pope Francis for Lent 2020

“We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God” (2 Corinthians 5:20)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year the Lord grants us, once again, a favourable time to prepare to celebrate with renewed hearts the great mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal and communal Christian life. We must continually return to this mystery in mind and heart, for it will continue to grow within us in the measure that we are open to its spiritual power and respond with freedom and generosity.

1. *The paschal mystery as the basis of conversion* Christian joy flows from listening to, and accepting, the Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus. This *kerygma* sums up the mystery of a love “so real, so true, so concrete, that it invites us to a relationship of openness and fruitful dialogue” (*Christus Vivit*, 117). Whoever believes this message rejects the lie that our life is ours to do with as we will. Rather, life is born of the love of God our Father, from his desire to grant us life in abundance (cf. *John* 10:10). If we listen instead to the tempting voice of the “father of lies” (*John* 8:44), we risk sinking into the abyss of absurdity, and experiencing hell here on earth, as all too many tragic events in the personal and collective human experience sadly bear witness.

In this Lent of 2020, I would like to share with every Christian what I wrote to young people in the Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*: “Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out with such great love, and let yourself be cleansed by it. In this way, you can be reborn ever anew” (*Christus Vivit* 123). Jesus’ Pasch is not a past event; rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever present, enabling us to see with faith the flesh of Christ in those who suffer.

2. *The urgency of conversion* It is good to contemplate more deeply the paschal mystery through which God's mercy has been bestowed upon us. Indeed, the experience of mercy is only possible in a "face to face" relationship with the crucified and risen Lord "who loved me and gave himself for me" (*Galatians 2:20*), in a heartfelt dialogue between friends. That is why prayer is so important in Lent. Even more than a duty, prayer is an expression of our need to respond to God's love which always precedes and sustains us. Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will.

In this favourable season, then, may we allow ourselves to be led like Israel into the desert (cf. *Hosea 2:14*), so that we can at last hear our Spouse's voice and allow it to resound ever more deeply within us. The more fully we are engaged with his word, the more we will experience the mercy he freely gives us. May we not let this time of grace pass in vain, in the foolish illusion that we can control the times and means of our conversion to him.

3. *God's passionate will to dialogue with his children* The fact that the Lord once again offers us a favourable time for our conversion should never be taken for granted. This new opportunity ought to awaken in us a sense of gratitude and stir us from our sloth. Despite the sometimes tragic presence of evil in our lives, and in the life of the Church and the world, this opportunity to change our course expresses God's unwavering will not to interrupt his dialogue of salvation with us. In the crucified Jesus, who knew no sin, yet for our sake was made to be sin (cf. *2 Corinthians 5:21*), this saving will led the Father to burden his Son with the weight of our sins, thus, in the words of Pope Benedict XVI, "turning of God against himself" (*Deus Caritas Est*, 12). For God also loves his enemies (cf. *Matthew 5:43-48*).

The dialogue that God wishes to establish with each of us through the paschal mystery of his Son has nothing to do with empty chatter, like that attributed to the ancient inhabitants of Athens, who "spent their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new" (*Acts 17:21*). Such chatter, determined by an empty and superficial curiosity, characterizes worldliness in every age; in our own day, it can also result in improper use of the media.

4. *A richness to be shared, not kept for oneself* Putting the paschal mystery at the centre of our lives means feeling compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life, from that of the unborn to that of the elderly, and various forms of violence. They are likewise present in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods,

human trafficking in all its forms, and the thirst for profit, which is a form of idolatry.

Today too, there is a need to appeal to men and women of good will to share, by almsgiving, their goods with those most in need, as a means of personally participating in the building of a better world. Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness. We can and must go even further, and consider the structural aspects of our economic life. For this reason, in the midst of Lent this year, from 26th to 28th March, I have convened a meeting in Assisi with young economists, entrepreneurs and change-makers, with the aim of shaping a more just and inclusive economy. As the Church's magisterium has often repeated, political life represents an eminent form of charity (cf. Pius XI, *Address to the Italian Federation of Catholic University Students*, 18th December 1927). The same holds true for economic life, which can be approached in the same evangelical spirit, the spirit of the Beatitudes.

I ask Mary Most Holy to pray that our Lenten celebration will open our hearts to hear God's call to be reconciled to himself, to fix our gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with him. In this way, we will become what Christ asks his disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world (cf. *Matthew* 5:13-14).

Francis

Rome, at Saint John Lateran, 7th October 2019, Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

Prayers for ...

Please remember in your prayers especially:

- ✠ **Canon Colin Taylor**, formerly parish priest of Our Lady of Lincoln parish, Lincoln, who died on Wednesday 19th February and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated in Lincoln on Friday 6th March. May he rest in peace!
- ✠ **Sister Ellen McGrath**, of the Derby Sisters of Mercy (who entered in 1949), who died on Monday 10th February and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 4th March. May she rest in peace!
- ✠ **Sister Rita Popple**, a Rosminian Sister in Loughborough, who died on Saturday 22nd February after 72 years of Consecrated Life. May she rest in peace!
- ✠ **Sister Evelyn Sheridan**, of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace in Rearsby, who died on Saturday 22nd February after 71 years of Consecrated Life. 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. He will be ordained bishop by Cardinal Nichols on 19th March.

A reflection from 'Marriage Matters'

Walk in the light of the Lord God's Word is clear: we can only be certain of each current moment in our day-to-day lives. To live as couples in the 'present moment' we need to apply ourselves to today's call of Jesus to "stay awake". As Saint Paul tells us, "the time has come: you must wake up now", because now is all we have.

Readings at Masses this week

Monday	Leviticus 19:1-2.11-18; Psalm 18(19):8-10.15; Matthew 25:31-46
Tuesday	Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 33(34):16-19; Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday	Jonah 3:1-10; Psalm 50(51):3-4.12-13.18-19; Luke 11:29-32
Thursday	Esther 4:17; Psalm 137(138):1-3.7-8; Matthew 7:7-12
Friday	Ezekiel 18:21-28; Psalm 129(130); Matthew 5:20-26
Saturday	Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Psalm 118(119):1-2.4-5.7-8; Matthew 5:43-48

Parish Ministries

	<i>This week</i>	<i>Next week</i>
	First Sunday of Lent	Second Sunday of Lent
<i>Welcomers OLV 6pm</i>	Bernadette Murtagh Eileen Thomas	Margaret Bell Cathy Smith
<i>Welcomers OLV 9am</i>	Mike Gemson Carol Tinker	Alison Freemantle Pati Colman
<i>Welcomers StA 10.45am</i>	Michael Wilkes	Joan Hyde
<i>Readers OLV 6pm</i>	Madeleine Birch	Barrie Birch
<i>Readers OLV 9am</i>	Gerard Law	Margi Asker
<i>Readers StA 10.45am</i>	Doug Andrews	Michael Wilkes
<i>Communion OLV 6pm</i>	Cathy Smith	Cathy Smith
<i>Communion OLV 9am</i>	Theresa Martin	Michael Gemson
<i>Coffee OLV 9am</i>	Margaret Bell	Margaret
<i>Cleaners OLV</i>	Mary Joyce	Annabel Kingsbury
<i>Counters</i>	Margaret Bell	Michael Wilkes

Thank You for your Generosity

The main collection, Sunday 23rd February : £186.93

Masses and Services this week

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

Saturday 29th February

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

S 5.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions

S 6.00pm Vigil Mass Barbara Pearson & Tom Sills RIP

Sunday 1st March

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

S 9.00am Mass Sabina May Crosse RIP

C 10.45am Mass Priest's intentions

S 6.00pm Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church)

Monday 2nd March

Lenten Feria

No public Mass today

Tuesday 3rd March

Lenten Feria

No public Mass today

Wednesday 4th March

Lenten Feria

No public Mass today

Thursday 5th March

Lenten Feria

No public Mass today

Friday 6th March

Commemoration of Saints Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs

Cafod Lent Fast Day

No public Mass today

Saturday 7th March

Commemoration of Saint John of God, religious

No public morning Mass

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

S 5.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions

S 6.00pm Vigil Mass The work of Cafod

Sunday 8th March

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

S 9.00am Mass Margaret Bell (Golden Wedding Anniversary)

C 10.45am Mass Pro Populo (people of the parish)

S 6.00pm Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church)

Pope's Prayer Intentions for March

Catholics in China We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.