



*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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**21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 : Fourth Sunday of Lent : Laetare Sunday**

*As the Covid 19 pandemic affects more and more people around the world, in so many different ways, Pope Francis has asked the faithful in each country to be united in praying this prayer often:*

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.

## Suspension of public participation in Acts of Worship



*The following letter was issued by the Bishops of England and Wales on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March:*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches. This will begin from Friday evening, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020, until further notice. Our churches will remain open. They are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing.

However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.

Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually in that celebration; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion: this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. These are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day.

We want everyone to understand that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time.

You will find more details about the pathway of prayer and sacramental life we are now to take in the accompanying document and on the Bishops' Conference website ([www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)). Your own bishop and parish priest will provide further support, encouragement and information about our way of prayer together in the coming weeks.

The second vital aspect of these challenging times is our care for each other. There are so many ways in which we are to do this: being attentive to the needs of our neighbour, especially the elderly and vulnerable; contributing to our local food banks; volunteering for charitable initiatives and organisations; simply keeping in

touch by all the means open to us.

During these disturbing and threatening times, the rhythm of the prayer of the Church will continue. Please play your part in it. The effort of daily kindness and mutual support for all will continue and increase. Please play your part in this too. For your commitment to this, we thank you.

‘The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.’

May God bless us all.

+ Vincent Cardinal Nichols  
President

+ Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP  
Vice-President

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

## 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:

- Sunday: 8am, 10am, 11.15am, 6pm
- Weekdays: 1pm
- Saturday: 10am, 6.30pm (Sunday Vigil)

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:

- [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3KI8GD79FotjQ/featured?fbclid=IwAR1JRpkdO0rHZY98bsnSC\\_N9TKbvSKXv0L5bT4yVCcMTHaVmAwaw4g-rAk](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3KI8GD79FotjQ/featured?fbclid=IwAR1JRpkdO0rHZY98bsnSC_N9TKbvSKXv0L5bT4yVCcMTHaVmAwaw4g-rAk)

The **Rosary** is prayed throughout the day from the Shrine of Our Lady at the Grotto in Lourdes:

- <https://www.lourdes-france.org/en/tv-lourdes>

## Our church buildings remain open for prayer

Although Mass is no longer being celebrated with a congregation, Mass is still celebrated every day by Father Simon, and your intentions will be remembered at the altar day by day.

- ✘ Our Lady of Victories church in Southwell remains open through the day, each day, for anyone who wishes to make a visit of the Blessed Sacrament, light a candle, or simply spend a few moments in prayer or in silent contemplation.
- ✘ Saint Anthony church in Calverton will be open from 9am until 11am each Tuesday morning, and from 4pm until 6pm each Friday afternoon, for anyone who wishes to make a visit of the Blessed Sacrament, light a candle, or simply spend a few moments in prayer or in silent contemplation.

## Readings at Masses this week

*During this time when we're not able to attend Mass, reading and pondering the reading we would hear at Mass is one way of being in union with the Church throughout the world. The references to the day's readings are given below:*

Sunday	1 Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13; Psalm 22(23); Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
Monday	Isaiah 65:17-21; Psalm 29(30):2.4-6.11-13; John 4:43-54
Tuesday	Ezekiel 47:1-9.12; Psalm 45(46):2-3.5-6.8-9ab; John 5:1-3.5-16
Wednesday	Isaiah 7:10-14.8:10; Psalm 39(40):7-11; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38
Thursday	Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 105(106):19-23; John 5:31-47
Friday	Wisdom 2:1.12-22; Psalm 33(34):16.18.19-21.23; John 7:1-2.10.25-30
Saturday	Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 7:2-3.9-12; John 7:40-52

## Access to the Sacraments

Although Masses and other Acts of Worship won't be available to the lay faithful for the foreseeable future, if you wish to have a Mass offered for a particular intention simply put a Mass envelope with the details through the presbytery letterbox. The daily Mass intentions will continue to be published in the newsletter.

The sacrament of reconciliation (confession) is available by appointment; if you wish to make your confession contact Father Simon to arrange a convenient time.

The Anointing of the Sick can still be given; again, please contact Father Simon directly should you wish to receive this sacrament, or know someone who would.

## Prayers for the Rededication of England and the Year of the Word

We pray the Angelus (in preparation for the Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary next weekend) and the Prayer of the Year of the Word (throughout 2020). Although not together physically, we can continue to be united in our time of prayer:

### ***Prayer for the Year of the Word***

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.

### ***The Angelus***

Leader The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

All And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Leader Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

All Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Leader Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

All Be it done to me according to thy Word.

Leader Hail Mary *etc (then everyone at 'Holy Mary', as previously)*

Leader And the Word was made flesh. (*all bow*)

All And dwelt among us.

Leader Hail Mary *etc (then everyone at 'Holy Mary', as previously)*

Leader Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

All That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Leader Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by his passion and cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

## Parish Hall

Last Sunday, following a possible contamination by coronavirus, the parish hall was thoroughly cleaned by a professional company, applying Government standards. It has been kept empty for a week, to ensure any possible traces of the virus are eliminated, and is now available and open again. Please contact Justine, the parish secretary, if you have any questions over parish hall bookings.

## Forthcoming Events in our parish, community and diocese

*All public events previously advertised in the parish newsletter have been either cancelled or postponed indefinitely. Those which follow might still proceed; please check with the organisers closer to the time if you're interested in participating.*

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** is this year's **Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse**; Bishop Patrick will offer a Holy Hour in reparation, from 12.00 noon until 1.00pm, and then followed by Mass, in Saint Barnabas Cathedral. This event is anticipated to be live-streamed, but won't be open to the public.

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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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. For a booking form, please contact Father John McCay at [jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk) or 0115 981 0320.

From **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> until Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.wwme.org.uk) or for more information contact Charles and Krysia Golabek on 01625 263627 ([charles.golabek@ntlworld.com](mailto:charles.golabek@ntlworld.com)).

The 52<sup>nd</sup> International Eucharistic Congress is taking place this year in Budapest from 14<sup>th</sup> until 21<sup>st</sup> September. The Diocese of Nottingham will be participating, and if you would like to go, Tangney Tours are organising the pilgrimage. This Congress offers

a deep spiritual experience along with cultural programmes, it brings together people from all over the world. For more information and costs see the poster at the back of church, or visit: [www.iec2020.hu](http://www.iec2020.hu) or [www.tangney-tours.com/iec-2020](http://www.tangney-tours.com/iec-2020)

## Job Opportunities 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](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/education/recruitment/diocesan-education-service) The closing date for applications is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

The governors of Bishop Ellis Catholic Primary School, Leicester LE4 8GP are seeking to appoint a new headteacher. Further details are available on the website [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/education/recruitment/primary-school-vacancies](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/education/recruitment/primary-school-vacancies) Visits to the school can be arranged by calling Sarah Kennedy at the school office on 0116 269 5510. The closing date for applications is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

## 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](mailto: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. In these coming days when it isn't possible for parishioners to get to Mass **it would be very helpful to have parishioners' written consent (via email is fine) to send out the newsletter**, and possibly other urgent messages, via email.

## Settlement Scheme for European Union Citizens

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: [gov.uk/eusettledstatus](https://www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus) Information on assistance for those applying is available at: [gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme](https://www.gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme)

The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities.

## Stories of Faith from our Catholic Heritage

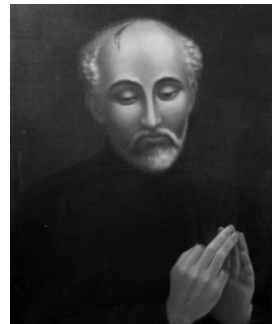
With dioceses around the world cancelling public Masses for weeks to come, many Catholics are already feeling starved for the Eucharist. When the world is fighting a global pandemic, it seems that the Mass would be more necessary than ever. But while public Masses are cancelled, the private ones continue and the body of Christ is able to receive the graces from those Masses, especially when we make a spiritual communion.

Still, how can we who depend on the Sacraments survive this crisis when divorced from holy Mass? Well, there are plenty of saints (and millions more Christians) who've had similar experiences, months and years of surviving without the Sacraments. Looking to them can strengthen us to persevere.

Though not canonized, **thousands and thousands of Japanese Christians** lived without priests for nearly 250 years. They baptized their children in secret, passing down the faith in whispered lessons, praying before images of the Madonna and Child that were disguised to look like Buddhist images. In 1858 Japan finally readmitted Christian missionaries, who found 10,000 hidden Christians waiting for them. Imagine being raised with the near certainty that you would never in your life attend Mass, knowing of the Eucharist only because your grandmother's grandmother's grandmother once went to Mass? It puts social distancing in perspective.

The saints of **19<sup>th</sup>-century Korea** were in a similar situation. After the Gospel was first preached by Servant of God Yi Beok and his companions in 1784, the Church was run entirely by laypeople until 1795. At that point, **Blessed James Zhou Wen-Mo** arrived and discovered 4,000 Catholics, only one of whom had ever seen a priest. Wen-Mo served as the only priest in all of Korea for six years, until his martyrdom. For the next 36 years, there were again no Masses in Korea until a small group of French priests arrived in 1836—and were killed two years later.

**Saint Isaac Jogues** (1607-1646) may have been prepared for torture and martyrdom when he travelled to North America to evangelize Native Americans. But as a priest, he wouldn't have expected to be deprived of the Eucharist — until his hands were marred by his captors. At the time, a priest who was missing thumb or forefinger was unable to celebrate the Mass, so from the time of his injury until (having escaped his Mohawk captors) his return to France 17 months later, Father Jogues was







unable to confess, to celebrate Mass, or even to attend Mass. He was given a special dispensation and permitted to celebrate Mass again, in spite of the state of his hands, and requested permission to return to America after his recovery. He was killed not long after his return, but his killer later repented and was baptized with the name “Isaac Jogues.”

**Blessed Victoire Rasoamanarivo** (1848-1894) was a Malagasy noblewoman and a convert to Catholicism. A leader in the Church in Madagascar, when the French were expelled from Madagascar in 1883, the departing priests left the care of the Church in her hands, along with **Blessed Raphael Rafiringa**, a Malagasy religious Brother. For nearly three years, Victoire and Raphael led the 21,000 lay Catholics in Madagascar, bringing them together each Sunday for communal prayer though there were no priests to celebrate Mass. Victoire explained, “I place before my mind the missionaries saying the Mass, and mentally attend all the Masses being said throughout the world.” Three years later, a vibrant community hungry for the Eucharist welcomed their priests back — all of them far more grateful for the Mass than they had been before their three years without it.

**Saint Mark Ji TianXiang** (1834-1900) was an opium addict. Because his priest didn’t understand the nature of addiction, he told TianXiang that he couldn’t be absolved until he had beaten his addiction — which meant that he couldn’t receive communion either. For 30 years, TianXiang continued to practice the faith while being denied the Sacraments. He never did manage to get clean, but he died a martyr and has been canonized a saint not just for his martyrdom but for his decades of attempting to follow Jesus even in the absence of the Sacraments.

**Blessed Laurentia Herasymiv** (1911-1952), like countless other Catholics in Nazi concentration camps or Soviet gulags, spent the last months of her life without the Sacraments and in the near certainty that she would have no opportunity for viaticum or a final confession. Arrested for refusing to abandon the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church for Orthodoxy, Sister Laurentia and **Blessed Olympia Bida** were sent to Siberia, where both died as a result of all they had suffered at the hands of the communists. As she lay dying, she begged for the Eucharist, calling out in her delirium, “Jesus, I do not want to die without you!” She died, as she had lived for two long years, without the Eucharist, and was fully united to Jesus.

*Reprinted from an article by Meg Hunter-Kilmer, in this Sunday’s Catholic Herald*

## Easter Eggs and Chicks

Twenty-eight chicks and many more eggs! Thank you to all the parishioners for their generosity, especially as it was quite short-notice this year. Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus, Faith in Families won't be holding the events at which the chicks are usually sold. The knitted chicks have been saved for next year and the eggs donated to the Newark Foodbank. Sincere thanks! Pati – 01636 813260.

## 200 Club Winners

*Congratulations to our recent 200 Club Winners, and to all who support the Club.*

Date	First Prize	Second Prize	Third Prize
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	118 Kevin Freeman	5 Donald Martin	79 Peter Bird
12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	125 Kath Nicholson	97 Matthew McKenzie	25 Catriona Carr
19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	136 Caroline Hedley	66 Simon Hall	43 Anthony Wilkinson
26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	121 Julie Dalby	66 Simon Hall	8 Valerie Brock
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Donated	4 Theresa Martin	12 Madeleine Birch
9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	92 Margaret Sladen	26 Chris Pycroft	86 Paul Wilkinson
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	24 Margaret Lee	88 Sheila Wilkinson	150 B Hallam
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	73 Dominic Stafford	Donated	Donated

## Join the 'Fight Infections in Africa' Appeal

Bishop Patrick is Patron of this small Leicestershire charity which offers medical care to some of the poorest people in sub-Saharan Africa. The charity has Catholic roots and works closely with the Catholic Religious Sisters who run the few local small Medical Centres. The Bishop is asking if each parish in the diocese would be prepared to raise £100 to support this appeal. Too many vulnerable children and adults in sub-Saharan Africa are suffering or dying from treatable infections, and they desperately need our help. £100 could treat 380 patients with diarrhoeal disease. For further details please take a quick look at this short video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqy2Jbr1COg> or go to <https://intercare.org.uk>

**We won't have a specific collection for this appeal – but if any one is able to make a donation please place it in an envelope and put it through the presbytery letterbox during Lent. Let's see if, as a parish, we can raise £100 before Easter?**

## Thank You for your Generosity

The main collection, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March : £128.04

## 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
- ✘ **John Bell** who died on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March, and whose Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. May he rest in peace!
- ✘ **Archbishop Peter Smith**, formerly Bishop of East Anglia, and Archbishop of Cardiff, and of Southwark, who died on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 30<sup>th</sup> March. May he rest in peace!
- ✘ **Maeve Greer**, sister of Monsignor John Lally (parish priest in Leicester, who died last week. May she rest on peace!
- ✘ **David Burbidge**, brother of Canon Alan Burbidge (parish priest in Derby), who died on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March. May he rest in peace!
- ✘ **Veronica Etim Bassey**, mother of Father Patrick Bassey (assistant priest in Lincoln), who died two weeks ago. May she rest in peace!
- ✘ **Clergy of our diocese who are sick at this time**: Monsignor Jonathan Moore, Canon John Berry, Fathers John Cairns, Tony Colebrook, Hugh Doherty, James Hannigan, Peter Harvey, Chris Hogan, Jim Lynch, Joe McGovern, Frank McLaughlin, Robert Rutledge, Michael Tutcher; Deacons Stephen Doona, and Bill Hutchinson.

## A reflection from 'Marriage Matters'

### The Lord will lead us back together

Ezekiel's words apply to us when we are going through tough times in our relationship, when intimacy, physical or otherwise, seems impossible. At such times, Jesus weeps for us as He did for Lazarus. He will bring us back together if we ask Him and are willing to be vulnerable enough to explore together the changes we need to make.



## 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.

## Masses and Services this week

During these days, although parishioners aren't able to attend Mass, Father Simon will continue to celebrate Mass for your intentions each day alternating (as far as possible) between the two churches in our parish

### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Mass

### **Lenten Feria**

Barry O'Shea RIP

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

Mass

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE SUNDAY**

Pro Populo (people of the parish)

### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Mass

### **Lenten Feria**

Joyce Hopkins RIP

### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass

### **Lenten Feria**

John Bell RIP

Funeral Service

John Bell RIP

### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass

### **SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

Andrew Shea (son of John Shea)

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass

### **Lenten Feria**

George Thomas

### **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass

### **Lenten Feria**

Joanne Woolridge RIP

### **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass

### **Lenten Feria**

John and Cora Lynch RIP

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass

### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – PASSION SUNDAY**

Pro Populo (people of the parish)