



Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Southwell and Calverton

Our Lady of Victories, Southwell and Saint Anthony, Calverton

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11th and 12th January 2020 : The Baptism of the Lord

As this Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, marking the end of the Christmas season and the transition between our remembrance of Jesus' birth and infancy, and the start of his public ministry, so we have a homily from Saint Maximus of Turin (bishop there until 423AD), allowing us the opportunity to reflect a little more on this moment in Jesus' life.

The Gospel tells us that the Lord went to the Jordan River to be baptized and that he wished to consecrate himself in the river by signs from heaven. Reason demands that this feast of the Lord's baptism, which I think could be called the feast of his birthday, should follow soon after the Lord's birthday, during the same season, even though many years intervened between the two events.

At Christmas he was born a man; today he is reborn sacramentally. Then he was born from the Virgin; today he is born in mystery. When he was born a man, his mother Mary held him close to her heart; when he is born in mystery, God the Father embraces him with his voice when he says: *This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased: listen to him.* The mother caresses the tender baby on her lap; the Father

serves his Son by his loving testimony. The mother holds the child for the Magi to adore; the Father reveals that his Son is to be worshipped by all the nations.

That is why the Lord Jesus went to the river for baptism; that



is why he wanted his holy body to be washed with Jordan's water. Someone might ask, "Why would a holy man desire baptism?" Listen to the answer: Christ is baptized, not to be made holy by the water, but to make the water holy, and by his cleansing to purify the waters which he touched. For the consecration of Christ involves a more significant consecration of the water. For when the Saviour is washed, all water for our baptism is made clean, purified at its source for the dispensing of baptismal grace to the people of future ages. Christ is the first to be baptized, then, so that Christians will follow after him with confidence.

I understand the mystery as this. The column of fire went before the sons of Israel through the Red Sea so they could follow on their brave journey; the column went first through the waters to prepare a path for those who followed. As the apostle Paul said, what was accomplished then was the mystery of baptism. Clearly it was baptism in a certain sense when the cloud was covering the people and bringing them through the water. But Christ the Lord does all these things: in the column of fire he went through the sea before the sons of Israel; so now, in the column of his body, he goes through baptism before the Christian people. At the time of the Exodus the column provided light for the people who followed; now it gives light to the hearts of believers. Then it made a firm pathway through the waters; now it strengthens the footsteps of faith in the bath of baptism.

Prayers before Mass : and the Year of the Word

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

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

Changes to Mass times this week

Mass on Monday will be celebrated at 5.00pm, before the SVP meeting; Mass on Wednesday will be celebrated at 7.30am; Mass on Thursday will be celebrated at 6.00pm, together with some of the University Chaplains from around our diocese. Unfortunately there won't be Mass on Saturday morning this week.

Forthcoming Events in our parish, community and diocese

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** begins on **18th January**, with the theme (from the Acts of the Apostles): “they showed unusual kindness.” Events in Southwell include daily prayer at 12.00 noon, followed by soup at 12.30pm:

- ✕ Monday 20th – The Minster
- ✕ Tuesday 21st – Riverside church
- ✕ Wednesday 22nd – Methodist church
- ✕ Thursday 23rd – Holy Trinity church
- ✕ Friday 24th – Baptist church

Sharing Scripture in my life, an afternoon reflection, will be given at the Rosmini Centre, LE7 4SJ, on **Saturday 25th January** at 3.00pm. Visit www.rosminicentre.co.uk or contact 01509 813078 for more information.

Screening of ‘Unplanned’

Nottingham 40 Days for Life group has collected over 400 signatures from parishes of the diocese, achieving a showing of the film **Unplanned**, to be screened at the Savoy Cinema, Derby Road, Nottingham, NG7 1QN, on **Wednesday 22nd January**, at 6.15pm. Tickets can be booked online:

www.savoyonline.co.uk/SavoyNottingham.dll/WhatsOn?Film=29682605

The Savoy Cinema have agreed that if they receive advance bookings of over 60% of the cinema capacity, by the 13th January for the Wednesday screening, that they will show the film again on Thursday 23rd January. Please consider booking and seeing this film, highlighting the dignity of unborn life.

The God who Speaks : The Year of the Word 2020

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

1. Welcome the Word – welcome tent, resources and other promo resources from the diocese Whoever welcomes you welcomes me... Matthew 10.40
2. Mary and the Word – all things Marian My soul magnifies the Lord... Luke 1: 46
3. Seeing the Word – art, culture He has made everything beautiful for its time... Ecclesiastes 3: 11

4. Exploring the Word – bible studying, going a bit deeper, getting into the Bible
Your word is a lamp for my steps... Psalm 118 (119): 105
5. Sharing the Word - evangelisation/music You will be my witnesses to the ends
of the earth... Acts 1:8
6. Living the Word – social justice Let justice roll down like waters... Amos 5: 24

For more information visit www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/

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

Year of the Word : Day of Prayer

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

Saturday 16th May – Saint Hugh’s church hall, Lincoln LN2 5AQ

Pilgrimages by Coach

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

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

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

Newsletter via email

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

Coffee Rota

Coffee makers are needed! New volunteers to serve coffee after mass on Sundays at Our Lady of Victories parish hall are urgently required. We now have insufficient volunteers to offer coffee every Sunday and need at least four new volunteers. Please contact Lesley McKenzie if you can help: 01636 814721 or les.mck15@gmail.com

Lent 2020

Churches Together in Southwell's Lent course is the York Course '*Superstar*'. Volunteer hosts and facilitators are needed, and a sign-up sheet is available in each church. If you are able to facilitate or host a group write your details and choice of days on the sheet. Leaflets and booking forms for the course will be available shortly.

Thank You for the Christmas Activities

As the Christmas season comes to a close it's a great time to thank all those who contributed in so many ways to making our celebrations so special: all those who exercise ministry in our churches, to those who clean and decorate them, to those who welcome parishioners, or provide hospitality afterwards. Sincere thanks to all!

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the **Parish Christmas Card** which raised £245 for the Newark Emmaus Trust, the charity we are supporting this year. I apologise for the mistakes made with some people's names and for missing off some contributors' names all together. I will try to do better next time! *Pati Colman*

Very sincere thanks also to Margaret and Margaret for co-ordinating the **Christmas Raffle**, which raised (after expenses) £1,086. Congratulations to them, and to all our prize winners and ticket sellers too!

Thank You for your Generosity

Sunday 22nd December: £108.69; 29th December: £145.30; 5th January: £71.03

Parish Pastoral Council

The PPC is a source of advice and counsel for the parish priest and a forum for debate amongst parishioners about the pastoral activities of our parish. Over past years the PPC has been a valuable way in which the views of parishioners has been made known, and the parish owes a debt of gratitude to those who have served the parish by undertaking this role. Since some members of the PPC have stood down at the end of the year there are now vacancies on this body, which should number 12 members (half elected for three years by parishioners, and half nominated by the parish priest). If you have some time and energy to give to our parish please consider whether you could join the PPC. We will meet and look at areas such as the Year of the Word, evangelisation and ecumenical outreach, pilgrimages, prayer and worship, devotions, charitable activity – all those things that bring us personally closer to Christ, and bring Christ closer to other people. **Speak to Father Simon during January if you're interested in being a member of the Parish Pastoral Council.**

Parish Meetings

Meeting will be held during January with the parishioners who undertake some of the ministries in our parishes, so that Father Simon can better understand who does what. Each meeting will be held in the presbytery meeting room, and please put the dates in your diary now. If you can't make a meeting, let Father Simon know:

- ✕ Monday 20th January – 7.00pm – parish readers
- ✕ Monday 27th January – 7.00pm – ExtraOrdinary Ministers of Holy Communion
(please note the change of date to avoid a clash)
- ✕ Tuesday 28th January – 7.00pm – parish musicians

Prayers for ...

Please remember in your prayers especially:

- ✕ **Monsignor Joe Phelan**, a retired priest of our diocese, who died on Friday evening, 10th January: may he rest in peace!
- ✕ **Monsignor Anthony Stark**, Master-Emeritus of the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom, who died on Wednesday 8th January: may he rest in peace!
- ✕ **Sister Mary Peter Silke**, a sister of Providence in Rosmini House, Loughborough, who died on Wednesday 8th January: may she rest in peace!
- ✕ **Veronica Margaret Davey**, who died recently, and whose Funeral Service will be celebrated in Mansfield Crematorium on Thursday: may she rest in peace!

Pope's Prayer Intentions for January

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

A reflection from 'Marriage Matters'

You are my chosen one Isaiah and Matthew talk of Jesus being 'the Chosen One' and 'the Beloved'. So often we are aware of the times when our partner annoys us. We can develop a sensitivity so when we are tempted to be critical, we remember that this is my 'chosen one' and look for ways to affirm our partner, our 'beloved'.

Readings at Masses this week

Monday	1 Samuel 1:1-8; Psalm 115(116):12-19; Mark 1:14-29
Tuesday	1 Samuel 1:9-20; 1 Samuel 2:1.4-8; Mark 1:21-28
Wednesday	1 Samuel 3:1-10.19-20; Psalm 39(40):2.5.7-10; Mark 1:29-39
Thursday	1 Samuel 4:1-11; Psalm 43(44):10-11.14-15.24-25; Mark 1:40-45
Friday	1 Samuel 8:4-7.10-22; Psalm 88(89):16-19; Mark 2:1-12
Saturday	1 Samuel 9:1-4.17-19;10:1; Psalm 20(21):2-7; Mark 2:13-17

Parish Ministries

	<i>This week</i>	<i>Next week</i>
	Baptism of the Lord	Second Sunday
<i>Welcomers OLV 6pm</i>	Carl Smithson	Annabel Kingsbury
	Jenny Smithson	Marie Baldwin
<i>Welcomers OLV 9am</i>	Mary Joyce	Mike Gemson
	Michael Joyce	Carol Tinker
<i>Welcomers StA 10.45am</i>	Joan Hyde	John Hodgkinson
<i>Readers OLV 6pm</i>	Marie Baldwin	Cathy Smith
<i>Readers OLV 9am</i>	Valerie Brock	Simon White
<i>Readers StA 10.45am</i>	Doug Andrews	Michael Wilkes
<i>Communion OLV 6pm</i>	Cathy Smith & Madeleine Birch	TBC
<i>Communion OLV 9am</i>	Michael Gemson	Theresa Martin
	Mike Asker	Alison Freemantle
<i>Coffee OLV 9am</i>	Paul Wilkinson & Margaret Bell	Frank & Lesley McKenzie
<i>Cleaners OLV</i>	Anna Davies	Moira Black
<i>Counters</i>	Alex Duffy	Margaret Bell

Masses and Services this week

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

Saturday 11th January

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

S 5.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions

S 6.00pm Vigil Mass Intentions of Father John Cairns

Sunday 12th January

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

S 9.00am Mass Sabina May Crosse RIP

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

S 6.00pm Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church)

Monday 13th January

Feria

S 5.00pm Mass Neil Peter Gillespie RIP

Tuesday 14th January

Feria

C 9.00am Mass Intentions of Hughie and Gretta Murphy

Wednesday 15th January

Feria

S 7.30am Mass Intentions of the Hall Family

Thursday 16th January

Feria

2.15pm Funeral for Veronica Margaret Davey, Mansfield Crematorium

S 6.00pm Mass University chaplains and students in our diocese

Friday 17th January

Memorial of Saint Anthony, abbot

C 9.00am Mass Pro Populo (people of the parish)

Saturday 18th January

Saturday Memorial of Our Lady

No morning Mass

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Second Collection for the Sick and Retired Priests of our Diocese
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S 5.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions

S 6.00pm Vigil Mass Private Intention

Sunday 19th January

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

S 9.00am Mass Sabina May Crosse RIP

C 10.45am Mass Patrick Hodgkinson RIP (birthday)

S 6.00pm Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church)

