



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

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21st and 22nd November 2020 : Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

This Sunday, the last in the Church's year, we celebrate the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. We speak of 'Christ the King' as a shorthand for today's feast, but the full title reminds us that the Kingship of Christ is one that extends thought all of time and space, throughout everything which God the Father created in the beginning, and all that has come to be since that first moment. The readings in Mass remind us further, that this Kingship isn't one of power and authority, but one of service and love: a service made necessary by the sins of our first parents, Adam and Eve, and the sins which we ourselves have committed. In this reflection from one of the early Church Fathers, Saint John Chrysostom, we are shown how the sin of Adam and Eve has been overturned by the fidelity of Mary and how we have been redeemed by the suffering Kingship of Jesus.

Have you seen the wonderful victory? Have you seen the splendid deeds of the Cross? Shall I tell you something still more marvellous? Learn in what way the victory was gained, and you will be even more astonished. For by the very means by which the devil had conquered, by these Christ conquered him; and taking up the weapons with which he had fought, he defeated him. Listen to how it was done.

A virgin, a tree and a death were the symbols of our defeat. The virgin was Eve: she had not yet



known man; the tree was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; the death was Adam's penalty. But behold again a Virgin and a tree and a death, those symbols of defeat, become the symbols of his victory. For in place of Eve there is Mary; in place of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, the tree of the Cross; in place of the death of Adam, the death of Christ.

Do you see him defeated by the very things through which he had conquered? At the foot of the tree the devil overcame Adam; at the foot of the tree Christ vanquished the devil. And that first tree sent men to Hades; this second one calls back even those who had already gone down there. Again, the former tree concealed man already despoiled and stripped; the second tree shows a naked victor on high for all to see. And that earlier death condemned those who were born after it; this second death gives life again to those who were born before it. Who can tell the Lord's mighty deeds? By death we were made immortal: these are the glorious deeds of the Cross.

Have you understood the victory? Have you grasped how it was wrought? Learn now, how this victory was gained without any sweat or toil of ours. No weapons of ours were stained with blood; our feet did not stand in the front line of battle; we suffered no wounds; witnessed no tumults; and yet we obtained the victory. The battle was the Lord's, the crown is ours. Since then victory is ours, let us imitate the soldiers, and with joyful voices sing the songs of victory. Let us praise the Lord and say,

Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy victory?

O death, where is thy sting?

The Cross did all these wonderful things for us: the Cross is a war memorial erected against the demons, a sword against sin, the sword with which Christ slew the serpent. The Cross is the Father's will, the glory of the Only-begotten, the Spirit's exultation, the beauty of the angels, the guardian of the Church. Paul glories in the Cross; it is the rampart of the saints, it is the light of the whole world.

National Youth Sunday – Today!

This Sunday we celebrate the youth in our Church. In recognising this day Pope Francis said, 'Every young person has something to say...something to say to priests, sisters, bishops and even the Pope.' He is encouraging young people to turn to the Church and share their thoughts, cares and concerns. Let us pray that we might have ears to hear what the future of our Church is speaking to us.

Closure of churches for Public Worship

On Thursday 5th November Bishop Patrick sent this message to our diocese:

On Wednesday 4th November Parliament passed into law The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 4) Regulations 2020. These are in force from Thursday 5th November until Wednesday 2nd December 2020. As well as the Regulations, the Government has updated its Guidance 2 for the safe use of places of worship to reflect current circumstances.

The Regulations preclude gatherings for communal worship, including the celebration of Mass, baptisms and most weddings. However, it is important to stress that this does not represent a return to the previous lockdown earlier in the year. In these Regulations, places of worship are permitted to open for certain purposes, and to attend a place of worship is listed as a reasonable excuse to leave home.

The purposes for which a place of worship may remain open are listed in Paragraph 18(8) of the Regulations. Most notably, the Regulations allow places of worship to remain open for “individual prayer” which is defined as “prayer by individuals which does not form part of communal worship.” It is important that a generous provision is made to open our churches for substantial amounts of time. Priests are encouraged to maintain a presence in their open churches, making themselves available to talk with those who attend for individual prayer.

Churches may be used for Mass and other services to be streamed, without a congregation present. Musicians and singers may participate in online services, as long as they usually form part of the service that is being broadcast and are essential to its delivery.

Churches are permitted to continue to be open to offer support and charitable outreach, including the provision of food banks or other support for the homeless or the vulnerable. It is so important that this response to the pandemic, which has been such a significant part of parish life over these past months in so many places, continues and develops.

Funeral Masses and funeral services may continue to be celebrated, with an attendance of up to 30 people (not including those who are required for the celebration). Weddings are only permitted when one of those getting married is seriously ill and is not expected to recover. Such weddings are limited to six people excluding the priest or deacon celebrant.

It is important that the routines of cleanliness, stewarding and social distancing to which we have become accustomed, and which have made our churches places of real covid security, are maintained. Face coverings should continue to be worn in

churches, unless individuals are exempt. The maximum number of people allowed in a church for prayer will be determined by its size, seating arrangements and the requirements for social distancing.

In the light of the broad aim to minimise gatherings of those from different households, and to focus resources on keeping churches open for individual prayer, it is recommended that catechism classes and sacramental preparation sessions are suspended, or held online, whilst these Regulations are in force.

Clergy and parishioners are encouraged to read the Regulations and Guidance and make mature judgments about how best they are to be applied in particular contexts. Some priests may have heightened vulnerability owing to age or medical condition: in making their judgements, they should consider their own circumstances and wellbeing, as well as the safety of others.

These days are not easy, but during the time the Regulations are in force it is vital that the best and effective use of our churches is made, for the good of the faithful and wider society.

Within our own circumstance of two churches, in Calverton and Southwell, we might consider what is prudent to do over the remainder of this four-week period. Neither church has permission to be open as a place of private prayer, since when we reopened the churches in August we sought permission simply to open for Mass; should we now wish to open for private prayer there would be a need to prepare further risk assessments, etc. Whenever the churches are open for private prayer there is a need to have them cleaned before and after, and to have stewards on duty during the times the churches are open. As the Bishop has written, there is clearly a desire to have our churches open, however this would entail quite a bit of work from our parishioners.

In determining what to do it would be helpful to know from parishioners their thoughts and suggestions. In particular:

- From amongst the current cleaners, who might be available to clean the church(es), and when during the week?
- From amongst the current volunteer stewards, who might be available to steward our church(es), and at what times in the week?
- From parishioners, would you wish either or both churches to be open? If so, which church and at what times during the week?

Whilst it would be good to have our churches open over the next two weeks for private prayer little enthusiasm has been shown by parishioners for this. Accordingly it seems prudent to keep our churches closed for the time being. *Father Simon*

Access to a Priest or the Sacraments

During these days when our Catholic churches throughout the country can't be used for public worship Mass is still celebrated (privately) every day for the intentions of all the parishioners of Southwell and Calverton, and for the specific intentions you have requested. If you need to contact Father Simon, please get in touch.

As instructed by Bishop Patrick on 5th November, public religious celebrations are not taking place for the time being. **Funeral Services** and **Requiem Masses** can still be held, in church or at the cemetery or crematorium.

If you or someone you know wishes to be anointed with the **Sacrament of the Sick** please speak with Father Simon.

Likewise, if you or someone you know wishes to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (Confession) this can be arranged directly with Father Simon.

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

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:

- www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3KI8GD79FotjQ/featured?fbclid=IwAR1JRpqkdO0rHZY98bsnSC_N9TKbvSKXv0L5bT4yVCcMTHaVmAwaW4g-rAk

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

- <https://ndcys.com>

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

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

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.

From the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

On Tuesday 10th November the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) published its report into The Roman Catholic Church.

To read the full report, follow this link:

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/publications/investigation/roman-catholic-church>

At the culmination of the Plenary Meeting this week, the Bishops of England and Wales issued this statement:

The account given in the IICSA Report of abuse known to be inflicted on children in the Catholic Church in England and Wales in the past 50 years is shocking and overwhelming. At our meeting this week, we Bishops have stood together in profound shame. We express our sorrow and contrition before God.

We have reflected on our need to reach out afresh to those who bear the wounds of permanent damage caused by this abuse. We commit ourselves to listen more intently to those who have been abused so as to learn from them and benefit from their wisdom. It is through learning from their testimony that hearts are changed.

We are grateful to those survivors who have come forward, not only to lay before us their experience of abuse, but to help us understand the depth of their pain. We invite anyone who has experienced abuse to come forward, no matter how long ago the abuse took place. We undertake to listen carefully to them with open heart and mind and support them on a journey of healing.

We have carefully considered the recommendations of the IICSA Report and formally accepted them. We have already begun work towards their implementation.

The IICSA's generic hearings into the Church began last October. Around that time we commissioned an Independent Review of our Safeguarding Structures and Arrangements in the Catholic Church in England and Wales. This was carried out by Mr Ian Elliott, an experienced safeguarding professional who has worked across the world in this area.

This week, alongside the IICSA Report, we have also examined in depth the Final Report of the Elliott Review and fully accepted its recommendations. It is a



searching analysis of our safeguarding work, in its weaknesses and strengths. It proposes a number of remedial and forward-looking recommendations, which accord with the IICSA Report's own recommendations. The work of implementation will begin immediately. It will be carried out in close cooperation with the Religious Orders who play such an important part in the life of the Church.

In all our activities, our desire and resolve is to be a Church in which every child and vulnerable person is not only safe but nurtured into human flourishing. These recommendations present us with steps towards this goal. Key to them is a standards-based approach to safeguarding together with a specially commissioned national body with powers of effective audit and oversight of safeguarding in both Dioceses and Religious Orders.

Everyone in the Church will be required to work to clear, published standards of behaviour and action. Most significantly, the Elliott Report has been fashioned with the participation of survivors of abuse. Their insight and wisdom has been crucial. We thank them for their great courage and generosity in working with us and we look forward to continuing this growing collaboration.

The Elliott Report builds on all that has been achieved in our safeguarding ministry in the past 20 years, achievements also recognised in the IICSA Report. Therefore we thank profoundly all who contribute to the work of safeguarding in the Church today: the thousands of Parish Safeguarding Representatives, the professionals who work in our Safeguarding Offices in every Diocese, the Safeguarding Commissions who oversee this work and give objective and professional advice to guide our decisions, the staff of the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service and those who serve on the National Catholic Safeguarding Commission. These, and many others, have contributed greatly to the current work of safeguarding in the Church.

Today, however, we acknowledge without hesitation, our failings, our mistakes, our lack of adequate cooperation. We express our deep sorrow and ask forgiveness, especially from victims and survivors. We affirm our resolve to effect the next step in our work of safeguarding and care for survivors.

In prayer we turn to Christ the Good Shepherd, the fount of healing and compassion, asking that this moment of painful truth becomes a time of grace as we strive to fulfil the ministry entrusted to us as bishops in an unshakeable unity of purpose.

Vincent Cardinal Nichols
President

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP
Vice-President

Cardinal Nichols' Personal Statement

Alongside the statement of the Bishops of England and Wales, Cardinal Nichols made the following statement on Friday:

On Tuesday 10th November, I received the IICSA Report. It has brought together a picture of abuse inflicted in the Catholic Church over a period of 50 years, together with detailed accounts of that abuse. It is a terrible picture. I remain shocked and ashamed. It is a reality that hangs like a dark cloud over my heart and mind.

I know that the publication of the Report has renewed in so many the lasting pain and wounds they carry as a result of that abuse, no matter how long ago it happened. My first thoughts were and are for them. Indeed many have written to me in these last days. To each and every one, I express my profound sorrow and apologies.

Abuse is a terrible wickedness. It can destroy, or severely damage, a person's capacity for trust and love. It can create of a life an empty shell. One letter I received from a survivor speaks eloquently of its deepest wickedness. She writes that, in the eyes of faith, these are wounds inflicted on the very Body of Jesus Christ, and inflicted by a person who claims to represent Christ and who uses faith, that most precious gift, as a means of controlling their victim. It is a very terrible evil.

I have spent many hours listening to survivors. I have sat and talked with them, shared meals with them and wept with them. Nothing removes from my soul the horror of what has happened to them. I will continue to listen to survivors: hearing them is a humbling and learning experience for me.

I say again: I am so sorry. I say this for many bishops who have gone before me over these 50 years. Many hearing this will feel that we let you down. Yes, we did let you down in many ways, in different times, in different places, for different reasons. I apologise again. I am so sorry for all that has happened over these years.

In these last few days, I have received many letters expressing anger and disgust at what has taken place. I have also received many more letters and messages of respect, support, esteem and encouragement for my continuing ministry. I cannot remove the damage that has been inflicted, but I can tell you that I hear clearly and feel keenly the content and impact of this Report, the messages from survivors, from the public and from so many of the faithful. I take them all to heart.

With profound feelings of both pain and support I came on Monday to our bishops' meeting. I came to be with my fellow bishops, united as we are, in a common life-long commitment, to a ministry we have been given, in a love for this

Church of sinners. I came to continue as their President, to guide and lead our work, to press ahead with the work we have done and are to bring into action, including and beyond the IICSA Report.

Yes, now I look to the future, to the renewal of our work of safeguarding and our response to survivors. There is new work to tell you about, new recommendations for action, shaped by the survivors who work with us and guide us, who give us the fruit of their suffering and wisdom. I thank them, as I thank everyone who works in this important ministry in our parishes and dioceses. Our commitment is strong and refreshed.

And now I hand over the Archbishop Malcolm who will report to you on the work of our Bishops' Conference. He will outline the measures on which we are fully agreed in order to revitalise our work of safeguarding, in order to correct our failings and build something better and stronger for the future. We pray that implementing these measures will help to restore the faith of our people and ensure respect and dignity for every person.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

President, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Archbishop of Westminster

Reporting Abuse

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, **do not delay in contacting the police, using 999** if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased.

If you are in any role within the Catholic Church in England and Wales, you must refer allegations directly to the safeguarding office for your diocese or religious congregation, or directly to the Police.

If you are a member of the public, please refer allegations directly to the police and also to the safeguarding office in your diocese; (the relevant Diocesan safeguarding office can be located using the interactive map on the links page of the CSAS website www.csas.uk.net – contact details will be shown when you click on the relevant area of the map). You can also contact CSAS by telephoning 020 7901 1920 or by email to: admin@csas.uk.net

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.

From the Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Our local SVP conference has 10 members and we normally meet each month and regularly organise fund raising events. Our main work in the parish is visiting the sick, elderly and housebound but this has not been possible since March, although we have remained in contact with the people whom we would normally visit. This has been by telephone sending birthday and greeting cards by post. We have also done odd jobs and dropped small gifts off at the doorstep. We know that many parishioners have made great efforts to remain in touch during this difficult period.



The other work we do involves supporting our twin conference in Kerala in southern India and we are also committed to supporting the establishment of a small shop close to a Catholic school. The shop sells a wide range of things which are needed by the school children such as pens and pencils. It also provides an income for two widows and their families. The widows are repaying the money that we provided but it is being used to establish another project and will not be returned to us. We also plan to support the SVP children's camps at Mablethorpe again in 2021.

Our current problem is that we have only £10 in the bank and we urgently need some money. We do not usually ask directly for money but if you have some to spare The easiest way is pay it into our bank account. Sort code is 60-60-04 the account is 46077413 and the account is SVP OLV Southwell. Cheques are ok as is cash. Call Mike Asker on 01636 636221 if necessary.

News from Cafod

Light a Candle:

Just like lighting a candle in church, you can light a candle on CAFOD'S online votive stand to pray for someone who is in your heart during this season of remembrance. When lighting your candle you can share the name of the person you're praying for and add a little message or prayer to appear with your candle. Your candle will stay on the votive stand so you can come back and visit it at any time.

Each candle is accompanied by a small donation towards CAFOD'S lifesaving work with poor and vulnerable communities. CAFOD hope you will take comfort in knowing that your candle is shining a light of hope around the world. See:

lightacandle.cafod.org.uk

Let Us Pray: Lord of life and love, as we give thanks for times past, grant us courage to embrace the present and grace to share the future. In memory of loved ones dear, kindle their flame to shine in the dark and light the path ahead. Show the way that leads to life as we cherish days gone by and inspire us with the touch of love that faith and hope live on. Amen.

As our thoughts turn towards Advent and Christmas please *Send a Message to the brave:*

Every day, human rights defenders and environmental activists across the world are risking everything to defend our brothers and sisters and protect our common home. Let's not forget them this Christmas – send a card of solidarity to the brave.

The devastation of coronavirus has meant this year has been particularly tough for these brave people. Under lockdown, many have been exposed to increased threats, violence and intimidation as aggressors have exploited lockdown situations for their own gain.

More than 300 human rights defenders were killed last year while fighting to protect their lands and nature, to halt the climate crisis or stand up for peace and human rights. Hundreds more were threatened or criminalised.

This Advent, amid the busyness of the season and the waiting in joyful expectation, remember that they are waiting too – for justice and safety. In the face of threats, your card will help show them that they aren't alone in their struggles but have a community of people in the UK who are all praying and standing with them.

People like Claudelice Silva dos Santos from Brazil. As a child, forest covered much more of the land. Her family harvested Brazil nuts and farmed in harmony with nature. But deforestation and illegal logging has stripped and degraded vast

areas. Claudelice's brother, Jose Claudio, and his partner Maria, were murdered after spending years resisting the illegal acquisition of land and deforestation. The threats made to them were well known, as were efforts to sabotage their family business. After the deaths of Jose Claudio and Maria, Claudelice started receiving death threats. "They want to cut the forest down," she says. "I can only spend two or three days at a time here. If I stay longer, things get dangerous for me. But the Amazon is our life. People ask if I want to go elsewhere. But this is my place. My ancestors are here. Although I'm afraid, it doesn't mean I'm going to stop. The rights of people are being taken away. Jose Claudio and Maria were brave. I have to be brave. We keep their memory alive by fighting for the forest."

All Christmas cards must reach CAFOD by Monday 7th December. See:

cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Latest-campaigns/Messages-to-the-brave

Christmas Raffle

In previous years at this time there has been a parish raffle to help raise much-needed funds for our parish, and to support local charities. Since we aren't able to meet for Mass or social events at this time it seems prudent to hold-over the raffle until such time as we're able to gather together again in good numbers. Of course, if anyone has any potential raffle prizes, or indeed wishes to make a financial donation, both would be very welcome!

Job Opportunity

The Directors of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust are seeking to appoint a new headteacher at Holy Cross Catholic Voluntary Academy, Leicester, (salary scale L15-21). For an application pack please call the Trust's HR department on 0116 296 8164 or email pcooper@aquinas-cmat.org To arrange a school visit please contact Elizabeth Routledge (school office) on 0116 283 3135 or email eroutledge@holy-cross.leicester.sch.uk The closing date is Monday 23rd November.

The Catholic Universe and Catholic Times

If you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered directly to your home every week, post free. Go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call 0161 820 5722 to arrange.

A special offer: three months for £22.00, or twelve months for £80.00.

Vigil of Prayer

The International Eucharistic Congress for 2020 has been postponed until next year. So Cardinal Peter Erdo of Budapest-Estergom has asked that all parishes have a Holy Hour on **Saturday 21st November** – the Vigil of the Solemnity of Christ the King.

He has asked that “in the current epidemiological situation...we can also join in from our homes with our personal prayers. Let us take part in this common adoration, join with your parish, your community and your family. Let this worldwide adoration be the next station of our preparation for the 52nd IEC in Budapest, and let us relive the regenerating love of God.”

Cardinal Nichols has asked that this be disseminated across our dioceses as a moment for the Church to pray for all those affected by the current pandemic in England and Wales. There is no set format for this, but all parishes and dioceses are asked to set aside some time on this date to have Adoration, to pray for the worldwide situation with covid-19, and to enter into this preparation for the Eucharistic Congress next year.

Bishop Patrick and Father Jonathan will be streaming an hour of Adoration from the Chapel in Bishop’s House from 4.00pm – 5.00pm that afternoon and, if this would be helpful to you, please feel free to participate in this moment of prayer. It can be found on the Bishop’s YouTube channel:

www.YouTube.com/bishoppatrickmckinney

Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth

LACY is planning to celebrate the Feast of Christ the Universal King at 6.30pm on **22nd November, National Youth Sunday**. This year the theme is “Together” and it would be great if as many young people as possible would like to join us via Zoom for an uplifting Young People’s Liturgy, supported by Father Simon Gillespie, hosted by LACY and led by young people.

Our challenge for Christmas is to raise some funds for “Menphys” and all information regarding this will be given out at our Christ the King Celebration with suggestions for “fundraising from home”. “Together” we can share Faith and Fun and as we follow Jesus know that “He is the greatest King of all!”

Want to get involved? Email LACY at paulinepayne@hotmail.com for more information. Nearer the time an ID and password will be sent out to you for linking into our Zoom get together. Please note that all people under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult when linking in.

Advent Prayer with a Difference



On **Sunday 29th November** from 3.00pm – 5.00pm Saint Wilfred's church will be open for private prayer. This is a time to worship God and to pray for Calverton, our friends and neighbours and one another with hope and expectation as we begin this season of Advent.

Please do use the opportunity to pray at the beginning of this season.

Vocations Cafe

The Diocesan Vocations Team is holding a Zoom Café for men and women on **Tuesday 1st December at 7.00pm**. If you would like to meet the team, ask any questions or simply just listen in, email Diane at: vocationsadmin@dioceseofnottingham.uk for the link and password to enable you to join them on your device with your drink and cake. Find out what it means!

Diocese of Nottingham LGBT+ Pastoral Ministry

Recent research (August 2020) by University College London and Sussex University has shown that the coronavirus lockdown has provoked a mental health crisis among the LGBTQ community, with younger people being the most seriously affected. Our Diocese has responded by setting up a specialist pastoral network in all the areas within the Diocese, to give advice or offer pastoral support to families or individuals who might need help. To make contact please email in confidence to the Diocesan coordinator: lgbt.pastoral@dioceseofnottingham.uk

A Mass with the intention to reflect the effects of the covid-19 pandemic on LGBT+ people will be celebrated in Advent at Saint Alban's church, Derby, on **Thursday 3rd December** at 7pm, with a period of Exposition before Mass, starting at 6.30pm. The Mass can be attended either in person by reserving a place through the online booking system at: <https://massbooking.uk> or virtually through the Derby Catholics Live website www.derbycatholiclive.co.uk/?fbclid=IwAR1VkfG60prU0y onLQVnbHdBduwWylu_Q1XmRXuO19 Lz5BpuKGYCzrgYPM

Pope's Prayer Intentions for November

Artificial Intelligence We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

From Aid to the Church in Need

Stop Religious Persecution; Stop Christian Persecution.

It is thanks to you, and your generosity and support, that #RedWednesday has been successful in shining a light on persecuted Christians. Our fifth #RedWednesday is one a few days away and this year we need your help to free unjustly detained Christians such as 14-year-old Maira from Pakistan.

#RedWednesday - 25th November - advocates for the well-being, rights and freedom of persecuted Christians, calls for fair treatment of all faith groups and of those of no faith, educates people on why religious freedom is so important, encourages bridge-building between faith groups. There is evidence that through the covid-19 pandemic Christians have suffered enormously, especially in countries like Pakistan and China, where they have been denied emergency help and even blamed for the pandemic.

Other ways to get involved in Red Wednesday:

- Create a #RedWednesday prayer space in your home to pray for suffering Christians
- Wear an item of red and share your photo on social media with the hashtag #RedWednesdayAtHome
- Place a lit red candle (safely) in a window as a sign of hope
- Colour in our solidarity candle and place it in your front window
- Pray our #RedWednesday Novena which (together with more information) can be found here:

<https://acnuk.org/resource/redwednesday-novena-for-parishes>

National #RedWednesday Event; 4.30pm; **Wednesday 25th November**. Join as we launch "Set Your Captives Free", ACN's report on Christians unjustly detained for their faith. This event will be chaired by Rehman Chishti MP and guest speakers includes Archbishop Kaigama of Abuja, Nigeria, former MP Rob Ffello and Maira Shahbaz, whose case of abduction and terror is explored in the report. To watch the event, follow the links on: <https://acnuk.org>

We know many of you have supported #RedWednesday since its beginning, without



you we would not be where we are now. To those who are new to our campaign, welcome and thank you. Without people like you, the issue of Christian persecution would not be as widely recognised, but we need your help to ensure the persecution of Christians is stopped. God bless you for your wonderful support.

A thought as we come to the end of the Church's Year ...

Knowledge of Church history is one of the most helpful things in keeping our balance as Catholics. A few hours' reading will make clear that nearly all the things that disturb faithful Catholics have happened before. The first encyclical of Pius VII, *Qui Satis* (May 15, 1800), gives us an excellent example. At the outset we might be puzzled by the place where the encyclical was issued. "Given at Venice in the monastery of San Giorgio Maggiore." Why in the world was the pope there? Pius VI had died in exile in August of the preceding year. In France the Church was outlawed, Rome was occupied by French troops, the cardinals imprisoned or scattered. To many, both friends and foes of Catholicism, it seemed that the end had finally come. The German poet Novalis wrote toward the end of 1799 that "The old Papacy lies in its grave and Rome for the second time has become a ruin." But it was not to be.

Under the protection of the Holy Roman Emperor, 35 cardinals painfully assembled near Venice and elected the new pope. Before he left Venice he addressed the bishops of the Catholic world in his first encyclical. In the midst of ruin on every side, Pius could say nothing better than to repeat truths which every Catholic should know. *...men should realise that all attempts to overthrow the "House of God" are in vain. For this is the Church founded on Peter, "Rock", not merely in name but in truth. Against this "the gates of hell will not prevail", "for it is founded on a rock".*

Today's Church – weak and divided, often speaking with an unclear voice, increasingly seen as irrelevant by her own children – faces the unusual prospect of liturgical services hindered by public health measures taken to combat the coronavirus. In a situation not altogether different Pius VII, who contemplated "cities, towns, countryside, states, provinces, kingdoms, and nations" which had been "attacked, defeated, destroyed and made wretched" (10) by the assaults of false philosophers and revolutionary armies, could offer nothing better than the unadulterated Gospel. So we too must remember his words: "Consolation and cure...can be sought and hoped for only from the teaching of Christ". In his time, so today, there is nowhere else to go, nowhere else to look for hope.

The Church at the end of the 18th century saw the secure order of Christendom overturned. Over two centuries later we see a Church that to some likewise appears about to expire. Pius VII ended his encyclical by inviting the bishops to join in his prayer that "the Church may have peace to be built up as it walks in the fear of the Lord and in the consolation of the Holy Spirit". We cannot do better. For it is only the teaching and power of her Lord that will heal and restore the Church, and that will make clear to everyone that "all attempts to overthrow the 'House of God' are in vain".

Thomas Storck (www.thomasstorck.org)

Parish Newsletter by email

If you'd like to receive the parish newsletter by email simply email Father Simon at 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.

Financial Support of our Parish

Following the parish financial update published in the parish newsletter a fortnight ago, thank you to those parishioners who have set-up standing orders, or increased their current ones. If you've not done so, please consider what you can give. Our parish is projected to make a loss of almost £25,000 this year, due to the loss of almost all our 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:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✘ Tea bags (40s or 80s) | microwave) |
| ✘ Long life fruit juice (not squash) | ✘ Tinned rice pudding |
| ✘ Sponge puddings (tinned / | ✘ Sugar (500g or 1kg) |

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

A Prayer Intention for Life

In accordance with what our Lord told us, may we take on the responsibility of serving the voiceless in our society - especially those imprisoned, the homeless, the widowed, the sick and the unborn.

We pray for the Lord to fill our hearts with a passion for justice, knowing it is truly Him we are serving in our efforts. Lord hear us.

Visit www.righttolife.org.uk for more information.

The Cycle of Prayer

During Autumn Ordinary Time we are asked to pray for the following intentions in our own private prayer:

- ✕ Students and Teachers;
- ✕ The Spread of the Gospel;
- ✕ The Harvest;
- ✕ The Fruits of Human Work and the Reverent Use of Creation;
- ✕ Justice and Peace in the World;
- ✕ All Victims of War;
- ✕ Young People;
- ✕ Prisoners and their Families.

A reflection from 'Marriage Matters'

Called to be symbols of the way Jesus loves

Jesus says that those who respond to others are in effect responding to him. Our call as married couples is to be a symbol of Jesus' love for us. In each small way that we show our love: doing little jobs, spending quality time together, listening, forgiving and making up, we are responding to that call and nourishing one other.

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.
- ✕ **Mary McGrath**, who died on Saturday 7th November and whose funeral will be celebrated on Wednesday 25th November. May she rest in peace!
- ✕ **Eleanor Margaret Williams**, who died on Saturday 14th November, and whose funeral will be celebrated on Thursday 3rd December. May she rest in peace.
- ✕ **John Barber**, who died on Wednesday 18th November. May he rest in peace.
- ✕ **All the faithful departed**, especially those remembered in our November Dead Lists, placed before the altar during Mass in this month of the Holy Souls.
- ✕ **Limnyuy Gamsi**, a transitional deacon who is to be ordained as a priest for our diocese on Saturday 5th December!
- ✕ **Clergy of our diocese who are sick at this time**: Monsignor Jonathan Moore, Canon Michael Moore, Fathers John Cairns, Anthony Colebrook, John Daley IC, Hugh Doherty, James Hannigan, Peter Harvey, Christopher Hogan, James Lynch, Frank McLaughlin, Robert Rutledge, Michael Tutcher; Deacons Tom Berrie, Stephen Doona, Bill Hutchinson and Robin Pollard.

Masses and Services this week

During these days, although parishioners aren't able to attend Mass, Father Simon will continue to celebrate Mass each day for your requested intentions.

Saturday 21st November Mass	Memorial of the Presentation of Our Lady Moira and family
Sunday 22nd November Mass	SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE Pro Populo (people of the parish)
Monday 23rd November Mass	Feria Kathleen Martin RIP
Tuesday 24th November Mass	Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions In Thanksgiving (RJ)
Wednesday 25th November Mass	Feria Mary McGrath RIP (funeral day)
Thursday 26th November Mass	Feria George Macfarlane RIP
Friday 27th November Mass	Feria Mike Murtagh RIP
Saturday 28th November Mass	Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary John Hodgkinson RIP
Sunday 29th November Mass	FIRST SUDAY OF ADVENT Pro Populo (people of the parish)

Readings at Masses this week

Sunday	Ezekiel 34:11-12.15-17; Psalm 22(23):1-3.5-6; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26.28; Matthew 25:31-46
Monday	Apocalypse 14:1-5; Psalm 23(24):1-6; Luke 21:1-4
Tuesday	Apocalypse 14:14-19; Psalm 95(96):10-13; Luke 21:5-11
Wednesday	Apocalypse 15:1-4; Psalm 97(98):1-3.7-9; Luke 21:12-19
Thursday	Apocalypse 18:1-2.21-23; 19:1-3.9; Psalm 99(100):2-5; Luke 21:20-28
Friday	Apocalypse 20:1-4.11-21:2; Psalm 83(84):3-6.8; Luke 21:29-33
Saturday	Apocalypse 22:1-7; Psalm 94(95):1-7; Luke 21:34-36