



Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Southwell and Calverton

Our Lady of Victories, Southwell and Saint Anthony, Calverton

Our Lady of Victories : Halam Road, Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0AD

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

Parish Priest: Father Simon Gillespie

Mobile: 07760 372105 Email: simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk

The Presbytery, Halam Road, Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0AD Telephone: (01636) 812686

Parish Email: olvsouthwell.stacalverton@dioceseofnottingham.uk Website: www.olvrchurch.com

Part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham Diocesan Website: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Company Number: 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449



17th and 18th July 2021 : Sixteenth Sunday of the Year

On Thursday we celebrate the feast of Saint Mary Magdalene, the first recorded witness to the Resurrection, and a wonderful example of a reformed sinner. Known as the 'apostle to the apostles' for bringing the news of Christ's resurrection to Peter and the others, she is an inspiring saint whose intercession we might ask for:

When Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and did not find the Lord's body, she thought it had been taken away and so informed the disciples. After they came and saw the tomb, they too believed what Mary had told them. The text then says: *The disciples went back home, and it adds: but Mary wept and remained standing outside the tomb.* We should reflect on Mary's attitude and the great love she felt for Christ; for though the disciples had left the tomb, she remained. She was still seeking the one she had not found, and while she sought she wept; burning with the fire of love, she longed for him who she thought had been taken away. And so it happened that the woman who stayed behind to seek Christ was the only one to see him. For perseverance is essential to any good deed, as the voice of truth tells us:

Whoever perseveres to the end will be saved.

At first she sought but did not find, but when she persevered it happened that she found what she was looking for. When our desires are not satisfied, they grow stronger, and becoming stronger they take hold of their object. Holy desires likewise grow with anticipation, and if they do not grow they are not really desires. Anyone who succeeds in attaining the truth has burned with such a



great love. As David says: *My soul has thirsted for the living God; when shall I come and appear before the face of God?* And so also in the Song of Songs the Church says: *I was wounded by love;* and again: *My soul is melted with love.*

Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek? She is asked why she is sorrowing so that her desire might be strengthened; for when she mentions whom she is seeking, her love is kindled all the more ardently. *Jesus says to her: Mary.* Jesus is not recognised when he calls her “woman”; so he calls her by name, as though he were saying: Recognise me as I recognise you; for I do not know you as I know others; I know you as yourself. And so Mary, once addressed by name, recognises who is speaking. She immediately calls him *rabboni*, that is to say, *teacher*, because the one whom she sought outwardly was the one who inwardly taught her to keep on searching. (Saint Gregory the Great)

A Reflection about Sea Sunday



STELLA MARIS

Piracy on the high seas – seafarers need protection and prayer. Forget about Captain Hook, Captain Jack Sparrow, hidden treasures and swashbuckling heroes. Modern-day pirates are nothing like the romantic depictions we are so used to seeing in films and reading about in story books. Nowadays pirates carry AK-47 rifles and use speed boats to board gas tankers and ships, sometimes hijacking a vessel to steal cargo or to use crew as ransom.

These pirates are capable of carrying out well-planned and violent attacks, leaving ship crew members injured or, worse still, dead. One region currently considered a piracy hotspot is the Gulf of Guinea, which accounted for nearly half (43 percent) of all reported piracy incidents in the first three months of 2021, according to global piracy watchdog, ICC International Maritime Bureau, the area also accounted for all 40 incidents of crew kidnaps, as well as the sole crew fatality, during the same period. Recognising the severity of the situation and the impact this is having on the safety and lives of many seafarers – not to mention their families – the global shipping community came together in May to initiate the Gulf of Guinea Declaration on the Suppression of Piracy. By signing up, signatories commit to, among other things, supporting anti-piracy law enforcement as mandated by international law, and efforts by non-regional naval forces to provide a capable incident response capability to complement regional coastal states’ anti-piracy law enforcement operations.

Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea), the Catholic Church's maritime charity, has joined in this call to end the threat of piracy in the region. The organisation has signed the declaration, demonstrating its commitment to eradicating the scourge of piracy. Stella Maris's international network director, Father Bruno Ciceri, who signed the declaration, says: "We fully support the efforts by all parties in the fight against piracy. It is unacceptable that seafarers, unsung heroes who keep world trade moving, continue to be subjected to pirate attacks. Aside from disrupting the global economy, the persistent threat of danger and harm puts considerable stress on seafarers and their families." In 2020, Stella Maris chaplains supported seafarers in three piracy cases, providing vital pastoral care to the crew members affected by the attacks. In one case in Lagos, Nigeria, the charity's chaplains boarded a ship following an attack at sea to meet with the crew members. The crew had been left extremely traumatised, and the support provided by Stella Maris helped allay their fears and anxieties.

Stella Maris hopes governments and enforcement agencies will be able to find a more permanent and long-term solution to the problem of piracy and bring the perpetrators to justice. "We urge hijacked seafarers and fishers not to lose hope that they will be soon reunited with their loved ones and to remain strong in their faith. Families of the hijacked seafarers and fishers can also contact us for assistance and support. We encourage the faithful to pray to Our Lady, Star of the Sea, to protect seafarers and fishers from all dangers and to support those who have been, and continue to be, affected by piracy," says Father Bruno.

As churches celebrate Sea Sunday on 11th July, a day to remember and thank seafarers and fishers for the vital part they play in bringing us goods and food. Please remember these key workers in prayer and support Stella Maris's Sea Sunday appeal.

For more information, go to www.stellamaris.org.uk

Martin Foley has been Chief Executive of Stella Maris since 2010. Previously he was Chief Executive at Life, a support and advocacy charity. Martin says: "I am proud to lead Stella Maris. It's a privilege to work with our port chaplains and ship visitors, here in the UK and overseas. Their inspirational work makes a real difference to the lives of seafarers, fishers and their families around the world." Formed in October 1920 in Glasgow, Stella Maris was established to support seafarers in need. A century later, the charity is the largest ship visiting network in the world, providing seafarers with practical and pastoral support, information, and a friend in times of need.

Sincere thanks to all who supported the Stella Maris Collection last Sunday

The Collection will be continued this Sunday and then our parish donation made

Coming to Mass

In the current partial lockdown public Mass is available on Saturday in Southwell at 6.00pm and on Sunday in Calverton at 10.45am. Currently we are precluded from social interaction in church (outside of our bubble), and recommended not to linger too long outside of church. We can come to church with a maximum (including priest and stewards) of 24 people in Southwell and 30 people in Calverton.

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

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

What to expect when coming to Mass

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

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

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

NHS Covid-19 App and the QR Code in Church

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

Covid Precautions : A Reminder

- ✘ An effective vaccine is the best way to protect people from coronavirus and will save thousands of lives.
- ✘ Following extensive safety trials and authorisation by the independent medicines' regulator, the MHRA, effective covid-19 vaccines are available in the UK for free.
- ✘ It is essential that everyone continues to stay at home if possible to protect the NHS and save lives. Follow the link to make a vaccine booking:

https://www.swiftqueue.co.uk/nottinghamc19vpatient.php?fbclid=IwAR0nHe0lfONdVaFT8vwQIDjb5UQJ0_DQbEjxdLAKEdqdeGIHHATF35ENOEI

Ways to continue to participate in the life of the Church

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

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

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

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

The link to the televised Mass is here:

- http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01_Community/livestream.html

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

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

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

- www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3Kl8GD79FotjQ/featured?fbclid=IwAR1JRpqkdOOrHZY98bsnSC_N9TKbvSKXv0L5bT4yVcCMTHaVmAwaW4g-rAk

A **Livestream from the Grotto in Lourdes** can be followed each day, with Mass broadcast in English at 9.00am (8.00am our time) each morning, and the Rosary, together with other prayers and devotions, in various languages, during the day:

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

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

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

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

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

For children of primary school age the **Mark 10 Mission** gives a reflection for each Sunday's Gospel, and a challenge for the week ahead:

- <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/>

Pope's Prayer Intention for July

Social Friendship

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

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.

Changes to the Celebration of Mass after 19th July

In light of the Government's recent decisions about the relaxation of covid-19 regulations from Monday, Bishop Patrick has written with some directions about how we might relax the restrictions in our churches in Nottingham Diocese. His overriding concern is that churches should remain safe places in which those who feel able to can come and give glory to God in their celebration of the Mass, and as places of private prayer, open during the day for those who wish to pray privately. Some pertinent extracts from the regulations are given below:

Prevailing Local Conditions

All places of worship should always consider the prevailing local conditions for the virus. Special consideration should be given to rates at which people are being vaccinated in the locality, the prevalence of new variants of the virus, the local rates of hospital admissions and any local public health advice. These data can be obtained from the Director of Public Health at the local authority, or the local Environmental Health Department, and it is important to have knowledge of these figures.

Mitigations

It is important to mitigate against the risks of virus transmission. Although the vaccine rollout programme is very successful to date, over 85% of adults having had one dose and 64% two doses, the risk of transmission is still live and there are enough people not protected by vaccination to result in significant hospitalisations. However, HM Government has clearly stated that the progression from infection to hospitalisation and ultimately to deaths has been appreciably reduced through the vaccine programme. Most people admitted to hospital currently are only partially vaccinated or not vaccinated at all and communities should continue to encourage people to participate in the vaccination programme.

Churches should continue to provide hand sanitiser at entrances and exits and face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn by those in church. General cleaning to a good standard, using commonly available cleaning fluids and detergents, with attention to frequent touchpoints is the standard to continue. This is consistent with the advice from Public Health England. While the virus can land on surfaces and can infect people if they touch those surfaces and then touch their mouth, nose or eyes, this risk is significantly lower than the risk from aerosol or droplet spread which is mitigated against with good ventilation and a face covering.

There are key actions which churches and parishes have been doing, and should continue to do, even after 19th July which significantly reduce this risk.

Social Distancing and Capacity of Churches

From 19th July, there will be no legislation on social distancing in England, and thus churches may increase their capacity. Care has to be taken to ensure that churches continue to be places where people feel safe to gather to worship. Each local community should examine the local conditions regarding the virus, and adopt an attitude of care for the people who desire to attend Mass. Suggestions to help this include (but are not limited to):

- a. In large churches, designating an area of the church where there will be set places, socially distant from each other, and where those seated there will be required to wear a face covering.
- b. In places which cannot do this, considering whether one Mass over the weekend schedule would continue providing a reduced capacity with social distancing.
- c. Producing simple cards with a phrase such as “Please leave a Space” which people can pick up on entry to church and put beside them so that a space can be left to allow for distancing.

The adoption of methods such as these will build confidence in the people that the church remains a safe place to enter and worship. Each church should continue to assess the local situation regarding the virus and adapt as necessary to the local conditions. This may mean that in areas of very high transmission, churches may have tighter measures than in areas of lower transmission.

Congregational Singing

Indoor congregational singing will be permitted from 19th July. The use of cantor groups and other choirs is now permitted. It is recommended that singing should be phased in gently as part of worship over the summer period and that face coverings should be worn by members of the congregation whilst singing together, until infection levels reduce.

Opening of Churches

Churches can be left open and unsupervised for individual prayer during times when there are no public acts of worship. QR codes (or other means of attendee identification) should be clearly signposted at entrances and those entering encouraged to use them for test, track and trace purposes. Hand sanitiser should still be made prominently available for people to use.

Test, Track and Trace

As long as the NHS Test, Track and Trace system is in operation, churches should continue to make available the means for people to sign in for acts of worship using the NHS app and the associated QR codes (or other means of attendee

identification). If an online Mass Booking system is in place, this too could be adapted to the new capacities of the churches and continue to be used so that attendees are known.

One-way systems and movement of people

It is no longer necessary to have one-way systems or other restrictions on movement in churches from this time onward. People should exercise good responsible behaviour especially when moving to receive Holy Communion during Mass and should avoid getting too close to each other.

Stewards

The deployment of stewards will no longer be necessary to show people to designated seats etc (except when a community has decided to employ social distancing as part of a scheduled Mass). However, a welcoming presence at the church door is a valuable sign of hospitality, and stewards can assist in the cleaning of frequently used touch points within the church building.

Celebration of Holy Mass

The following is recommended for the celebration of Holy Mass from the 19th July within the churches and communities in the Diocese of Nottingham:

- a) At this time, it is not recommended that Holy Water stoups are refilled. Should people wish to receive holy water, it is recommended that a container with a tap is provided so that small bottles can be filled which can then be taken home.
- b) All usual ministers for the celebration of Holy Mass can be deployed such as servers, cantors, readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
- c) The offertory collection can be resumed in church with baskets and pouches, however, it is encouraged to promote online or contactless giving in the churches if possible.
- d) It is recommended that the physical Sign of Peace remain suspended as it is not an integral part of the Mass, and its omission will help to reduce physical contact between people during the celebration.
- e) Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind and the ministers will continue to sanitise their hands beforehand and wear a face covering whilst distributing. Communion is recommended to be distributed in the hand but those who wish to receive on the tongue may do so. There should be care on the part of the minister to avoid physical contact with the hand or the tongue of the communicant when distributing Holy Communion. In the event of contamination the minister should sanitise their hands before further distribution.

How we might make changes in our two churches

In light of the determination of Bishop Patrick as to the changes we could make, and recognising what alleviations to the covid-19 restrictions have been made already, and local conditions, the context of our parish and parishioners, etc, it would be very helpful to know parishioners' thoughts and views before further changes are implemented.

On the one hand there is a legitimate desire to 'return to normal' as soon as possible, and to have our two churches fully open, with free-seating for all and no requirement to book for Masses. This might lead to a return of all those who haven't yet come back to Sunday Mass, since there wouldn't be the same need in having to book a place for Mass, etc. On the other hand there are still more than half of our congregation, attending pre-pandemic, who haven't yet returned, which might be connected with a reluctance to enter an unsafe space or associate too closely with other people. There could be a risk that making too many changes too quickly might further hinder those people from returning, and perhaps even result in some who have returned to Mass from continuing to do so at this time.

A further consideration is the recognition of Father Simon's departure at the end of August, and the celebration of Sunday Masses by Canon Michael O'Donoghue in Southwell and Canon Philipp Ziomek in Calverton. Since Canon Michael is also being asked to become parish priest of Saint Joseph's parish, New Ollerton, he has to align the Sunday Mass times across three churches. Canon Philip likewise has to consider the Sunday Mass time in Calverton along with the existing Sunday Mass times in Woodthorpe. Consequently it might be imprudent to seek to introduce all the former rotas and ministries at Masses until the pattern of Sunday Masses from September is more clearly known.

In order that Father Simon can make those changes which are sensible and helpful in a timely fashion, and leave those things as they are which don't need to be changed presently, it would be helpful for interested parishioners to contact him directly with their thoughts, views and opinions. The more that parishioners return to Sunday Mass the more evidence there is of the need to increase capacity, for example, which in turn will help to ensure the continuity of Sunday Masses in both churches once there is no longer a resident priest in Southwell.

Any changes which are proposed will be notified in the newsletter before the changes are made, so that together as a community caring for each other we can encourage all in our parish to return to the practice of the Mass, safely and regularly, so that we can give glory and praise to Almighty God.

Forthcoming Events in our parish and wider community

Online Discussion: Post Lockdown Parish Evangelisation and Catechesis. Bishop Patrick's vision for our diocese is that our parishes will be places of Encounter with the love of God in the Sacraments and the Community, places where we can grow as disciples of Jesus, and places where we can be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sent out as Missionary Disciples. The lockdown has really stifled opportunities to make this a reality in our parish, so as we begin to leave lockdown, come, hear, and share ideas how our parishes can we can live this vision through evangelisation and catechesis. The diocese will host an online meeting on **Wednesday 21st July** at 7.00pm to hear from parishes across the diocese about what they hope to do to reach more people and grow in faith as lockdown comes to an end. We will also look at some resources that the we have put together as a department to help parishes with this. To sign up for the event, follow the link at: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk

Faith and Reason: A Catholic Integration: A residential summer course exploring the relationship of faith with philosophy, science and culture, and particularly helpful for catechists and teachers fielding commonly-asked questions around Catholicism, as well as anyone wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic Faith. The summer course will run from **Thursday 5th – Sunday 8th August**. For more info and to register please follow the link:

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/faith-and-reason/>

What shall we say the Kingdom of God is like? Growing Caritas close to home, on **Monday 9th August** from 7.00pm until 8.30pm. Whether you are already a Friend in Caritas or are interested to find out more, join this workshop. We'll gather on Zoom from across the diocese, but spend time in breakout rooms with people from our own (county) Hub. We'll get to know each other a little and share our hopes for life after lockdown. And we'll explore:

- What the Friends in Caritas scheme can offer you and your parish - and what you might be able to offer fellow Friends;
- How the local Hub can help your parish rebuild after lockdown, and meet the needs the pandemic has revealed;
- How to build foundations to underpin vibrant Catholic social action for the long term, locally and globally.

If you're away on holiday or can't make it on 9th August, don't worry - there will be plenty more chances to get involved. Sign up here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeo_HXPcOuHQUG2b3fsHqOmQOZ3EsIguBEpjlPHcyBMj9UWg/viewform

The Cry of Creation *Laudato Si'* in a nutshell, six years on, and its challenge to us in the Diocese of Nottingham, will be held on **Monday 6th September**, 7.00pm - 8.30pm. Whether it's climate change or the depletion of wildlife, news is coming in thick and fast of the changes our planet is undergoing. The world's poorest, who are least responsible, are being hardest hit - but all of us are beginning to feel the impact. This interactive webinar will be a curtain-raiser for the launch of the diocesan environmental programme on 20th November. To book a place visit:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAvc-Gorj4rH9Fh9M8cHurBpAKfcdzi3lwp>

The Green Church Showcase

The Bishops' Conference and the Church of England are inviting parishes, schools, dioceses, and Christian groups to submit details of work that they have undertaken to combat climate change, protect nature, and involve their communities in making changes. Could our parish be one of them? The deadline for submissions is **Wednesday 21st July**. If you're interested in this initiative and think it's something we could undertake as a parish please speak with Father Simon. More information can be found at: **<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/green-church-showcase>**

Community Organising Events from Nottingham Citizens

Nottingham Citizens is an alliance of faith, education and voluntary organisations working together for justice and the common good. Two Catholic parishes are members - the Cathedral and Holy Spirit, West Bridgford - and others are welcome to join. Two opportunities are coming up to get involved:

- ✕ **Saturday 7th August**, 10.30am-1.00pm: a summer picnic in St Anne's Park, with a focus on low pay and mental health;
- ✕ **Saturday 6th November**, 9.30am-4.30pm: 'How to make change', an introduction to Community Organising through 'five steps to social change'

For more information visit: **<https://linktr.ee/nottinghamcitizens>**

Counsellors Needed

Caritas Diocese of Hallam, our neighbours to the north, are experiencing high demand for their counselling service with schools and communities – including from potential clients in Nottinghamshire. They are seeking qualified counsellors for sessions both online and in person, and have asked for help from our diocese to meet this growing need. For further details please contact Bernie Ware on 07980 406198 or email bware@hallam-diocese.com

Red Box (Missio) Holders in Calverton

Missio has asked those in Calverton with red boxes do send their collection money:

- ✘ Via a cheque – make it payable to Missio-Mill Hill and post it to Red Box, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU
- ✘ Give online – go to mission.org.uk/redbox
- ✘ Give via text – text REDBOX 5 (to donate £5), or REDBOX 10 (£10) to 70085
- ✘ By phone – call 020 7821 9755 to donate with your credit or debit card
- ✘ Bank transfer – account name: Missio; sort code: 16-00-16; number: 10824230

Please quote the Parish Centre Number which for Saint Anthony is NOT122B, as this enables Missio to attribute the correct donations to the correct church

Fundraising for Alzheimer's Research

At the end April 2021 Peter Thomas signed-up to an initiative called 'The Treble Challenge Running Down Dementia' where he pledged to running 150 kilometres by 31st August to fundraise for Alzheimer's Research. This charity is dear to both his and his wife Christine's hearts as three of their parents died from dementia. One in three people born today will develop dementia in their lifetime, and Peter's goal is to raise over £150 towards this valuable research; so far he has run over 100km!

If you wish to support this vital research please go directly to the Just Giving Page by following the link below and clicking on the orange donate button under Peter's photograph:

<https://run.thetrebblechallenge.org/pages/peters-pain>

Or email Peter at peterthomas234@outlook.com or donate money directly to Peter and Christine (in Calverton) or via Father Simon. *Many thanks Peter and Christine*



Road Closures : Sunday 25th July

The Outlaw Triathlon will take place on **Sunday 25th July**, with the cycling portion in central Nottinghamshire from 7.00am until 1.00pm. Parts of Southwell will have diversions in place, and the B6386 between Southwell and Oxton, as well as parts of the A6097 close to Calverton, will be either closed or be subject to traffic restrictions. Allow a little extra time for coming to Mass that day if this is your route to church. Further details can be seen at: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/34977400>

Trees celebrated in a walk around Westminster Cathedral

This article, by Eileen Teague and published in the Catholic Herald last month, might make us consider whether we could do something similar as an outdoor parish activity around either or both of our churches?

Tree walkers in Morpeth Terrace. *How often do we notice the trees in places familiar to us?.. Why is it important to do so?.. And what does care of trees have to do with our faith?..*

On Sunday 27 June, I joined a group finding out about trees in the vicinity of Westminster Cathedral. I've visited the area many times since childhood, but hardly noticed them before now. This was an event as part of London Climate Week. The experience, organised by Westminster Justice and Peace, was special because it seems to be the first time that valuing trees was firmly on the agenda of a diocesan body. It seemed strange to be gathering outside the Cathedral under a banner, 'Tree Walk from Westminster Cathedral,' but it shouldn't have been. Care of Creation is an element of Catholic Social Teaching, all underlined by the 2015 Encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. Colette Joyce, Westminster Justice & Peace Co-ordinator, led the two-hour walk. She reflected on the importance of trees within Christian tradition and invited contemplation of some of the many beautiful trees within easy walking distance of Westminster Cathedral.

As we strolled, we were encouraged to think about the nature and purpose of trees, especially their role in maintaining a stable climate that enables all life Earth to exist and thrive. Trees bind soil, remove carbon dioxide from the air and release oxygen, as well as providing a home for many species of birds and insects. Along the way we considered, too, the significance we attach to trees - from the solemn prayer before the wood of the Cross to the celebratory decoration of Christmas trees. When we met outside Westminster Cathedral's West Door we were immediately invited to admire the two mature London Plane trees in the piazza. Plane was widely planted as a street tree during the 18th and 19th centuries, being sturdy and suitable for city life for many reasons. It requires little root space and can survive in most soils and a wide range of temperatures. One of these two trees provided welcome shade for my son James who spent a number of hours standing with young people from dioceses around England and Wales waiting to see Pope Benedict during his visit in 2010. The Westminster youth contingent was under the Plane tree nearest the West Door, and he was very grateful. We learnt that more than half of London's eight million trees are Planes and they provide the important service of removing pollution from the atmosphere. The mottled olive, brown and grey bark breaks away

in large flakes to reveal new cream-coloured bark underneath, a process which cleanses the tree of pollution stored in the outer bark. Each year London's trees remove 2,241 tonnes of pollution which is a major contribution to public health.

When we moved off down Morpeth Terrace we passed rows of Plane trees and stopped at the end under a statue of Saint Francis of Assisi for a short reflection and prayer. Then there was Willow Place, named after Willow trees that were formerly common here. And Ginkgo in Rochester Road, a tree which survived the dinosaurs and the ice age, and, Colette told us, was the first tree to recover in Hiroshima after the city was destroyed by a nuclear bomb in August 1945. Then we walked around Vincent Square, a 13-acre green space lined with mature trees including London Plane. In Rutherford Street we admired the Silver Birches, whose white bark reflects heat and whose tolerance to pollution makes them a common sight in urban landscapes. Silver Birches also provides food and habitat to more than 300 insect species. By gardens near the Cardinal Hume Centre we heard the tenth century, 'The Dream of the Rood' and heard how trees are mentioned in the Bible more than any living thing other than God and people. 56 Bible verses talk about trees. We crossed Victoria Street and sat down in a grassy area for a short reflection on what trees mean to us. "Daily walks in the trees of Dulwich Wood got me through Covid" said one person. "This walk is a spiritual journey, about making a connection with trees," said another. "They're the lungs of the world," and "we must learn to keep the mature trees, not just plant new ones," seemed to be common concerns about global deforestation and the HS2 project in particular in Britain. One member of the group lamented the disruption around Euston Station where she lives and has seen several public gardens destroyed and trees axed. We considered the quotation from JRR Tolkien on our flier: 'Every tree has its enemy, few have an advocate. In all my works I take the part of trees against all their enemies.'

Of course, London used to be covered in forest. This is reflected in the fact that so many parts of London are named after trees and woods. There are the three Oaks (Burnt, Gospel and Honor), Nine Elms, Royal Oak Station, Wood Green, Forest Hill and Forest Gate. Our final stop was St James' Park, a green gem of 57 acres and we stopped to admire a Black Mulberry, Weeping Beech and a Caucasian Wingnut! There are around 1,250 individual trees in St James's Park from around 35 species. The two islands in the lake, with their secluded woodlands and shrubberies, serve as nesting sites and refuges for birds. As we watched the ducks and geese waddling between the trees we thanked Colette profusely for this beautiful experience. The walk was so successful that she has organised another one on 5 September! Several people have booked in already.

Parish Newsletter by e-mail

To receive the parish newsletter electronically ask to be added to the mailing list by emailing Father Simon at olvsouthwell.stacalverton@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

Financial Support of our Parish

Thank you to those parishioners who give regularly via standing orders. If you don't do so, please consider what you can give, and if you can the details are:

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

Many thanks to all our parishioners for your continuing generosity!

Supporting Newark Foodbank

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

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| ☒ Tinned cold meat | ☒ Washing-up liquid |
| ☒ Instant mashed potato | ☒ Shampoo |
| ☒ Tinned or microwaveable sponge puddings | ☒ Deodorant |
| | ☒ Hand wash and soap bars |

A reflection from 'Marriage Matters'

Walking alongside or away?

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, experienced rejection: many "*walked with him no longer*". This offers us some consolation, when despite doing our best to pass on our faith in Jesus and His Church to our children, we, their 'shepherds', experience them drifting away from the faith. God loves our children unconditionally, and we need to continually 'hold them' in our love.

A prayer for life

We pray for all expectant mothers. We pray for an overwhelming sense of hope and joy to fill their lives, and for increased support to be given by their family, friends, and local communities, as they journey through this life-changing experience. Lord hear us.

Also visit: www.righttolife.org.uk/news

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.

Sharing Scripture with our children sounds like hard work. Do we even have a Bible in the house? Where do I start? What if they ask difficult questions? What if there are names I can't pronounce? As adults, we don't necessarily find reading the Bible the easiest, and we can feel really nervous when introducing it to our kids. And yet, if we want our children to grow up as believing Catholics, we can't do better than to start them reading the Bible at a young age. We might not think we have much influence over our children, especially as they become teenagers. Yet what we do ourselves, and what we do together has a huge impact on them. In a survey by Youth for Christ, young people were asked which people were the most influential in their lives. Social media influencers got 6%, friends came in at 33%, but parents were the clear leaders at 55%. Reading the Bible with our children is a really key way to share our faith.

This isn't the only benefit it can bring, however. The Bible covers every kind of situation in life, not only joy, serenity and comfort, but rage, despair and doubt. Reading the Bible with our children helps them to see that all these are acceptable emotions: being angry with God when something terrible happens is not only human, it's biblical. Our young people have had to face difficult situations over the past year, and giving them the chance to talk through their emotions, and bring it to prayer, can be healing all round.

Another benefit is seeing their lives reflected in Scripture, and being given permission to discuss hard issues together. Difficulties with friends, ill health, fearing death, worrying about the future – these are themes that come up regularly for young people but are also found accessibly in the Old Testament and in the Gospels. What do they think about Jesus going off on his own in Jerusalem as a child and being found in the Temple? What about leaving the ninety-nine sheep behind while going

off to look for the one? What do they think about James and John trying to get the best seats in the Kingdom, or Peter betraying Jesus? Helping our kids to make connections between Scripture and their everyday experience is a gift for life – one that will see them through the toughest times.

Finally, sharing the Bible with children brings such benefits to us as adults. They hear these stories as Jesus told them and as the early church heard them. They get the jokes, they gasp at the surprises. They bring a fresh perspective to our rather jaded outlook, and help the Holy Spirit to burst the preconceptions we have. My ten year old is the only person I have heard respond to the healing of the paralysed man with the question “Weren’t the people who owned the house annoyed about the hole in the roof?” That stopped me in my tracks! And by doing “child friendly” activities such as a Jesse Tree through Advent, we may find ourselves in some lesser-known parts of the Bible too.

Avril Baigent, Pastoral Ministry Advisory, Diocese of Northampton

Prayer in the Year of Saint Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

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

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

Prayers for ...

Please remember in your prayers especially:

- ✘ **Eileen Turner**, a parishioner in Calverton who died on Friday 9th July, and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Good Shepherd church, Arnold, on Monday 2nd August. May she rest in peace.
- ✘ **Becky Bennett**, a parishioner in Southwell.
- ✘ **Clergy of our diocese who are sick at this time:** Monsignori Martin Cummins, Jonathan Moore; Canon Michael Moore; Fathers John Cairns, John Daley IC, Hugh Doherty, Paul Entwistle, Kevin Gradwell, James Hannigan, Peter Harvey, Christopher Hogan, James Lynch, Frank McLaughlin, Robert Rutledge, Patrick O’Doherty, Michael Tutcher; Deacons Tom Berrie, Stephen Doona, Bill Hutchinson.

Masses this week

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

Saturday 17th July

No morning Mass

Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sixteenth Sunday of the Year

Collection for Stella Maris

S 6.00pm Mass

Jessica Hanvey RIP

Sunday 18th July

Sixteenth Sunday of the Year

C 10.45am Mass

Pro Populo (people of the parish)

Monday 19th July

Feria

S 9.00am Mass

Jill Bernice Ball

Tuesday 20th July

Feria

C 9.00am Mass

Eileen Turner RIP

Wednesday 21st July

Feria

S 9.00am Mass

Special intention

Thursday 22nd July

Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

C 9.00am Mass

Joan Hyde RIP

Friday 23rd July

Feast of Saint Bridget of Sweden, patron of Europe

S 9.00am Mass

Mike Murtagh RIP

Saturday 24th July

Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

No morning Mass

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

S 6.00pm Mass

John D Newton RIP

Sunday 25th July

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

C 10.45am Mass

Moira McCluskey RIP

Readings at Masses this week

Sunday Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 22(23); Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34

Monday Exodus 14:5-18; Exodus 15:1-6; Matthew 12:38-42

Tuesday Exodus 14:21-15:1; Exodus 15; Matthew 12:46-50

Wednesday Exodus 16:1-5.9-15; Psalm 77(78):18-19.23-28; Matthew 13:1-9

Thursday Song of Songs 3:1-4; Psalm 62(63):2-6.8-9; John 20:1-2.11-18

Friday Galatians 2:19-20; Psalm 33(34):2-11; John 15:1-8

Saturday Exodus 24:3-8; Psalm 49(50):1-2.5-6.14-15; Matthew 13:24-30