



The Catholic Community Newsletter of ST MARY'S, GRANTHAM

(Please take a copy home)

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| 5 th Week of Eastertide | | | Lectionary Year A1: Psalter Week 1 | May |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------|--|--|
| Saturday | 6 th | 6.00pm | Vigil Mass | M.I. HM King Charles III - Fr J |
| Sunday | 7 th | 9.30am | Fifth Sunday of Easter- | M.I. HM King Charles III - Fr J |
| Monday | 8 th | N.P.S. | | |
| Tuesday | 9 th | 6.00pm | Exposition | |
| | | 6.30pm | Benediction | |
| | | 7.00pm | Holy Mass Easter Feria | M.I. Victims & Survivors of Abuse - Fr J |
| Wednesday | 10 th | 9.30am | Holy Mass Easter Feria | M.I. Clarkson - Foundation Mass |
| Thursday | 11 th | 11.00am | Holy Mass Saints John Houghton, Robert Lawrence, priests and Companions: The Martyrs of Nottinghamshire | M.I. Alessandro Guiducci Private Intentions- Fr J |
| Friday | 12 th | 9.30am | Holy Mass Easter Feria | M.I. Alexandra Townend Thanksgiving - Fr J |
| Saturday | 13 th | 9.30am | Mass at HMP Whatton | |
| | | | Confessions – UP TO 15 minutes <u>before</u> Mass (please arrive early) or by appointment | |
| 6 th Week of Eastertide | | | Lectionary Year A1: Psalter Week 2 | May |
| Saturday | 13 th | 6.00pm | Vigil Mass | M.I. Bishop Patrick Private Intentions - Fr J |
| Sunday | 14 th | 9.30am | Sixth Sunday of Easter | M.I. For all who work in Safeguarding within the Diocese |
| N.P.S. – No Public Services | | | | M.I. – Mass Intention |

Dear Parishioners

As we come together this weekend as the Catholic community here in Grantham, to celebrate together the Sunday Masses for the **5th Sunday of Easter**, we are I am sure mindful too that our country has a new King! He became King though when his mother died last year, but King Charles was publicly crowned and anointed as our monarch this Saturday, May 6th in Westminster Abbey. I am sure many of us have been watching this historic event on our televisions and many too will be celebrating with friends and families as we take time to pause and relax together during this extra Bank Holiday Weekend.

King Charles III become King at the age of 74. At an age when most people retire or at least are thinking about retiring! Yet he has taken on a new, public, and very demanding role. A role which he has been aware of and has been preparing for throughout all his life to date.

My personal view is that King Charles III is a sensitive and caring man whose beliefs have come into their own in recent years and are now shared by many of us in our modern society. When he started to talk about the environment and climate change for example, so many

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IN AN EMERGENCY, if no answer from the Parish phone number, please ring: Father Stephen Dye OAKHAM (01572 722308).

years ago now, many dismissed his views. Now we are all experiencing the effects of climate change and as our own Holy Father, Pope Francis reminds us in his Encyclical Letter: “*Laudato Si*” (2020) the effects of climate change are very real and ever more pressing. We need as a society to care more for people, our environment and our ‘common home.’ It will continue to be an important theme of our lives with ongoing concern and action needed for the future.

When as Prince of Wales, King Charles indicated that as future King he would not only be regarded as Head of the Church of England, but, because he recognised many people in the UK practice other Faiths and none, as our future monarch he would represent us all, many were very disapproving of this view. We live though in a multi-cultural, multi-faith society and many of us perhaps now recognise the wisdom of his thoughts to acknowledge and value this diversity of our modern society.

As Prince of Wales, King Charles founded the Princes’ Trust to support young people to start new businesses and projects who otherwise might have been excluded from doing so through lack of finance and support. Inclusion seems an important aim for all of us in our present society as we journey together into the future. King Charles has persisted with his views.

King Charles is now an older man and none of us can truly imagine the incredible burden His Majesty has assumed now that he has been crowned as our King. The world has changed immeasurably since his mother ascended the throne in 1953 and many more opportunities and challenges pose themselves in the lives of us all. As faithful citizens of our countries, let us continue to pray for our King now that he has just assumed the fullness of the high office entrusted to him. Let us commend him and his consort, Queen Camila, and the members of the Royal Family to our Heavenly Father, that God may sustain them in their duties and responsibilities all the days of their lives.

Prayer for the King and for the Royal Family

Heavenly Father,

We pray to you with grateful hearts on this special weekend during which we have witnessed the coronation of King Charles III. We ask that you bless him with your wisdom, your grace, and your strength as he takes on the weighty responsibility of his new high office.

May he always seek your guidance and direction in all his decisions, and may he be a just and fair ruler, caring deeply for the well-being and common good of all his people.

We pray that you surround him with wise and faithful advisors who will help him to govern with wisdom and discernment.

We ask that you protect him and his family from all harm and danger, and that you would bless them with good health and strengthen them in times of trial and adversity.

We ask this through Christ who is the way, the truth, and the life and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. God, for ever and ever. Amen

In our Readings set for this Sunday 5th Sunday in Easter we are told that: ‘No one can come to the Father, except through me.’ Our readings at Mass this week continue to follow the infant church, and with them we are asked to ponder the words Jesus gave us at the Last Supper. The **First Reading** shows how the disciples faced the growing tension between the Greek and Hebrew traditions. After discernment and prayer, they delegate tasks. The **Responsorial Psalm** is one of praise for God’s word and his work. It is also a prayer of trust. For St Peter, Christ is the foundation, the living cornerstone for all believers. We are to set ourselves close to him. (**Second Reading**). The **Gospel** is from Jesus’s discourse to his friends before He suffered and died. They are words of encouragement. In the light of the Resurrection, the disciples must have drawn strength from them. Jesus is with them: the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

As we face the week ahead, let us keep our eyes firmly fixed upon Jesus, even when we are concerned by all that is happening around us or when we are unsure or feel at times a little lost or uncertain. May we strive to follow the Lord as the Way, in joy and hope and trust and in the knowledge of His merciful and unconditional love.

With my prayers and warmest best wishes,

Your parish priest and friend

Fr Jonathan



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



Pope Francis Intention for May:
For church movements and groups

Your Prayers are asked for those who are sick and housebound.

Werby McHugh, Eileen Scanlon, Brian Martin, Heather Mascott, John & Rosemary Ames, Bridie Tomlin, Ann McLarnon, Claire Johnson, Paul Lincoln, Helen Smith, George White, Dolores O’Keiffe, Marlene Bean, Graham Smith, Mary Walsh, Lesley Sanchez, Sadie Caplin, Edward Balys.

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

If you cannot see your loved one’s name on the sick list above, please provide their name and consent in writing or by email to be published in the newsletter online.

A message from Bishop Patrick regarding Sudan

As the situation worsens, the Church in Sudan asks for our prayers. I invite you to join me in praying for the horrendous situation in Sudan, and especially for all God's children who are affected most deeply by it.

Lord, that there might be, in the short term, a ceasefire and in the long term, a complete end to this divisive fighting which is tearing the country and children apart. Bring justice and healing to this divided land, we pray.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us
Saint Josephine Bakhita, pray for us
Saint Michael the Archangel, pray for us

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil;
may God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.
Amen.

On 21st April Kinga von Schierstaedt, Project Co-ordinator for ACN (Aid to the Church in Need) in Africa and Head of Projects in Sudan, gave an interview detailing the dangers and uncertainties facing our brothers and sisters in Sudan. Let it inform and guide our heartfelt prayers. It is available to view on the diocesan website:
www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/news/sudan

Safeguarding Sunday

The Diocese has designated Sunday May 14th as Safeguarding Sunday.

This is an opportunity for the Diocese to reflect on the theology and spirituality of safeguarding and to express gratitude for the work of all our parish safeguarding representatives, who assist us in assuring that our Church is a safe place for all children and vulnerable adults. To inform congregations of the journey of the Catholic Church and how safeguarding has evolved over the years and the current changes that have now been implemented.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Loose Plate | £ 360.88 |
| Envelopes | £ 65 |
| Votive Candles | £ 31.38 |
| Digital Collection Plate | £ 49.17 |
| Repository | - |
| Standing orders | £ 800 |
| Total | £ 1306.43 |

Please consider switching your weekly offerings to Standing Order and adding Gift- Aid if possible.

Account Name: St Mary's Immac Grantham RCP
Sort Code: 30-93-58
Account Number: 00208613

You can also use DONATE button available on our website.
Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

We have spaces in our diary for anyone who wishes to have a Mass offered for a loved one, living or deceased. Please find Mass Intention envelopes in the entrance of the Church or speak to Fr Jonathan.

BAPTISM

If you are seeking to have your child baptised and are regularly attending Mass, please in the first instance speak to Fr Jonathan or Andrew after one of the weekend Masses. You will need to fill in a Baptism form which can be downloaded from the parish website and once returned to them you will then be advised on how to take the next step.

Now Accepting Contactless Donations

You will find our **DIGITAL COLLECTION PLATE**, contactless terminal in the church. Just use your contactless debit/credit card or smart phone/ device to make a donation, there are options for other church funds such as "General donation to the Parish / Repository/ Second Collection"

Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card onto the reader.

You can also opt-in for Gift Aid to increase your donation by 25%.

If you are a UK taxpayer, then donating with Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 received.

Contactless donations are simple to administer, secure and convenient.

LITTLE CHURCH

Children up to 7 years old have the chance to leave the church for the first part of the Sunday Mass for a short session prepared specially for them by our Catechists. Through gentle catechesis, creative input and simple prayer little children are helped to understand the message of the day's Gospel.

Little Church takes place on the following dates:

May 14th and 21st
June 11 and 25th
July 9th and 16th

Gift Aid

Thank you to the many parishioners who gift aid their donations to the church. This brings in an extra amount of money for the parish without any extra cost to the donor.

However, if you cease to pay tax at any time, please let the gift aid co-ordinator know. If we claim gift aid on donations and subsequently learn that the donor is no longer a tax payer, we have to re-pay HMRC the amounts claimed.

If you would like any information on becoming a gift aider please contact Jennie on jennie.watson@dioceseofnottingham.uk or pick up a Gift Aid pack from church.

Come to Lourdes!

Bishop Patrick invites everyone in our diocese to join him in coming to this beautiful Marian Shrine between Saturday 15th and Thursday 20th July.

Travel will be by air from East Midlands Airport, and the five-night all-inclusive prices (full board) start at £709.

See the poster at the back of church for more details or visit <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/diocese-of-nottingham>

REPOSITORY

Dear Parishioners

The Repository has a wonderful selection of gifts, prayer books and many religious items. We are constantly trying to source new keepsakes. First Holy Communion choice is very varied: numerous cards, missals, Mass books, rosettes, pocket tokens, rosaries, rosary bracelets to name but a few.

If you have any order requests, please contact us on 01476 562517.

Weekdays please pay using the new card system or the wall safe for cash.

Weekends stewards on duty will help you with your purchases.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Teresa & Richard



 Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
Pursuing justice, we seek clarity and peace.

 **Caritas**
DIOCESE OF NOTTINGHAM

Loving the stranger

Becoming a hospitable Church to those from other shores

Wednesday 17 May 2023
7.00 – 8.30 p.m. on Zoom
Click here to book
or use the link below

 **LOVE THE STRANGER**

Prompted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference publication 'Love the Stranger' (left), Caritas Diocese of Nottingham and the Sisters of St Joseph of Peace invite you to an online workshop to develop support for those fleeing violence and destitution, or settling in our country for a better life.

- Meet others who want to ensure those caught in our asylum system are restored their human dignity
- Hear from people who have volunteered in a variety of settings to support refugees and asylum seekers
- Learn about the work of partner organisations
- Plan ways to engage MPs in developing a compassionate asylum policy
- Prepare support for those likely to be housed at RAF Scampton near Lincoln
- Ensure that people from all over the world thrive in our parishes
- Help to build a network for advocacy and practical service in the diocese of Nottingham.

Book your place at bit.ly/lovingthestranger-booking

Persecuted Christians Today – Reflection and workshop.

The Diocesan Ecumenical Commission has arranged a day led by Teresa Kehoe (Aid to the Church in Need) at Infant of Prague parish hall, 63 Broad Street, Syston, LE7 1GH on Saturday 27th May; 10.00am to 1.00pm. Aid to the Church in Need supports the Catholic faithful and other Christians where they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need.

No need to book, just come on the day; refreshments available, please bring a packed lunch. For more information contact Fran Hazel at

ecumenicalcommission@dioceseofnottingham.uk