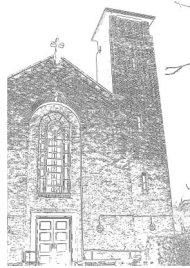


# St Joseph's Catholic Church



Parish Priest: Fr John Nwadike CM  
 Address: The Presbytery, Babworth Road, Retford, DN22 7BP  
 Telephone: 01777 703373  
 Office email: [saintjosephretford@gmail.com](mailto:saintjosephretford@gmail.com)  
 Fr John's email: [parishpriestsaintjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:parishpriestsaintjoseph@gmail.com)  
 Parish Hall Bookings email: [bart.hoga@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bart.hoga@hotmail.co.uk) contact: 0780 721 0863  
 Parish Safeguarding Reps: Gerard & Grisalda Buffham email: [safeguarding.sjret@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:safeguarding.sjret@hallam-diocese.com)  
 Webpage: [St Joseph's, Retford - CATHOLIC PARISHES OF BASSETLAW \(weebly.com\)](http://StJosephs,Retford-CATHOLIC-PARISHES-OF-BASSETLAW.weebly.com)

## Parish Weekly Liturgy

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B)  |   |  |
| <b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>      | Mass @ 6.00 pm  | People of the Parish   |
| <b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b>        | Mass @ 9.00 am  | Priest's Intention   |
| EASTER WEEKDAY                             |   |  |
| <b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>        |   |  |
| EASTER WEEKDAY                             |   |  |
| <b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>       | Mass @ 9.30 am  | Thomas Khoo (Anniversary)  |
| EASTER WEEKDAY                             |   |  |
| <b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>     | Parish Online Rosary Devotion @ 7.00 pm                           | Everyone welcome to join in. Sign in info on the back page.                    |
| EASTER WEEKDAY                             |   |  |
| <b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>      | Mass @ 6.30 pm  | People of the Parish<br><i>Parish Meeting after Mass in Church</i>             |
| EASTER WEEKDAY                             |   |  |
| <b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>        | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament @ 11.45 am<br>Mass @ 12.15 pm | Pray the rosary and spend some quiet time with the Lord.<br>Priest's Intention |
| 4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B)  |   |  |
| <b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>      | Mass @ 6.00 pm  | Jimmy Caulfield (Happy Repose)   |
| <b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>        | Mass @ 9.00 am<br>Baptism @ 11.00 am                              | Arthur Newby & Mavis Newby (Anniversary)<br>Delaney Family                     |
| <i>Collection for Priest Training Fund</i> |   |  |



Please pray for all those who have passed away recently and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time; our **sick** (Eileen Hannah, Christine Rigby, Delia Davies, Nina Wakelin, Rachel Harvey, M Whitlam, Brigida Lembo, Barbara & Peter Bainbridge, Norah Langley, Fr Bill Bergin, Angela Brown) and housebound parishioners; for peace in the world, for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life, families preparing for Sacraments (Baptism, First Holy Communion & Confirmation) and the neophytes, special prayers for the Crompton family. **Special Collections April: 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Priest's Training Fund, 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> Parish Building Maintenance Fund.**

**\*\*If you would like to add a person to our sick list, please ensure that the person or their family members have given permission to have their names published in our newsletter/website. This is to comply with GDPR legislation.\*\***

### Ways of Supporting the Parish

- By online banking (Diocese of Hallam St Josephs Retford Sort Code 40-41-07 A/C 51106686) please state what it is for in the reference.
- By debit/credit card on our **Stewardship donation page** which you may access via St Joseph's Retford's page on the deanery website ([www.worksopcatholicchurches.weebly.com/supporting-the-parish.html](http://www.worksopcatholicchurches.weebly.com/supporting-the-parish.html)) or directly from the Stewardship website ([www.stewardship.org.uk](http://www.stewardship.org.uk)) under causes search for Diocese of Hallam - St Josephs Retford.
- By cheque made out to 'Diocese of Hallam St Josephs Retford'.
- Through easyfundraising: Go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and search for **St Joseph's RC Church, Retford.**



**Mass and Meeting to discuss parish future.** This will take place on **Thursday 18 April. Mass will be at 6.30 pm.** The discussion about the parish future will take place after the Mass. If you have any thoughts and suggestions before the meeting feel free to email Fr John (email on top front page of newsletter). Reflect on Bishop's Ralph's message (earlier this month—newsletter/diocesan stats are still on our parish webpage) and pray to the Holy Spirit for wisdom and guidance on the way forward to re-vitalise our parish community.

**Annual Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse** - Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April @ 7.00 pm at St Michael and All Angels Church, in Wombwell (Barnsley Deanery). This is a service (not a mass) for everybody to come together to pray for survivors of abuse and display compassion and unity as a church to survivors. All survivors welcome to attend too.

**First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation.** Our parish webpage has a section for [Sacramental Preparation](#) with the programme outline for easy reference for parents. **Lessons will resume next Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April.** In the meantime, parents are asked to go through Chapters 16, 29 and 30 and also revise any of the previous work done in the classes during the school holidays. Children and their families are also encouraged to attend Mass when there are no lessons scheduled.

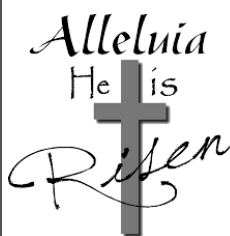
**Children's Liturgy.** Open to all children 4 years and older who have not made their First Holy Communion. Sessions are on every alternate Sunday unless it's a school holiday. Dates for next term's sessions to be confirmed.



Thank you to all parishioners who have supported our parish fundraising efforts through **easyfundraising**. For those who haven't please consider signing up for easyfundraising as you can raise donations for our parish whenever you shop online with over 8,000 brands including John Lewis & Partners, eBay, Argos, M&S and more. It's free to sign up. <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/stjosephsretford/G3OY01/c2s/06CJMi03/CR085/email/>



**Support our Bassetlaw Foodbank donations this Lent** (collection stand at the back of church). Shortage list for this week: *tinned tomatoes, tinned fish (not tuna), soup, porridge, long life milk, corned beef, curry or pasta sauce, sweetcorn, nappies size 6.*



**Parish Repository.** We have rosaries, religious books, Saints Candles and more ... on sale at the back of church. **New! First Communion Gifts/cards. All profits from the sale go towards the fundraising efforts of our parish.** Please lend your support.

**Places of Welcome: Every Wednesday at St Joseph's Church Hall, from 1.30 - 3.30pm.** We are a very friendly group. We drink tea or coffee, eat biscuits, chat and enjoy ourselves. If transport is a problem we can help. Come and see what you think. Talk to Sally on 07772563499

**Parish newsletter** - limited copies of the weekly newsletter are printed for the benefit of visitors and parishioners who do not have access to the internet. If you have access to the internet please consider receiving an electronic copy of the **parish newsletter** weekly by email or downloading a copy from our parish webpage from the deanery website: [St Joseph's, Retford - CATHOLIC PARISHES OF BASSETLAW](#) (weebly.com). Email the parish office to subscribe to our electronic newsletter (you can unsubscribe anytime). Going electronic will help the parish to keep its printing costs down and be more environmental friendly. **If you do take a copy of the newsletter please take it home do not put it back on the fresh pile. Thank you.**

## THE TRIPOD STAND OF OUR FAITH JOURNEY

God's Good People,

Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel was a German philosopher who developed a dialectical scheme that emphasized the progress of history and of ideas from thesis to antithesis and thence to a synthesis. The triad is usually described in the following way: The thesis is an intellectual proposition. The antithesis is simply the negation of the thesis, a reaction to the proposition. The synthesis solves the conflict between the thesis and antithesis by reconciling their common truths and forming a new proposition. Hegel taught that in human history, when the status quo (the thesis) is challenged by a new historical development or force (the antithesis), a new form of life emerges out of the synthesis of the two prior stages. All four of the gospels emphasise the fact that the tomb where the body of Jesus was laid was empty on Easter Sunday morning. In today's gospel we have Luke's account of the risen Lord appearing to the disciples. Luke doesn't tell us who is present on this occasion, but presumably it is a large group of disciples, men and women. They are terrified and startled. The disciples are wondering if this a hallucination, a mirage or a ghost? But the Lord assures them: *"Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have."* The risen Lord is the same person whom they knew before. And then he asks them, "Have you anything here to eat?" Although the body of the risen Lord could appear and disappear at will, it was still a physical body, able to eat baked fish. Jesus is not a disembodied spirit; he has a real body of flesh, bones and blood. Christianity, therefore, is founded on an event with a unique promise. **Jesus defeated death by dying and rising again, physically rising from the dead.** This One Man brought back with him from the realm of the dead the hope and the certainty of eternal life for all.

Two disciples, Cleopas and his companion, encountered the risen Lord as they were returning home to Emmaus from Jerusalem. They rush back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples about their experience when suddenly the risen Lord appears in their midst. Luke's account of the risen Lord's appearance, firstly to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, and then to the disciples in Jerusalem is an example of one of the inescapable rhythms of human life. Just like Georg Hegel's philosophical triad which goes from thesis to synthesis, the rhythm that we speak of here begins with enchantment. Which is followed by disenchantment. Which in turn is followed by re-enchantment. Consider this example: You're attracted to another person and a promising marital relationship begins. But it's not long before disenchantment rears its head. The more intimately that you come to know that other person, the more aware you are of the things about them that annoy or irritate you. At this stage you may decide to end the relationship, or you could admit that neither of you, is perfect. And you take each other for better and for worse. That is re-enchantment.

Luke's account of the risen Lord's appearance to the disciples is also a story of enchantment, disenchantment and re-enchantment. Keep in mind that the Lord appears in today's gospel while the two disciples who had encountered the Lord on the road to Emmaus were telling their story to the other disciples. Following the crucifixion of Jesus these two disciples were returning home to Emmaus when a stranger joins them. They would have assumed that he, too, was a pilgrim returning home after celebrating the feast of Passover in Jerusalem. We, of course,



*Jesus was made known in the breaking of bread*

know that this stranger is Jesus himself, but neither of the disciples recognises him. He asks, *"What are you discussing as you walk along?"* Cleopas replies, *"Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know what has been happening there these last few days?"* The irony is, of course, that Jesus is the only one who truly does know what has just happened in Jerusalem. Cleopas then says: *"We had hoped that he was the one to set Israel free."* This is the **stage of enchantment**. When Jesus enters Jerusalem the people acclaim him: *"Hosanna! Blessed is he who is coming in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel."* Despite the fact that he comes riding a donkey, the people are hoping that as Messiah Jesus will restore the fortunes of Israel. This is their **point of enchantment**. But on Friday of that week Jesus is crucified. Every single disciple knew what that meant: we backed the wrong horse. The game is over. **For the disciples this is disenchantment**. This is not how they expected things to turn out. But the resurrection of Jesus Christ will bring them back to re-enchantment.

Let's return to the two disenchanted disciples returning home to Emmaus. The mysterious stranger who has joined them, whom they still don't recognise, begins to lead them from disenchantment to re-enchantment: "How foolish you are! So slow to believe all that the prophets said! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer and so enter into his glory?" (Lk 24:25ff). Luke then tells us: "Then, starting from Moses and from all the prophets, he explained to them the passages about himself throughout the scriptures." (cf Lk 24:27) The process of re-enchantment reaches its climax once they reach Emmaus. Cleopas and his companion invite the stranger to join them, and as they sit at table Jesus takes bread, breaks it and hands it to them. And their eyes are opened. In those few words we have one of the keys to re-enchantment - their eyes are opened. They had become disenchanted because they were looking for the wrong kind of messiah. Jesus is alive again and because he is alive, we are alive too. Yes, in our tripod journey of faith, we move from enchantment to disenchanted, whenever we begin to look for the wrong messiah. **Re-enchantment only occurs when we allow our eyes to be opened.**

Fr John Nwadike CM

(3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter Year B, 2024)



St Vincent  
de Paul Society  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action

**SVP School Uniform Project** To help provide free school uniforms to families in need. For more information contact SVP volunteers: 07867 631834 or see SVP Retford or SVP School Uniform Project Facebook pages. **Retiring collection for the SVP after the weekend Masses.** The SVP has a collection box and if you are able to drop in any loose change as you leave it will be deeply appreciated.

### Hallam Bridge

You can subscribe to Hallam Bridge (it's free) on <http://hallam-diocese.com/bridge/> Hallam Bridge would like to dedicate a page in each issue to a parish in the diocese. If someone would be willing to write up something about our parish they would be very happy to include it. The article would need to be submitted as a Word document and be either 300 or 600 words in length which equates to 1 column or 1 page. If possible, it should include a photograph (including appropriate permissions) within the document and an additional copy as an attachment with the article. The name of the author should also be included. The article should be submitted by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the Month for consideration in the next edition of the Hallam Bridge

### The Pope's Prayer Intention for April 2024 - For the Role of Women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

### April Devotion - The Blessed Sacrament

O Sacrament most Holy, O Sacrament divine,  
all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine.

### Online Parish Family Rosary Devotion

Every Wednesday @ 7.00 pm.

**EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME TO JOIN IN!**

The link to join can be found on our webpage on the deanery website:

<http://worksopcatholicchurches.weebly.com/st-josephs-retford.html>

Those **without internet** can join in via their telephone using the following information.

Every Wednesday

**Rosary Devotion @ 7.00 pm**

Call this number: **0207 660 8149** and when prompted

give the meeting number: **163 380 8136** and password: **424 562 79**

All the prayers are on power point to make it easier for those who are not familiar with praying the rosary.

**Pray the Rosary for Peace in the World and end of war - Our Lady of Fatima**