

children prepare for First Confession, learning about God's mercy, forgiveness, and the joy of beginning again with Him.

Our parish uses a personal pathway rather than a fixed annual course. Families can begin at any time, with support from parents, a parish mentor, or our online app. Sunday Mass and prayer at home are at the heart of preparation. Families are also warmly invited to our Thursday evenings at St Mary's, where they can experience different parts of Catholic life together, including prayer, Scripture, devotions, catechesis and worship.

There is no pressure to keep up with anyone else. We simply want to help each child grow in faith and receive the sacraments when they are truly ready.

Confirmation

Confirmation is a beautiful step in the life of faith. Through this sacrament, a baptised Catholic is strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live the faith with greater courage, understanding and commitment.

Preparation is personal and can begin at any time. We help each young person grow through Sunday Mass, prayer, catechesis and parish life, rather than simply asking them to complete a set course. Our Thursday evenings at St Mary's are also a good way to experience the richness of Catholic life, from Adoration and the Rosary to Scripture, teaching, sacred music and discussion. Above all, we want our young people to know that the Church is their home, that their faith matters, and that we are here to walk with them as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit more deeply in Confirmation.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament — Thursday Evening

This Thursday evening at St Mary's, we will spend time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration is a quiet time to be with Jesus Christ truly present in the Eucharist. There is no need to know special prayers or to stay for the whole hour. You may simply come, sit quietly, pray, read, or place before the Lord whatever is on your heart. In the middle of a busy week, this is an opportunity to stop, be still, and spend time with Christ. Whether you come regularly or have never been to Adoration before, you will be very welcome.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. John Owens, john.owens@dioceseofnottingham.uk

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE: Hilari Chetwood: 07734 690611

SVP: 07587 355870 or email: svpwigston@hotmail.com

St. Mary's, St. John Bosco, and St. Edward's
Week 27 of Ordinary Time, Lectionary Year A, 2026
Website: cathparishmje.co.uk Phone: 07354 832195
Email: cathparishmje@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Saturday 3rd October

5:30pm Confession St. John Bosco's
6pm Vigil Mass St. John Bosco's, Kathleen Kidney RIP

Sunday 4th October - 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

9am Holy Mass St. Edward's, Robbie Herron & Hannah McCay RIP
10:30am Rosary St. Mary's
11am Holy Mass St. Mary's, Peggy Turner RIP
5:30pm Confession St. Mary's
6pm Holy Mass St. Mary's, All Parishioners

Wednesday 7th October - Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

10am Holy Mass St. Edward's, Thanksgiving for newborns

Thursday 8th October

10am Holy Mass St. Mary's, Rachel Sulch RIP
7pm Parish Evening St. Mary's, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 9th October (No Meat Today) - Feast of St. John Henry Newman

10am Holy Mass St. John Bosco's, Rev. Patrick Nicholson RIP

Saturday 10th October - Memorial of St. Paulinus of York

5:30pm Confession St. John Bosco's
6pm Vigil Mass St. John Bosco's, Pat Ballentyne RIP

Sunday 11th October - 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

9am Holy Mass St. Edward's, Health of Edwin, Reman & Clayton
10:30am Rosary St. Mary's
11am Holy Mass St. Mary's, Patrick Hunt RIP
5:30pm Confession St. Mary's
6pm Holy Mass St. Mary's, All Parishioners

Saints This Week

Our Lady of the Rosary - This memorial reminds us of the gift of the Rosary, in which we contemplate the life of Jesus with Mary. Through the mysteries of the Rosary, we are drawn more deeply into the Gospel and learn to trust God as Our Lady did. It is a simple prayer that can be prayed anywhere,

alone or with others, and is especially encouraged during the month of October.

St John Henry Newman (1801–1890) was an English priest, theologian and convert to the Catholic Church. His long search for truth led him to enter the Catholic Church in 1845, and he later became a cardinal. His life reminds us to seek the truth sincerely and to follow God faithfully wherever He leads.

St Paulinus was one of the early missionaries who helped bring the Catholic faith to northern England in the seventh century and became the first Bishop of York. Together with the other Anglo-Saxon saints honoured in our diocese, he reminds us that the faith we practise today was handed on through the courage, prayer and missionary work of generations before us. Their example encourages us to treasure the faith we have received and to pass it on faithfully to others.

St. John Fisher: Word of the Week — Rosary

The Rosary is a beautiful Catholic prayer that helps us to think about the life of Jesus with Mary. As we pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be, we reflect on important moments in the Gospel, from the Annunciation and the birth of Jesus to His Cross, Resurrection and glory in Heaven.

The Rosary is not simply repeating words. It is a way of slowing down, becoming quiet, and allowing the mysteries of Christ's life to lead us into prayer. Mary always points us towards her Son, and when we pray the Rosary we ask her to pray with us and for us. October is traditionally a month especially associated with the Rosary. At home, at school and in our parish, we can make time to pray part of the Rosary, perhaps one decade at a time, and bring our families, worries and intentions to God.

This week, we can ask: Can I make a little time to pray the Rosary?

Which mystery of Jesus' life can I think about more deeply?

Who would I like to remember in my prayers this week?

The National Eucharistic Congress and Procession, Adoremus, is being celebrated in London next Saturday, 10th October. Places are still available for parishioners to participate in the Day, with coach travel (leaving Clifton at 6.45am and returning at 9.30pm) which includes a talk and exhibition, Mass in Southwark Cathedral, the Eucharistic Procession from Southwark Cathedral to Westminster Cathedral, and then departure from there at about 6pm. The subsidised cost is £15 per person. There's no age restriction,

although anyone aged under 18 on the day will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult. There is a requirement to be able to participate in the Pilgrimage route, which will be about two miles. To book contact Father Simon Gillespie –simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk 6th October.

Bishop Patrick's Statement on Marriage

Marriage is a lifelong vocation of a man and a woman to a community of life and love open to children, and, between the baptized, it is a Sacrament. Aware of the many pressures today which can endanger family life, the Church is constantly concerned to make sure that those of you planning to marry are prepared as well as possible. We would like to remind those who wish to marry of the following:

1. It is important that a couple go to see their priest in good time before their wedding. Normally, at least six months' notice should be given.
2. Marriage preparation is carried out by the priest, often assisted by a group from the parish. Courses arranged on a Deanery basis are recommended.
3. Catholics are reminded of their obligation to preserve their faith and to do all they can within the unity of their partnership to have all their children baptized and brought up in the faith and practice of the Catholic Church.
4. Non-Catholic partners will be informed of this promise, but they are not asked to make this or any similar promise.
5. Dispensation for a marriage between a Catholic and a non-Catholic to take place in a non-Catholic church can only be granted for a serious reason. Couples who wish to marry in a non-Catholic church should discuss the matter with their priest in good time before their wedding day to see whether a dispensation could be granted.

All couples marrying these days need the support of the local Church. In this way they will be strengthened in their preparation for marriage, in celebrating their marriage, and in living out their covenant with one another. We wish to thank all those married people who show such constancy and fidelity to their vocation of marriage. May their example inspire those planning to marry in the Church.

Right Reverend Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham

First Confession and First Holy Communion

We want every child to come to know and love Jesus Christ, and to be ready to receive Him with faith in the Eucharist. Before First Holy Communion,