

Missio Red Box Collection

It is time for our Missio Red Boxes to be collected. If you have a Red Box at home, please bring it to church so that the donations can be counted and sent on. These small offerings help the Church's missionaries support Catholic communities, schools, clinics and pastoral work around the world. Thank you for quietly supporting the missionary work of the Church throughout the year.

Christmas Shoeboxes for Seafarers — Stella Maris

As we do each year, our parishes are preparing Christmas shoeboxes for seafarers through Stella Maris, the Catholic charity serving seafarers and fishers. Shoeboxes are available in our churches. Please do not feel that you have to fill a whole box: if you can provide only one or two suitable items, bring those along and we will combine everyone's contributions to make complete boxes. It is a simple way for our parishes to share the love of Christ with people who may spend Christmas far from home and family.

Parish Christmas Fayre — Saturday 21st November

Our Parish Christmas Fayre will take place at St John Fisher School on Saturday 21st November. We would be very grateful for donations of suitable items for stalls and prizes. Please support the fayre if you can by donating an item, taking some raffle tickets, volunteering to help, or simply coming along on the day. It will be a lovely opportunity for parishioners, families and friends from St Mary's, St John Bosco's and St Edward's to come together and support parish life as we prepare for Christmas.

Starting Primary School in September 2027

Parents of children born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 need to apply for a Reception place by 15 January 2027. Applications are made through your home Local Authority. If you wish your child to be considered for a Catholic school under a Catholic faith criterion, you must also complete the school's Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and send it, together with the required evidence such as a Baptism Certificate, directly to the school. The Local Authority application and the SIF are two separate applications, and both need to be completed by the deadline. If you need a replacement Baptism Certificate, please contact the parish where your child was baptised in good time.

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

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE: Hilari Chetwood: 07734 690611

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

St. Mary's, St. John Bosco, and St. Edward's
Week 30 of Ordinary Time, Lectionary Year A, 2026
Website: cathparishmje.co.uk Phone: 07354 832195
Email: cathparishmje@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Saturday 24th October

5:30pm Confession **St. John Bosco's**

6pm Sunday Mass **St. John Bosco's**, Thanksgiving to St. Anthony

Clocks Go Back: A reminder that the clocks go back one hour overnight on Saturday 24/Sunday 25 October as British Summer Time ends. Enjoy the extra hour — and don't arrive at Mass an hour early!

Sunday 25th October - 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

9am Holy Mass **St. Edward's**, Abraham RIP

10:30am Rosary **St. Mary's**

11am Holy Mass **St. Mary's**, Rev. Fr. Chris Hogan RIP

5:30pm Confession **St. Mary's**

6pm Holy Mass **St. Mary's**, All Parishioners

Wednesday 28th October - Sts. Simon and Jude, apostles

10am Holy Mass **St. Edward's**, Shaji RIP

Thursday 29th October

9am Holy Mass **St. John Fisher School**, Pauline Hogan RIP

7pm Parish Evening **St. Mary's**, Church Tour 2, What's in the Sacristy?

Friday 30th October (No Meat Today)

10am Holy Mass **St. John Bosco's**, Pat Ballentyne RIP

Saturday 31st October

1-3pm Called to be Saints **St. Mary's Hall**, all welcome

5:30pm Confession **St. John Bosco's**

6pm Sunday Mass **St. John Bosco's**, Patrick Lee RIP

Sunday 1st November - All Saints

9am Holy Mass **St. Edward's**, Private Intention

10:30am Rosary **St. Mary's**

11am Holy Mass **St. Mary's**, Arthur and Grace Stanley RIP

2pm Prayers at Graves **Saffron Hill Cemetery**

5:30pm Confession **St. Mary's**

6pm Holy Mass **St. Mary's**, All Parishioners

November — Praying for the Faithful Departed

November is traditionally a month of special prayer for those who have died. Holy Souls envelopes are available in our churches for the names of deceased relatives and friends whom you would like remembered at Mass. Our first cemetery prayers will be at Saffron Hill Cemetery on Sunday 1 November at 2pm. Over the following Sundays we will also visit Wigston, Blaby, Countesthorpe and Gilroes. Praying for the dead is one of the spiritual works of mercy. Please join us if you can as we commend our departed relatives, friends and parishioners to the mercy of God.

Saints This Week

St Chad and St Cedd spread the Christian faith through England. Their example reminds us to treasure the faith we have received and to pass it on faithfully. St Simon and St Jude were among the Twelve Apostles chosen by Jesus. They remind us to follow Christ faithfully wherever He calls us. All Saints celebrates all those who are with God in Heaven, both the well-known saints and the countless known only to God. Their feast reminds us that every Christian is called to holiness.

Schools' Word of the Week — Holiness

Holiness means living close to God and becoming more like Jesus. It does not mean being perfect or never making mistakes. It means trying each day to love God, choose what is good, turn away from sin, and begin again when we get things wrong. The saints were ordinary people who allowed God to work in their lives. They prayed, received the Sacraments, loved others, and tried to follow Christ faithfully in the circumstances of their own lives. Holiness can therefore grow through very ordinary things: telling the truth, forgiving someone, helping at home, being kind, praying well, and doing our duties with love. At home, at school and in our parish, we are all called to holiness. God wants each of us to become the person He created us to be and, one day, to share His life in Heaven. This week, we can ask:

What can I do today to grow closer to God?

Is there something in my life that Jesus is asking me to change?

How can I make an ordinary action an act of love for God and others?

Called to Be Saints

Join us at St Mary's on Saturday 31st October, from 1pm to 3pm, for a joyful Catholic celebration of All Saints. There will be Catholic teaching, prayer and activities for children, young people, families and adults. We will

discover inspiring saints from across the Church. Children are welcome to come dressed as their favourite saint, and each child will receive a small devotional gift. Everyone is welcome.

Why Do Catholics Ask the Saints to Pray for Us?

Catholics do not worship the saints. Worship belongs to God alone. We honour the saints because they are members of Christ's Church who have finished the race and now live with Him in Heaven. When we ask a saint to pray for us, we are doing something very similar to asking a friend or family member to pray for us. Death does not separate those who belong to Christ from His Body, the Church. The saints are alive in Christ and continue to belong to the Communion of Saints. The Bible gives us glimpses of the prayers of Heaven being offered before God. In the Book of Revelation, the saints are pictured holding golden bowls filled with incense, described as "the prayers of the saints." Their prayer does not replace Jesus, who is our one Saviour and Mediator. Rather, all Christian prayer is possible because of Him. This is why Catholics have patron saints, celebrate their feast days, keep their images in our churches and ask for their intercession. Their lives show us what the grace of God can accomplish in ordinary human beings. All Saints therefore is not simply a day for remembering remarkable people from long ago. It reminds us that Heaven is our destination too. The saints encourage us, pray for us and show us countless different ways of following Christ faithfully. So when we say, "St Mary, pray for us," "St Edward, pray for us," or "St John Bosco, pray for us," we are asking fellow members of Christ's family to join their prayers to ours. And one day, by the grace of God, we hope to be among them.

Behind the Sacristy Door: How the Church Prepares for Mass

Thursday 29th October, 7–8pm at St Mary's

Have you ever wondered why the priest wears different vestments, what the vessels at Mass are called, or what is normally kept in the sacristy? This Thursday we will bring many of these things out into the church so that everyone can see them closely. We will look at vestments and liturgical colours, the chalice and other sacred vessels, the books used at Mass, altar linens, incense, the holy oils and other objects used in the Church's worship. We will explain what they are, how they are used and what they teach us about the Mass, the Sacraments and the Church's reverence for the Holy Eucharist. It will be a practical and informal evening with plenty of opportunity to look closely and ask questions. Everyone is welcome.