

English Martyrs
Hollis St, Alvaston
DE24 8QU

ENGLISH MARTYRS PARISH ALVASTON & CHELLASTON



Fourth Sunday of the Year - A

1 February 2026

**Psalm Response: Blessed are the poor in spirit;
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**

Sun:	9.00am Mass 11.00am Mass	William Johnson RIP Joe Fernando Int.
Mon:	<u>Presentation of the Lord</u> (Feast of the Lord) 11.00 Mass	Tom Lee RIP
Tues:	<u>St Blaise</u> 12 Noon Mass	Anne Annable Int.
Weds:	12 noon Mass	Kath's Int.
Fri:	NO MASS	
5th Sunday of the Year A		
Sun:	9.00am Mass 11.00am Mass	Marian McDaid RIP Fernando Fam. RIP

Second Collections: There will be a second collection **today Sunday, 1 February** for the Diocesan Quota.
22 February for the SVP (For the poor and needy)

SVP: Following on from the Christmas Food collection, we have decided to leave the box at the back of Church for you to leave donations if and when you can. This will continue to support those in need in the Parish and also the Food Bank run by Alvaston Parish Church on Elvaston Lane.

Items the Food Bank would particularly like are: Tinned Meat, Coffee, Rice Pudding, Toddler nappies and Baby Wipes. Thank you.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eamonn Murray. May he rest in peace. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Funeral: Reception 7.00 Mon 2 Feb at St Joseph's
Funeral 10.30 Tues 3 Feb at St Joseph's

Do you have a child ready to start School in September 2026: (Or move into Year 3) Do you have a friend or family member who does? St John Fisher will be giving tours of the School to prospective parents every **Monday at 10-11am and 1-2pm**. No need to book – just turn up!

Stamps: St Patrick's Missions have sent their grateful thanks for your kind donations of used stamps. Please continue to donate your used stamps in the box on the shelf at the back of church – next to the hymn books. Thank you

Money Matters:

Offertory: £675.52

For those who regularly contribute to the Church via the Envelope Scheme, another option would be to set up a Monthly or Weekly Direct Debit or Standing Order. If you contribute by any of these methods and you pay Income Tax, please consider Gift Aiding your contributions to the Parish, this is worth an extra 20% to the Parish without costing you any more than your Gift to the Parish.

Lloyds Bank: sort code 30-92-59;
Account number 01620555 – English Martyrs, Derby RCP.
(Gift Aid forms available at the back of Church)

Payments to the parish by cheque should be made payable to:
English Martyrs Derby RCP

Sanctuary Lamp:

Prayers for the Sick: Please always keep in your prayers the sick and housebound especially Simon Thompson, Christine Dreuit, Terry Bullock, Giovanni Busato, Ian Robinson, Bart Makowski, Joe Migallo, Liam Blaney, Christopher Turner, Tracey Reeve, Liz Simmons, Terry & Liz Spencer, Mick & Frances Connolly, Maria Latwiel, Anne Smith, Margaret Meagher, James Wilson, Libby Dodes, Gregory Makowski, Brian Campbell, Mary Storer and Peggy Whelan.

***'Nourish your day with as much prayer as you can
and allow for moments of particular intimacy with
the Lord, whether individually or in a group'***

Pope St John Paul II

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The Presentation of the Lord (Feast) – 2 February:

The Presentation of the Lord, popularly known as Candlemas, traditionally concludes the celebration of Christmas. It commemorates the presentation of Jesus in the Temple forty days after his birth, an occasion when offerings were made and the mother was ritually purified. Simeon's prophecy referred to Jesus as 'a light to enlighten the pagans', summing up the Christmas theme of light coming into the darkness, but also points towards the Paschal Mystery, for he was 'appointed... for a sign that is opposed.'

St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr (Opt Mem) – 3 February:

St Blaise (+ c.316) was bishop of Sebaste in Armenia. He was martyred under Licinius. Cures were attributed to him and it is the custom in many places to bless throats on his feast.

St Ansgar, Bishop (Opt Mem) – 3 February:

St Ansgar or Anskar (801-865) was a French Benedictine monk who is known as the 'Apostle of the North'. As Archbishop of Hamburg and Papal Legate, he worked for thirteen years preaching the gospel in northern Germany, Denmark and Sweden. The saint laid the foundations of the Church in these places, even though there were later relapses into paganism.

St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr (Memorial) 5 February:

St Agatha (+ 251) suffered martyrdom at Catania in Sicily, probably during the time of Decius. According to a later Life, the tortures she was subjected to included cutting off her breasts, which have become her symbol in art. She was widely venerated as a martyr and her name appears in the Roman Canon.

St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs (Memorial) – 6 February:

St Paul Miki and his twenty-five companions were martyred in Nagasaki, Japan in 1597. They were crucified and then stabbed with spears, though the executioners were astounded upon seeing their joy at being thus associated with the passion of Christ. They were the first martyrs of the Far East to be canonised.

St Jerome Emiliani (Opt Mem) – 8 February:

St Jerome Emiliani (1486-1537) was born in Venice and led a dissolute youth. Serving as a soldier, he was taken captive but attributed his liberation to the intercession of Our Lady. Henceforth he dedicated himself to a life of charity. He founded a congregation of clerks regular known as the Somaschi, dedicated to the education of children, especially orphans. He died of the plague in 1537 while caring for the afflicted. In 1928 he was named patron of orphans and abandoned children.

St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin (Opt Mem) – 8 February:

St Josephine Bakhita (c.1868-1947) was born in the Darfur region of the Sudan and spent much of her early life as a slave. She eventually settled in Italy, where she converted to Christianity and entered the Canossian Daughters of Charity at Schio, near Vicenza. Serving quietly as the community's portress, cook and sacristan, she gained a reputation for exceptional piety and holiness.