



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** First Holy Communion Classes will continue THIS *Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026* and NEXT *Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026* immediately after 9:00 am Mass in the Assumption Parish Hall.

**NEW WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES:** are now available to collect from the back of the Church. Thank you for your continued financial support of our Parish – *Marie Calladine*

**CAFOD:** The poorest countries in the world are being pushed into a deepening debt crisis, forced to pay ever higher interest rates to wealthy lenders who profit from countries in crisis. Money that should be spent on food, healthcare and education is flowing out of the countries that can least afford it. Governments have an impossible choice between serving their people or paying creditors and millions of people are suffering the effects. The Bible says, “If you lend money to my people, you shall not deal with them as a creditor, you shall not extract interest from them” (Exodus 22:25). Please consider signing the petition in the narthex asking the government to support debt forgiveness and just reform of the global debt system. Thank you – *Owen Butler (CAFOD Parish Volunteer).*

**YOUNG ADULTS AGED 18 – 35:** are invited to join a special overnight *Pilgrimage to Walsingham (Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026)*, taking place alongside the Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage, with dedicated time, space and community for young adults. Staying at Elmham House (half board) pilgrims will share in the wider celebrations while also enjoying moments specifically for the young adult community and encounter. For any questions, contact Charles Archer, Young Adult Ministry Lead [charles.archer@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:charles.archer@dioceseofnottingham.uk) Bookings at [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/walsingham-2026](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/walsingham-2026)

**DIOCESAN WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE:** is taking place on *Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2026* led by Bishop Patrick. Arrivals are from *11:30 am*, with Mass at the Catholic Shrine at *3:45 pm*. For more details see the poster.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY:** All Young Adults are warmly invited to join the Diocese of Nottingham and Pope Leo in Seoul, South Korea, for *World Youth Day 2027:* a week of Encounter and Discipleship with 100,000s of other Young Catholics ready to hear the Lord speak into their lives. Please contact [charles.archer@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:charles.archer@dioceseofnottingham.uk) for more information! As numbers are limited please do this by *31<sup>st</sup> July 2026.*

**FAITH COMMUNITIES BUILDING RESILIENCE:** *Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026* from *5:30pm* at Trent Bridge Cricket Ground, West Bridgford. Join Caritas and local agencies to explore how Parishes in Nottinghamshire can help their neighbourhoods respond to, and prepare for, emergencies. More details are on the poster at the back of Church.

### **JESUS IN DISGUISE**

After the Ascension, we no longer had the physical presence of Jesus with us on earth. This was something the early Church had to grow accustomed to. After the Resurrection, the first apostles and disciples had to begin a new way of life. They had lived with Jesus for years and always had His physical presence accompanying them. But now, Jesus was not always present as He was before. They had His Sacramental presence, instead. During the time between the Resurrection and the Ascension, Jesus seems to play a game akin to hide – and – seek with the disciples. He appears and disappears randomly and without warning. During those fifty days of Easter, the apostles never knew just when Jesus would turn up. Around any corner, He could be there, on any shore, in any room, as any person. This randomness and suddenness created a new way of looking upon the world for the first Christians. Within a crowd, they would now find themselves focused on each individual person. They would see the faces and ask themselves, “Is that Jesus? Is He there?” As they travelled along the road, anyone passing by could be “Jesus in disguise.” A new possibility opened: every person they met was important because that person could be Jesus in disguise! For the disciples, getting accustomed to His Sacramental and Spiritual presence was something new and took some time. But even in the early Church, they understood that the bread broken and shared was His true presence as well. Jesus was teaching them to think outside the box. A Sacramental Presence was better than a physical presence because it was no longer limited to one place and one time. In this way, Jesus could be with the whole Church. This Sacramental Presence of Jesus is with us even today. As such, we are as blessed as the first Christians who went out into the world to preach the Good News. They had Jesus with them, even if they could not “see” Him.

***Items for the newsletter can be given to Fr Christopher or e – mailed to [frcathomas@outlook.com](mailto:frcathomas@outlook.com) by WEDNESDAY (before 6:00 pm) of each week for inclusion in the next issue.***