

PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE PROJECT: The local Prison Fellowship group will be running the Angel Tree Project this year at HMP Gartree and would like your help. The purpose of this project is to purchase Christmas presents for children of some of the prisoners. The gifts will be sent to the children as from their dad's. The value of each gift will be **approx £15**. If you would like to help with this project, either with a **monetary donation or a suitable gift** you will be given a gift tag with the first name, age and gender of the child. **The gift can be wrapped by yourself in Christmas paper** if you wish, but we do need to have a photo of the gift for security reasons otherwise a member of Prison Fellowship will wrap the gift. A hand written gift tag from their dad will be attached to make it extra special. **All presents will be posted so please keep them light.** Local bank account details: Prison Fellowship (Gartree Angel Tree) Sort code: 40 32 04 Account: 91564005. For your donation to be **Gift Aided** contact info@prisonfellowship.org.uk Maureen Douglas, Angel Tree Co-ordinator 43 Gardiner St, Market Harborough, LE16 9QN Tel 07966 515115

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS IN CHURCH: During COVID we have been taking the Collections as we leave Church. However the time has come, I think to take them once again in Church which is the norm. we tried it last week at the 11.00am Mass. So I am asking for volunteers or indeed families who would like to be responsible the collection and Offertory procession at a given Sunday mass. Hopefully we can produce a rota. The person on duty could ask someone to help them that day. There is a list in the Cloister for you to sign up with name Mass and contact details. Many thanks.



SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TO ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY (Foundation Year) - Children born between 01/09/2018 and 31/08/2019 The deadline for submitting your application for a school place is **15th January 2023**. Application forms are available on the [Leicestershire Local Authority Admissions](https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions) website. When applying to a Catholic school, if you wish your child to be considered and ranked under a faith criterion you *must also complete a supplementary information form, and return this form to St Joseph's by the deadline, (Please contact the School Office on 01858 465359 to obtain a form)*. You **MUST** also include the supporting evidence as required eg baptism certificate (photocopies acceptable). Failure to supply the required supporting evidence will mean your child is ranked is a lower criterion which may affect your chance of a place. If you do not have the required evidence please contact the parish where your child was baptised for a copy certificate in good time.

THIRD WORLD GROUP: Due to the ongoing limitations on social events for fund-raising, our main source of income at the moment is selling items on eBay, but our stock is dwindling. If we are to keep our promises to our beneficiaries we must maintain this activity. Please look through your cupboards, drawers, lofts, even sheds and garages, for good quality items that you no longer need. Clothing is the most popular but anything as long as it is in good condition and still has some value. Our box is under the table opposite the noticeboard in the cloister.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor
Tel: House: 01858 462359
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Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Schools:
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Parish Accountant: finance@olv.com
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com
Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

4th December 2022
Second Week of Advent
Psalter Week 2

Times of Services

Sunday: 2nd of Advent

Sat. 6.00pm: Barbara Read.
9.00am Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am Mass: Dr. Alex Johnston 80th Birthday (Children)
Rosary 3.30pm

Monday: Advent FERIA

9.00am Mass: Martin Gallagher RIP (Ruane)

Tuesday: Advent FERIA

9.00am Mass: Eddie Armstrong RIP (Pat) anniv

Wednesday: St Ambrose

9.45am: Morning Prayer
10.00am Mass: Sr Carmel Ruane Anniv

Thursday: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9.45am Rosary
10.00am: Vera Murphy RIP (family)
Coffee after Mass

Friday: Advent FERIA

6.00pm: Holy Hour for Life
7.00pm Mass: Jim McCabe RIP

Saturday: Advent FERIA

6.00pm Mass: Bieganski-Perka Family Blessings
Sunday: 3rd of Advent - GAUDETE SUNDAY
9.00am Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am Mass: Arthur Johnson



Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.



CONFESSIONS

11am &
5.15 - 5.45pm
Saturdays

2nd Collection for New & Poor Parishes this weekend and for Flowers next weekend

PLEASE NOTE: *Please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection.*

FR CHRIS WRITES: I would like to say congratulations and a big thank you to all who were involved in our Bazaar which was such a success and a great day. On the financial side we have now raised over £9200 for the Parish. I would like to thank anyone who contributed in any way whatsoever. A special thanks go to our coordinator and committee who worked so hard and to all our stall holders who made it possible. A thank you to our school community at St Joseph's who manned stalls and all the families who came. Our After school Club did a most wonderful grotto for Father Christmas! But more than that, it was a wonderful day with such joy and fun as we got together as a Community for the first time since COVID allowed. many people met up who hadn't seen each other for a long time. I found it very cathartic! Congratulations and thank you to all!

Thank You!

| Grand Raffle | | |
|---|------------|-----------------|
| Prize | Ticket No. | Winner |
| 1 st £500 | 2298 | Mary Danks |
| 2 nd £250 | 2740 | Tom Davis |
| 3 rd £50 | 2745 | Pauline Davis |
| 4 th Christmas Hamper | 1856 | Iain |
| 5 th Verbena Luxury Gift Set | 0310 | Leo |
| 6 th Bottle of Champagne | 3826 | A Williams |
| 7 th Bottle of Brandy | 3025 | Robin Knightley |
| 8 th Bottle of Whiskey | 0618 | Liz H |
| 9 th Bottle of Gin | 2623 | Roisin Westlake |
| 10 th Clotted Cream Fudge | 3446 | Emma Chester |

The prizes are in the Presbytery with Fr Chris

ADVENT is a time of hope and expectation and above all encounter with Christ. Advent is a spiritual season to grow closer to Christ and prepare for his coming to us in a new or deeper way. The words of John the Baptist ring true for this time: *prepare away for the Lord. Can we make space and time for him in these coming weeks?*

We will have some extra devotions: Morning prayer a quarter of an hour before Mass on Wednesdays and Rosary before Mass on Thursday and Exposition on Fridays at 6.30pm so that we may encounter Our Lord in a special way as we prepare to welcome him at Christmas as the word made flesh among us.

THIS FRIDAY: A Holy Hour for Life on Friday 9th December with exposition from 6-7pm followed by Holy Mass at 7.00pm. An Opportunity to meet Our Lord!



Sunday 11 December 3.00pm: OUR PARISH CAROL SERVICE organised by the Catenians is scheduled for 3.00PM. we will be joined by children from our School. This year there is no limit for places. Thank God!!



CHRISTMAS MASSES: As Christmas fall on a Sunday we will follow the usual weekend mass times with the addition of the 10pm Mass

Christmas eve: 6.00pm & 10.00pm. (Preceded by carols 9.30pm)

Christmas day: 9.00am & 11.00am:

On Sunday the Masses will be the normal 9.00am & 11.00am.

St Stephen's day (Boxing day) 11.00am



READERS FOR 2023: Reading at mass is a very important and satisfying ministry. If you would like to read at one of the weekend masses please could you contact Margaret Atkins, in person or phone 01858 446369 or email margaretatkins52@gmail.com, giving your name, the time of the mass you normally attend and your contact details, phone and email, or write

FIRST COMMUNION: Our dear Catechists Kate Crawford and Rose Williams have decided to retire as our First Communion Catechists after many years of service to the Parish. We thank them. **We are now looking for new people and some from a younger generation who would like to be part of a team to prepare our children for next June or July.** This is a very great ministry and full of great blessings. Please speak or ring Fr Chris. A DBS clearance would need to be done.



NEW CATECHIST FORMATION COURSE: There is a new formation course for catechists which begins in January. It is designed to build confidence and knowledge to live this wonderful ministry. If you are starting out as a Catechist or have been one for a number of years there will be something here for you. It looks rather good and can be attended in person or online. It is less burdensome than the previous one. It involves three shorter courses that feed into each other. Pick up a leaflet from the table in the cloister to find out more. The parish will pay any cost for the course.

WELCOMERS NEEDED: We're very short of welcomers at the 11am Mass, so if you mostly go to that Mass and think that you could spare a half hour or so, once a month (or less often if that's what you can manage) to welcome your fellow parishioners we'd love to hear from you. New volunteers to welcome at other Masses would be very helpful too. Please contact Theresa Kendrick on 07748 591398 or Beatrice Stewart on 01858 465492, or just have a word with Fr Chris.

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS for adults and also children's calendars are available at church. They have a meditation for each day based on the readings for Mass each day including the Christmas period. They are a great resource to help us pray in this special season.

| | | Sat. 6.00 pm | Sunday, 9.00 am | 11.00 a.m. |
|---------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Readers | 3/4 December | M. Atkins | T. Snell | Johnston family |
| | 10/11 December | C. Baldam | C. Goddard | M Douglas |

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| | | Sat. 6.00 pm | Sunday, 9.00 am | 11.00 a.m. |
|---------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| Readers | 10/11 December | C. Baldam | C. Goddard | M Douglas |
| | 17/18 December | E. Andrews | C. Reed | M. Lewin |



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11th December 2022
Third Week of Advent
Psalter Week 3

Times of Services

Sunday: 3rd of Advent - GAUDETE SUNDAY

Sat. 6.00pm: Bieganski-Perka Family

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Arthur Johnson

3.00pm: Parish Carol service

Monday: Advent FERIA

9.00am Mass: Phil Danks RIP Birthday)

Tuesday: St Lucy

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Wednesday: St John of the Cross

9.45am: Morning Prayer

10.00am Mass: Fr Robin Sanders RIP (Blamires)

Thursday: Advent FERIA

9.45am Rosary

10.00am: Bridie Cannon RIP (McGlone)

Coffee after Mass

Friday: Advent FERIA

6.30pm: Exposition

7.00pm Mass: Sean Murray RIP

Saturday: Advent FERIA

6.00pm Mass: Mary Maguire RIP anniv (Scott)

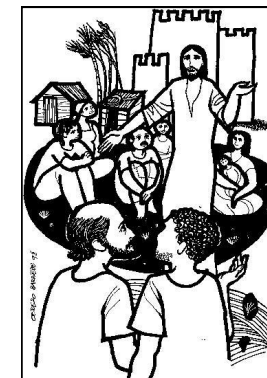
Sunday: 4th of Advent

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Michael Gatens RIP (Taylor)

2nd Collection for Flowers this weekend

PLEASE NOTE: *Please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection.*

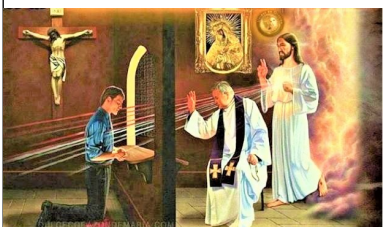


*Are you the one who
is to come, or have
we got to wait for
someone else?*



CONFESSIONS
11am &
5.15 - 5.45pm
Saturdays

FR CHRIS WRITES: We have celebrated the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception which always marks a special moment in as it seems to move our focus of Advent waiting and expectation nearer to Christ birth as we look forward and long for the Son of Mary. That becomes all the more intense on the 17th December which marks the second part of Advent with intense longing of all the faithful along with Mary and of course Elizabeth and Zacharias.



CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS: We are going to have to have a special service for the Sacrament of reconciliation on Monday 19th December at 7.00pm. There **will** visiting priests available. Fr Peter Wade Fr John Hoe Maloney and Fr Jim Cahill. Many parishes have the celebrations in advent and lent and it is an opportunity to go to another priest other than the parish priest. I know it's been difficult with COVID but

so many to go to confession over these last two or so years. We can make it a great opportunity to prepare for Christmas in a special way this year with the sacrament of confession. There will be a little introduction a couple of prayers and examination of conscience and the blessed sacrament will be exposed while its confessions are heard. **Come along and meet the merciful Lord.**

| Grand Raffle remaining prizes with Fr Chris | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------|
| Prize | Ticket No. | Winner |
| 8 th Bottle of Whiskey | 0618 | Liz H |
| 10 th Clotted Cream Fudge | 3446 | Emma Chester |
| Repository Draw | Christmas Goodies | Blue 416-420 |

This Sunday 11 December 3.00pm: OUR PARISH CAROL SERVICE organised by the Catenians is scheduled for **3.00PM**. we will be joined by children from our School. This year there is no limit for places. Thank God!!



ADVENT is a time of hope and expectation and above all encounter with Christ. Advent is a spiritual season to grow closer to Christ and prepare for his coming to us in a new or deeper way. The words of John the Baptist ring true for this time: *prepare away for the Lord. Can we make space and time for him in these coming weeks?*

We will have some extra devotions: Morning prayer a quarter of an hour before Mass on Wednesdays and Rosary before Mass on Thursday and Exposition on Fridays at 6.30pm so that we may encounter Our Lord in a special way as we prepare to welcome him at Christmas as the word made flesh among us.

VICTORY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS: 1st Prize £100 M Sparks ticket number 175: 2nd Prize £50 B Stewart ticket number 16: 3rd Prize £30 M Ockenden ticket number 272.

Annual members are reminded that their fees are due in January 2023 and can be forwarded to K Shiers 23 Fairfax Road Market Harborough LE16 9JT cheques made out to Victory Prize Draw. Thank you all for your support,

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION. We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2023. Applications forms are now available from Fr Chris after any of the Masses. Please return the form by 8 January 2023. It is for children in year 3 and above, The first meeting for parents will take place on **Thursday 19th January 2023 at 7.00pm** in the Octagonal Hall when we will introduce the course and give out the plan. The first session for children will take place on Sunday 22 January 2023 from 10.20am-11.20am and each session will take place in between the Masses with the children join-

FIRST COMMUNION: We are still looking for new people and some from a younger generation who would like to be part of a team to prepare our children for next July. This is a very great ministry and full of great blessings. Please speak or ring Fr Chris. A DBS clearance would need to be done.

'GOING DEEPER' Do you want to go deeper into your Catholic spiritual life and prayer life? A monthly 'Going Deeper' gathering will continue on Tuesday 20 December at 6.30pm and continue thereafter on the third Tuesday of the month. It will begin in the Kavanagh Room. The main components of the meeting will be: the evening prayer of the Church; discussion of a classic text on prayer by one of the great spiritual teachers, a period of silent prayer. The plan is to finish around 8pm. For more information, email Cyprian Blamires on cpblamires@aol.com or phone him on 01858 468224 or 07714 651756.

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Christmas eve: 6.00pm & 10.00pm. (Preceded by carols 9.30pm)

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READERS FOR 2023: Reading at mass is a very important and satisfying ministry. If you would like to read at one of the weekend masses please could you contact Margaret Atkins, in person or phone 01858 446369 or email margaretatkins52@gmail.com, giving your name, the time of the mass you normally attend and your contact details, phone and email, or write down these details and hand to Fr Chris.

WELCOMERS NEEDED: We're very short of welcomers at the 11am Mass, so if you mostly go to that Mass and think that you could spare a half hour or so, once a month (or less often if that's what you can manage) to welcome your fellow parishioners we'd love to hear from you. New volunteers to welcome at other Masses would be very helpful too. Please contact Theresa Kendrick on 07748 591398 or Beatrice Stewart on 01858 465492, or just have a word with Fr Chris.

THE SYNOD - CONTINENTAL STAGE CONSULTATION: All the Synod feedback from parishes, dioceses, and national Bishops' Conferences around the world has been gathered, considered, discerned, and distilled into a Report which is now being given to each continent to consider in light of their own tradition, history, experience, and religious perspective. Within Europe we now have the opportunity to consider the Synodal feedback from around the world and to report on: A) What we feel resonates with our own experiences – list the top three priorities from those given. B) Consider what are the challenges and tensions in each of those three areas. C) Define the next steps which move us (parish, deanery, diocese, the Church) forward. Please engage with this consultation by: Completing the form available in church or Complete the feedback form on-line at: <https://forms.office.com/e/2Yfs77hHsp> or Follow the QR code and access the on-line diocesan consultation. Synod. <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/synod> **All responses should be received by 9th January 2023** so they can be included in the overall diocesan response. Let us dream of the Church the Holy Spirit is calling us to become.



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| | | Sat. 6.00 pm | Sunday, 9.00 am | 11.00 a.m. |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Readers | 17/18 December | E. Andrews | C. Reed | M. Lewin |
| | 31/1 January | J. Rowland | S. Acton | R van der Liet |
| | 7/8 January | M Mihovilovic | D. Chappell | C. Sellechia |



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

18th December 2022
Forth Week of Advent
Psalter Week 4

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Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449
Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Times of Services

Sunday: 4th of Advent

Sat. 6.00pm: Mary Maguire RIP anniv (Scott)
9.00am Mass: People of the Parish
11.00am Mass: Michael Gatens RIP (Taylor)

Monday: Advent FERIA

9.00am Mass: November Dead List
7.00pm: Confessions with visiting priests

Tuesday: Advent FERIA

9.00am Mass: Malcolm Wallace RIP (Maureen)

Wednesday: Advent FERIA

9.45am: Morning Prayer
10.00am Mass: Sally & Gordon Wyatt (C. Goddard)
12.00pm: Funeral Service for Jim Freer

Thursday: Advent FERIA

9.45am Rosary
10.00am: Charles Thomas (Jopling RIP)

Friday: Advent FERIA

6.30pm: Exposition
7.00pm Mass: Pat Butters RIP

Saturday: CHRISTMAS EVE - Advent FERIA

6.00pm Mass: Peter Northway RIP (Olivant)
10.00pm Mass: Priest Int

Sunday: CHRISTMAS DAY - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

9.00am Mass: Mass in memory of 10 Million lost to abortion (Prolife group)
11.00am Mass: People of the Parish

PLEASE NOTE: Please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection.



*Jesus will be born of
Mary, betrothed to
Joseph, son of
David.*



CONFESSIONS
11AM
SATURDAY

Monday 26th: St Stephen

11.00am Mass: Wilson & Langley family

Tuesday 27th: St John

10.00am Mass: Joan Hartnett RIP (Sisters)

Wednesday 28th: The Holy Innocents

10.00am Mass: November Dead List

Thursday 29th: St Thomas Becket

10.00am: Blanche Phillips Ints (Lowe)

Friday 30th: The Holy Family

7.00pm Mass: Mary Marston RIP (Davis)

Saturday 31st: Pope St Sylvester I

6.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

Sunday 1st January: Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9.00am Mass: Plowright & Webb families

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



*They hurried away
and found Mary and
Joseph, and the ba-
by lying in the man-
ger.*

FR CHRIS WRITES: As is traditional this Newsletter covers the 2 weeks of the Christmas Period. As you will see there are various times for you to come to Mass over this Christmas period.. I remind people that Christmas is celebrated over 8 days finishing with Mary the Mother of God next Sunday on January 1st .Why not come to Mass during the Christmas period?

May I take this opportunity of wishing you and all your families a very Happy Christmas and blessings for the New Year May I thank everyone who helps in the Parish in the various areas of our Parish Life: Church, Hall, House, our School, and our outreach and at this time all our Stewards. There are so many involved in our Parish Life here! And may I say, personally, thank you for the help and prayers you give me. Fr. Chris PP

Sadly we have lost some Parishioners in the last week:

Jim Freer whose funeral Liturgy will be on Wednesday at 12 noon.

Giuseppe Olivetti whose funeral Mass will be on Thursday 12th January at 10.00am. Also

Judith Thrapston and **Mike Preen** have also died. Our Condolences and prayers go to their families. May they rest in peace.

COLLECTION AT ALL OUR CHRISTMAS MASSES will be your Christmas gift to Fr Chris. Envelopes available as you come into Church. Thank you in anticipation.



CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS: We are going to have to have a special service for the Sacrament of reconciliation on Monday 19th December at 7.00pm. There will a few visiting priests available. Many parishes have the celebrations in advent and lent and it is an opportunity to go to another priest other than the parish priest. I know it's been difficult with COVID but so many to go to confession over these last two or so years. We can make it a great opportunity to prepare for Christmas in a special way this year with the sacrament of confession. There will be a little introduction a couple of prayers and examination of conscience and the blessed sacrament will be exposed while its confessions are heard. Come along and meet the merciful Lord.

ALSO CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK ON:

Thursday 22nd December at 10.30am

Friday 23rd December at 6.30pm after Mass

Saturday 24th December 11.00am



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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2022. We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2022. Applications forms are now available from Fr Chris after any of the Masses. Please return the form by 6 January 2023. It is for children in year 3 and above, The first meeting for parents will take place on Wednesday // January 2022 at 7.30pm in the Octagonal Hall when we will introduce the course and give out the plan. The first session for children will take place on ????? from 3.30-4.30pm in the same place and then the 21st & 28th January. Depending on the numbers & COVID there will be two first communion days: 18th June 2022 & 2nd July 2022.

FIRST COMMUNION: We are still looking for new people and some from A younger generation who would like to be part of a team to prepare our children for next July. This is a very great ministry and full of great blessings. Please speak or ring Fr Chris. A DBS clearance would need to be done.

'GOING DEEPER' Do you want to go deeper into your Catholic spiritual life and prayer life? A monthly 'Going Deeper' gathering will continue on **Tuesday 20 December at 6.30pm** and continue thereafter on the third Tuesday of the month. It will begin in the Kavanagh Room. The main components of the meeting will be: the evening prayer of the Church; discussion of a classic text on prayer by one of the great spiritual teachers, a period of silent prayer. The plan is to finish around 8pm. For more information, email Cyprian Blamires on cpblamires@aol.com Or phone him on 01858 468224 or 07714 651756.'

VICTORY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS: 1st Prize £100 M Sparks ticket number 175: 2nd Prize £50 B Stewart ticket number 16: 3rd Prize £30 M Ockenden ticket number 272.

Annual members are reminded that their fees are due in January 2023 and can be forwarded to K Shiers 23 Fairfax Road Market Harborough LE16 9JT cheques made out to Victory Prize Draw. Thank you all for your support,

READERS FOR 2023: Reading at mass is a very important and satisfying ministry. If you would like to read at one of the weekend masses please could you contact Margaret Atkins, in person or phone 01858 446369 or email margaretatkins52@gmail.com, giving your name, the time of the mass you normally attend and your contact details, phone and email, or write down these details and hand to Fr Chris.