

A Christmas message from Cardinal Nichols:

As I look back on the year that is now drawing to a close, one moment stands out, full of impact and resonance. On 8 September, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II died. On that day, we mourned the loss of a unique and gracious mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. We cherished her life of unstinting service, her example of devotion to duty, her steadfast witness of faith in Jesus Christ and his promises. From the moment of her death carpets of flowers, messages and mementoes grew by the day. People lined our roads to pay their respects as her coffin passed by. It is estimated that half of the population of the world watched the funeral service from Westminster Abbey. But the four days during which more than 350,000 people queued, for up to fourteen hours, to honour the late Queen at her lying-in-state in Westminster Hall were the most telling. This procession became a pilgrimage. For many a personal sense of grief and loss was united in a communal movement and in a shared desire to find and give meaning to a unique and powerful moment. Suffering and death always challenge our sense of purpose and meaning. This unique death laid bare our longing for clear signposts by which to continue the journey of life.

It was a moment for facing the dreadful possibility that life is, ultimately, futile or – alternatively – for remembering an ancient hope. Many priests took part in that pilgrimage. They told how, while queuing, they heard many confessions and spoke and prayed with many of those whom they met. And theirs was an experience shared by many. In a similar way the magnificent processions of those days lifted us out of personal reflection towards a greater horizon. With each person playing their own part with true selflessness, they showed us the vital importance of ritual in forging us into something greater. In those ten days vital human and spiritual needs, often hidden or ignored, became increasingly evident. Like an underground stream bursting into the sunlight, we saw something of our deeper characteristics as people and a nation: our esteem for service, our desire for coherence, our wish for an answer to isolation. From birth to death, and at all the significant milestones in between, celebration, communal ritual and community matter. They matter whether we are religious or not.

They matter because they speak to life itself in all its joy and griefs. In this light we should rejoice in the wonderful gift of our Catholic faith, in our liturgical rites – especially the Mass – and in our spiritual traditions and devotions. Through them we understand ourselves and our world in the light of Christ's death and resurrection. We learn how to read our own lives into the great narrative of our redemption. We must treasure the rituals we receive and the reality they bestow. We always need to nourish and refresh them, handing them on to our children and those who will come after we are gone. This faith makes us into a people of profound hope: immersed fully in this life, yet with hearts attuned to God's kingdom and to the truth and beauty of heaven. In this faith we can enter thoroughly into the ebb and flow of existence, with all its failings, sorrows and joys. We are not afraid. Another lesson is to be drawn from those remarkable days. The Gospel we are commissioned to announce may be unfamiliar to many today. But we must never think of it as foreign or alien to those around us. On the contrary, the Gospel meets the deepest yearnings of the human spirit, yearnings which only to surface at times such as these. Living as an adult human being means accepting the burden of mortality, with its suffering and death. Yet even these darkest moments rarely extinguish our profound longing that, in the end, nothing has been totally in vain. The Gospel tells us that what we long for is true. Every last drop of our effort, in weariness and tears, is brought to fulfilment in and through Christ Jesus. His promise is the response to the deepest instincts and yearning of humanity, a response that brings freedom and consolation to all who will embrace it. It is ours for the receiving. These days of Christmas, then, give us great encouragement in the task of announcing this Gospel of Jesus Christ, for it is indeed the Good News for which humanity longs. Our shared humanity is the bedrock of the work of evangelisation. And it is our privilege to undertake that work every day. A very happy Christmas to you all, and may God bless you.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor

Tel: House: 01858 462359

Email: parishpriest@olvic.com

Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432

Parish Website: www.olvic.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Schools:

Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.

Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057

Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com

Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW



Times of Services

Sunday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Sat. 6.00pm: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

9.00am Mass: Plowright & Webb families

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish

Monday: Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

10.00am Mass: Allen Winter RIP

Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

9.00am Mass: Fr Peter Wade Ints

Wednesday: Christmas Feria

9.45am: Morning Prayer

10.00am Mass: Sister Helen Ints (L. Brown)

Thursday: Christmas Feria

9.45am Rosary

10.00am: Kath Furlong Ints followed by Coffee

Friday: Epiphany Solemnity — Holyday of Obligation

10.00am Mass: In thanks for Bogush RIP

7.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

Saturday: St Raymond of Peñafort

6.00pm Mass: For Casimir RIP (Izabella)

Sunday: Baptism of the Lord

9.00am Mass: Joe Chong RIP (Sari)

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish

They found Mary and Joseph and the baby... When the eighth day came, they gave him the name Jesus

CONFESIONS
11AM & 5.15pm
SATURDAY

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

FR CHRIS WRITES: I hope you have had a lovely Christmas and blessed days with Family and Friend. It was wonderful to see so many people at Mass for Christmas. This is the first Christmas without COVID restrictions. So many remarked on our lovely Church, the crib and the wonderful Christmas flowers. Thank you to all who prepare the Church with flowers, cleaning it and enabling us to celebrate the Liturgy with music and Song and welcome people to our Masses.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and Blessed new year and to thank you for all your cards and Good wishes and very generous Christmas Offerings. Your prayers and good wishes are so much appreciated. **Next Friday is the feast of the Epiphany** – a Holiday of Obligation. Masses will be 10.00am (with the School) and 7.00pm.

Funerals: Giuseppe Oliveti whose funeral Mass will be on Thursday 12th January at 10.00am.

Also Judith Thurston whose funeral will be on 11th January at 11.00am. May they rest in peace. Also Rosina Lanni died at Sibbertoft manor on Christmas day *cum sanctis*. Her funeral will be on 27th January at 10.00am. Also Liz Tuoy died and his funeral will be 18th January at 11.00am



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2022. We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2023. Application 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 joining their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word.

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.

Nearly everyone is familiar with Greta Thunberg, who went on strike from going to school until she drew people's attention to the plight of our planet. Our House is on Fire is a play about how one small girl can have such a global impact so quickly. We can no longer claim to be ignorant because of Greta and the many people she has inspired. The play will be presented by Saint Peter's Players in the Mary Forryan Centre, Hinckley on Thursday 5th & Friday 6th January at 7.30pm, and Sunday 8th January at 4.30pm. Tickets £4 adults; £3 concessions) from Saint Peter's Priory: 01455 634443 or hinckleypriory@gmail.com

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.

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.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: The Church relies on people getting involved. Our Church, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our Church? What aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, is looking for people to give some time and join in its mission. Could you help in our parish, bringing people together to help build a better world or by visiting local schools? Maybe you could raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the diocese? Could you support local volunteers or share your office skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support is provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information, or get in touch with Will Cruddace, our local CAFOD worker, on wcruddace@cafod.org.uk or 07710094455.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TO ST JOSEPH'S 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 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 in 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.

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,

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 online at: <https://forms.office.com/e/2Yfs77hHsp> or Follow the QR code and access the Online 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.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	31/1 January	J. Rowland	S. Acton	R van der Liet
	7/8 January	M Mihovilovic	D. Chappell	C. Sellechia

Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk



SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TO ST JOSEPH'S 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](#) 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 in 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.

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 online at: <https://forms.office.com/e/2Yfs77hHsp> or Follow the QR code and access the Online 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.



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.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor
Tel: House: 01858 462359

Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.

Email: parishpriest@olvic.com

Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432

Parish Website: www.olvic.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Schools:
Parish Primary: St.

Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057

Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com

Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Times of Services

Sunday: Baptism of the Lord

Sat. 6.00pm: For Casimir RIP (Izabella)

9.00am Mass: Joe Chong RIP (Sari)

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish

Monday: Feria

9.00am Mass: May Murphy - recovery

Tuesday: Feria

9.00am Mass: Sisters Eileen, Mary & Eleanor PBVM

Wednesday: Feria

10.00am: Funeral Judith Thurston

Thursday: Feria

11.00am: Funeral Giuseppe Oliveti

Friday: Feria

7.00pm Mass: Sister Catherine Int (I. Brown)

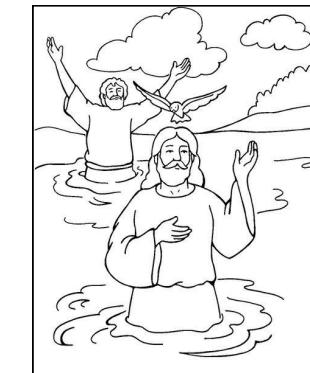
Saturday: Feria

6.00pm Mass: November Dead List

Sunday: 2nd of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: Gurmen Sari (Family)

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.

CONFESIONS

11am & 5.15pm
SATURDAY

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: Pope Benedict described himself as a humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord when he appeared on the balcony of Saint Peters in 2005 after his election. We can say well done good and faithful servant. He fulfilled his ministry as successor of Peter by being a rock of unity and confirming his brothers and sisters in the faith. He was a faithful successor of Saint Peter who sought to do the best he knew how for the Lord.

As he said in his [inaugural homily](#): *My real programme of governance is not to do my own will, not to pursue my own ideas, but to listen, together with the whole Church, to the word and the will of the Lord, to be guided by Him, so that He himself will lead the Church at this hour of our history. He faithfully sought to implement Vatican II to which he had been an important contributor as a young theologian. He wrote many things over the years and had the gift of being a good teacher as many have said. His general audiences had the highest attendance figures of any Pope and his wonderful series of teachings are well worth reading, especially the talks he gave on various Saints. His three encyclicals on love hope and faith (the latter published by Pope Francis) are wonderful Christian meditations on these divine gifts. Also his three books on Jesus of Nazareth, written as a theologian, are masterpieces of a profound Christian faith and scholarship. However, the deepest truth about him is that he was a man who loved Christ with a simple faith who only desired friendship with Christ. His last words were "Jesus, I love you". I think too the gift of humility was so important as well. It enabled him to be a man of Christ, a man serving the church though with an intellect considered amongst the greatest of the last century. He only desired to help others encounter Christ and have friendship with him. We pray for him, that the Lord will forgive any remaining sins and that he may pass swiftly through the purifying flames of love in Purgatory and come to the Lord.*

Funerals:

Giuseppe Oliveti whose funeral Mass will be on Thursday 12th January at 10.00am. Also Judith Thurston whose funeral will be on 11th January at 11.00am. May they rest in peace.

Also Rosina Lanni died at Sibbertoft manor on Christmas day cum sanctis.. Her funeral will be on 27th January at 10.00am.

Also Liz Tuohy died and the funeral will be 18th January at 11.00am.

Also the funeral of Bruno Guadagnini will be at Great Glen crematorium on Tuesday at 3.30pm though this is not a religious funeral. I have done a Catholic commendation for him.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2022. We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2023. Application forms are now available from Fr Chris after any of the Masses. Please return the form by **15 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 joining their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word.

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.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: 18th – 25th January.

To mark this special octave of prayer, there are various ecumenical prayer meetings take him place in town. **The meetings are:**

Wednesday 18 January, 7.00 pm, Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church
Friday 20 January - 12.30 pm, Congregational Church

Tuesday 24 January 7.00 pm by Zoom, organised by the Anglican Team.

The culmination is the united service on Sunday 22 January, 3.00pm at the Baptist Church,



VICTORY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS: January 2023 winners:

1st Prize £60 M O'Malley ticket number 140

2nd Prize £25 P Armstrong ticket number 55

3rd Prize £15 B Stewart ticket number 16

Due to the lack of members re-joining we have had to lower the prize money to comply with the law it is hoped this may be only a short measure.

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.

SHARE, INSPIRE, SUPPORT: The Caritas Hub for Leicester and Leicestershire warmly invite you to Saint Peter's church, Hinckley Road, Leicester LE3 0TA for its next meeting **on Tuesday 17th January at 7.00pm**. The Hub brings people together from across parishes in the city and county to explore new ways of working together for outreach. This time we will reflect on our experiences during the pandemic and beyond, with a focus on communication and inclusion. For information contact Karen Scott karensco070663@gmail.com

TOWARDS THE POLITICS OF COMMUNION on Wednesday 18th January at 7.00pm on Zoom: an ideal taster for anyone who wants to know about Catholic social teaching but was afraid to ask! Paul Bodenham from Nottingham Caritas is hosting a talk by Dr Anna Rowlands, professor of Catholic social thought and practice at the University of Durham, and one of the most engaging experts on the topic in Britain today. To book a place visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcruGrrj8sGdy6URaIMR2GQdREBWWu2tTC>

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: The Church relies on people getting involved. Our Church, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our Church? What aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, is looking for people to give some time and join in its mission. Could you help in our parish, bringing people together to help build a better world or by visiting local schools? Maybe you could raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the diocese? Could you support local volunteers or share your office skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support is provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information, or get in touch with Will Crudace, our local CAFOD worker, on wcrudace@cafod.org.uk or 07710094455.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	7/8 January	M Mihovilovic	D Chappell	C. Sellechia
	14/15 January	N. Williamson	M. Crook	R. Lewin

Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk



SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TO ST JOSEPH'S 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 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 in 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.

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.

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

Email: parishpriest@olvic.com

Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432

Parish Website: www.olvic.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Schools:

Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359

Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057

Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com

Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Times of Services

Sunday: 2nd of Ordinary Time

Sat. 6.00pm: November Dead List

9.00am Mass: Gurmen Sari (Family)

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish

3.30pm Rosary

Monday: Feria

9.00am Mass: Sr Rita Lee RIP

Tuesday: St Antony

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Wednesday: THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL

11.00am: Elizabeth Tuohy funeral

Thursday: Sts Timothy & Titus

9.45am Rosary

10.00am Mass: Mirek Nowakowski RIP anniv

Friday: Feria

7.00pm Mass: Patricia & Gerry White (Rita)

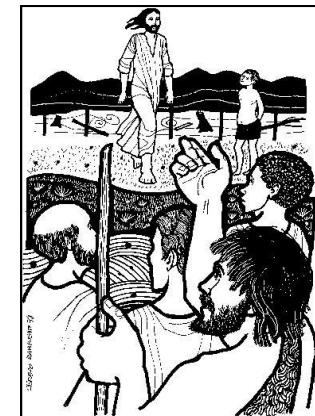
Saturday: St Thomas Aquinas

6.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

Sunday: 3rd of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Penelope Phelan RIP (John Masding)



Look, there is the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world.

CONFESIONS

**11am & 5.15pm
SATURDAY**

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:

This week on Wednesday we begin the Octave of prayer for Christian Unity. The details of prayer meetings are in the Newsletter. As Christians we pray together at various times particularly at this time seeking the unity that Christ willed for his Church so that the world may believe. We have come a long way as Christians both on a local level and also in the relationships between churches and communities as such. One of the achievements of Pope Benedict the 16th as cardinal was to reach an ecumenical agreement with the Lutheran Church on the nature of justification of the Christian which you may remember was one of the breaking points at the time of the Reformation. Much sadly of the issue at the time of the reformation was a failure to listen to each other. It was basically found that we agreed. That is important but also is important the daily witness of Christians working together in outreach which goes on very quietly in different ways. Our churches together in Market Harborough sponsors some things such as the food bank, The Bower House the action for justice and peace and of course we have the Cube and the Torch Trust for the Blind and many other hidden things. There are prayer session during the week as well as the United service on Sunday 22nd January at 3.00pm at the Baptist church which forms the final of prayer and worship together.

Funerals: Rosina Lanni died at Sibbertoft manor on Christmas day *cum sanctis..* Her funeral will be on 27th January at 10.00am. Also Liz Tuoy died and her funeral will be 18th January at 11.00am.

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 17 January 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.

THE WEEKLY ROSARY GROUP meets outside in front of Our Lady's Statue Sunday 3.30-4pm. For more information contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115 (UKPrays.org)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2022. We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2023. Application 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 joining their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word.

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.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: 18th – 25th January.

To mark this special octave of prayer, there are various ecumenical prayer meetings take place in town. **The meetings are:**

Wednesday 18 January, 7.00 pm, Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church
Friday 20 January - 12.30 pm, Congregational Church

Tuesday 24 January 7.00 pm by Zoom, organised by the Anglican Team.

The culmination is the united service on Sunday 22 January, 3.00pm at the Baptist Church,



VICTORY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS: January 2023 winners:

1st Prize £60 M O'Malley ticket number 140

2nd Prize £25 P Armstrong ticket number 55

3rd Prize £15 B Stewart ticket number 16

Due to the lack of members re-joining we have had to lower the prize money to comply with the law it is hoped this may be only a short measure.

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.

The Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers (Betharram) invite you to a '**COME AND SEE WEEK-END**' to explore the Gift of Vocation to the Religious Life and Priesthood. The Weekend will take from Friday (Evening) 24th February to after lunch on Sunday 26th February at Shalford House Retreat Centre, Staffordshire, ST15 0NZ. For more information please contact Brother Andrew Ferris SCJ (br.andrewscj@holynname.org.uk) or Father Wilfred Joseph SCJ (wilfreed15@hotmail.com).

SHARE, INSPIRE, SUPPORT: The Caritas Hub for Leicester and Leicestershire warmly invite you to Saint Peter's church, Hinckley Road, Leicester LE3 0TA for its next meeting on **Tuesday 17th January at 7.00pm**. The Hub brings people together from across parishes in the city and county to explore new ways of working together for outreach. This time we will reflect on our experiences during the pandemic and beyond, with a focus on communication and inclusion. For information contact Karen Scott karenscott070663@gmail.com

TOWARDS THE POLITICS OF COMMUNION on Wednesday 18th January at 7.00pm on Zoom: an ideal taster for anyone who wants to know about Catholic social teaching but was afraid to ask! Paul Bodenham from Nottingham Caritas is hosting a talk by Dr Anna Rowlands, professor of Catholic social thought and practice at the University of Durham, and one of the most engaging experts on the topic in Britain today. To book a place visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrduGrrj8sGdy6URalMR2GQdREBWWu2tTC>

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	14/15 January	N. Williamson	M. Crook	R. Lewin
	21/22 January	J. Rowland	S. Acton	P. Green

ST THOMAS AQUINAS CMAT is seeking an enthusiastic, energetic faith leader with a passion for working with children and young people helping them to explore and engage with their faith. As **school lay chaplain** working in St Martin (secondary) and the local primary schools, Saint Peter, Earl Shilton; Saint Peter, Hinckley; and Saint Charles, Measham. For more information contact Tom Shannon tshannon@aquinas-cmat.org

The Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service is looking to recruit a new **Director of Youth Services** to start work later this year. This is an exciting opportunity for a highly skilled and experienced individual to be at the helm of Catholic Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Nottingham. For more information visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/director-of-youth-services or see the poster at the back of church.

Calling Young Adults of the Diocese (those aged 18-35) The diocese will also be bringing a group of young adults to World Youth in Lisbon next August: if you would like to be part of this exciting pilgrimage there are 20 spaces available, please visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/wyd23 for more information and how to book.

The Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers (Betharram) invite you to a '**COME AND SEE WEEKEND**' to explore the Gift of Vocation to the Religious Life and Priesthood. The Weekend will take from Friday (Evening) 24th February to after lunch on Sunday 26th February at Shallowford House Retreat Centre, Staffordshire, ST15 0NZ. For more information please contact Brother Andrew Ferris SCJ (br.andrewscj@holynome.org.uk) or Father Wilfred Joseph SCJ (wilfreed15@hotmail.com).

JUBILEE FOOD BANK: You are asked to leave food bank items in the trolleys at various supermarkets when you shop. Refill Revolution at the Eco Village, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Both Coop supermarkets, B&M, Nationwide, Coop, Great Glen cf <https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk/> **Shopping List: MOST NEEDED--**Pasta sauce, Tinned chicken in sauce, Tinned red meat (bolognaise, mince, stewed, chilli, corned, ham...), Other beans (red kidney beans, chickpeas...), Custard, Jam or marmalade, Snacks (snack bars, small bags of nuts, dried fruit...), Porridge oats, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shower gel, Feminine products--sanitary towels and tampons, Used, clean, strong 'bags for life', strong carrier bags, Jars of sandwich paste, Jars or pouches of baby food, Crackers (cream crackers or similar), Sugar (small bags if possible, 500g), Packets of Rice (500g if possible), Tinned hot dogs, Powdered mashed potato (like Smash), Fruit (tinned), Rice pudding (tinned), Crackers, Cereal, Tinned peas, Bottles of squash, Jars of curry sauce to go with rice, UHT Semi-Skimmed milk, UHT Whole milk, UHT juice, Biscuits, Tinned potatoes, Tinned meatballs, Jars of coffee, Hot chocolate, Mild curry sauces. **We don't currently need:** Soup, Baked beans, Baked beans with sausage, Carrots, Sweetcorn, Tinned tomatoes.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor

Tel: House: 01858 462359

Email: parishpriest@olvic.com

Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432

Parish Website: www.olvic.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Schools:

Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.

Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057

Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com

Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Times of Services

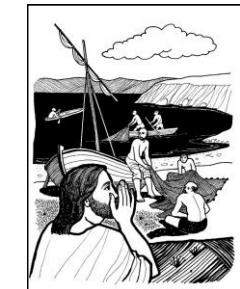
Sunday: 3rd of Ordinary Time

Sat. 6.00pm: Clive Blencowe RI P(Angela

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Penelope Phelan RIP (John Masding)

3pm: Ecumenical Service at Baptist Church (by Coop) (no Rosary)



Monday: Feria

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Tuesday: St Francis de Sales

9.00am Mass: In Loving Memory of Mum & Dad (Jacobs)

Wednesday: THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL

10.00am: Frank Dolan RIP (Sisters)

Thursday: Sts Timothy & Titus

9.45am Rosary

10.00am Mass: Phil Danks RIP (Family)

Friday: Feria

10.00am: Funeral Mass Rosina Lanni

Saturday: St Thomas Aquinas

6.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

Sunday: 4th of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Maureen Hackett RIP

He went and settled in Capernaum; in this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled.

CONFESIONS
11am & 5.15pm
SATURDAY

2nd Collection for Sick & Retired Priests Fund 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 do not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection.

FR CHRIS WRITES:

On Sunday afternoon we have a our annual Service for Christian Unity at the Baptist church which is our neighbour Church at 3.00pm. we pray together for Christian Unity. This is an all-age Service in which children are most welcome. It would be lovely to fill the church to give witness to our Christian faith which the world is so in need of.

A message from the chair of Churches Together Rev Andy Murphy (Methodist church):
 When we share in fellowship and prayer together, from our different churches, it is such a blessing, and it feels like God is bringing us on a journey. St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians: "*I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose*" (1 Cor 1:10). That does seem like a tall order! And, of course, it's impossible if my prayer is that everyone else agrees with me! However, if my prayer is that I will be open to listening to others, that I will treat my fellow followers of Jesus with love and respect, that I will be open to my views and beliefs being expanded and transformed by the Holy Spirit, then perhaps a gentler, more humble unity is possible. It starts with us. It will be a joy to share with you in this coming week, and may our prayers together be a sign of what is in store as God carries us on this journey. With every blessing, in Christ, Andy Murphy.

We have a **second collection this weekend for the sick and retired priests fund** which provides grants to priests such that they have a minimum level of income. We raised a lot of money for it in recent years and this just topped it up to keep it viable given the demographic of the priests in our diocese.

PS There is a lady in Fleckney who neds a lift to church. Is there anyone who can oblige?

Funerals Rosina Lanni died at Sibbertoft manor on Christmas day *cum sanctis*. Her funeral will be on 27th January at 10.00am. **Grace Cotter** died last Saturday morning. Her funeral will be on Friday 3rd February at 10.00am

SPUC White Flower appeal 2023: the society for the protection of unborn children will be holding its annual appeal next weekend SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable, and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GP's are concerned that the governments "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to contend this abhorrent tragedy. as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis.

the appeal will be made by **John Edwards** who was a deputy head teacher in the Becket school in Nottingham. The Bishop Patrick has asked him to be the pro-life coordinator in the diocese which he does on a voluntary basis. He will also fill us in I am sure with an update of the pro-life activities and indeed situation in this country. I am sure he will encourage us and our small pro-life group which needs further members for this vital work.

There will be Coffee after the 11.00am Mass for people to meet John when he will answer any questions and peak further.

Coach Pilgrimage to Knock shrine County Mayo from the 7th -12 may 2023 led by Fr John Joe Maloney. A few places left. See poster for details

WHAT TO SAY WHEN: an evening of pro-life apologetics training, to be held on Wednesday 25th January at 7.00pm in Cathedral Hall, North Circus Street, NG1 5AE. This will be a practical training session on what to say when in conversation about pro-life issues (such as abortion and euthanasia) with friends, family or colleagues who do not share the pro-life perspective. Participants will have a chance to share and discuss their experiences, and by the end of the session will leave feeling more confident on how to argue the pro-life case. For more information contact pro-life@dioceseofnottingham.uk or 07757 815625.

THE WEEKLY ROSARY GROUP meets outside in front of Our Lady's Statue Sunday 3.30-4pm. For more information contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115(UKPrays.org)

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 joining their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word. Please pray for them and their Catechists.



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.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: 18th – 25th January. Tuesday 24th January, organised by Great Bowden Anglican church, 7.00 pm via Zoom: log-in details below: Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83146004074?pwd=TzJneGgvNvN2SmxIc9GQm5RSzIRQT09>; Meeting ID: 831 4600 4074; Passcode: Shalom. The culmination is the united service on Sunday 22 January, 3.00 pm at the Baptist Church.



VICTORY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS: Due to the lack of members re-joining we have had to lower the prize money to comply with the law it is hoped this may be only a short measure. 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.

DIOCESAN WIDE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK Are you involved in communications in your parish, deanery, or Catholic organisation as a social media manager, newsletter editor, photographer, writer or journalist (or something else)? Training and networking opportunities will soon be available to members of a diocesan 'Communications Network'. If interested please email naomi.roberts@dioceseofnottingham.uk with your name, parish and role using the subject 'Communications Network'.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	21/22 January	J. Rowland	S. Acton	P. Green
	28/29 January	J. Snaith	F. Thompson	B. Tyrrell

ST THOMAS AQUINAS CMAT is seeking an enthusiastic, energetic faith leader with a passion for working with children and young people helping them to explore and engage with their faith. As **school lay chaplain** working in St Martin (secondary) and the local primary schools, Saint Peter, Earl Shilton; Saint Peter, Hinckley; and Saint Charles, Measham. For more information contact Tom Shannon tshannon@aquinas-cmat.org

GIVING IN MARKET HARBOROUGH: Many thanks to all who continue giving to the Parish. For anyone who is new there are Gift Aid Form in the cloister near the wall.

Name of account: **Our Lady of Victories, Market Harborough RCP**

Sort Code: **30 - 95- 47**

Account: **00068953**

Just put a note to say it is church donation. If You are a Tax payer you can pick up a gift Aid Form (if you have not completed one) at the Church or email Fr Chris parish-priest@olvic.com and I can send you one by email. We can claim an extra 25% on top of anything you give if you are tax payer.

The Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service is looking to recruit a new **Director of Youth Services** to start work later this year. This is an exciting opportunity for a highly skilled and experienced individual to be at the helm of Catholic Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Nottingham. For more information visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/director-of-youth-services or see the poster at the back of church.

Calling Young Adults of the Diocese (those aged 18-35) The diocese will also be bringing a group of young adults to World Youth in Lisbon next August: if you would like to be part of this exciting pilgrimage there are 20 spaces available, please visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/wyd23 for more information and how to book.

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.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	28/29 January	J. Snaith	F. Thompson	B. Tyrrell
	4/5 February	J. Rowland	D. Chappell	R. van der Liet



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor

Tel: House: 01858 462359

Email: parishpriest@olvic.com

Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432

Parish Website: www.olvic.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Schools:

Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.

Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057

Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com

Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

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 Ordinary Time

Sat. 6.00pm: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Maureen Hackett RIP

Coffee in Hall after mass with John Edwards

Monday: Feria

9.00am Mass: Nuala Harson Int & and MH Ints

Tuesday: St John Bosco

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Wednesday: Feria

10.00am: Maggie Sparks Int

Thursday: THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

9.45am Rosary

10.00am Mass: Fr Owen O'Neill RIP (Jacobs)

Friday: Feria

10.00am: Grace Cotter's funeral

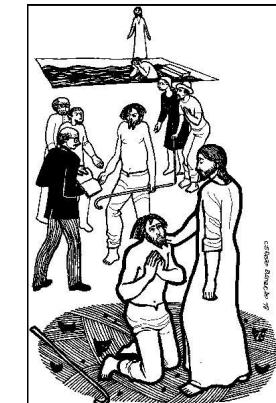
Saturday: Feria

6.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

Sunday: 5th of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass: Sally Wyatt RIP Anniv(Goddard)

11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



How happy are the poor in spirit!

CONFESIONS

11am & 5.15pm

SATURDAY

Retiring Collection for White flower appeal 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.

FR CHRIS WRITES:

This weekend we welcome John Edwards the Bishop's pro life coordinator who will give the white flower appeal and will be available after the 11.00am Mass for coffee and discussion in the Hall

We have managed this week to install the new boiler in the hall which went well thank God. So I hope such we have no further problems with the heating there. Thank you for the patience that the various users have shown. Thank you to Jon Randle for their excellent work. It was lovely to gather in the Baptist church for the Christian Unity Service and experience their more free flowing style of prayer and worship.

PS There is a lady in Fleckney who neds a lift to church. Is there anyone who can oblige?

Grace Cotter died on 14th January. Her funeral will be on 3rd February at 10.00am. Our condolences to Mary, Trish and Eammon.

SPUC White Flower appeal 2023: the society for the protection of unborn children will be holding its annual appeal next weekend SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable, and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GP's are concerned that the governments "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to contend this abhorrent tragedy. as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis.

the appeal will be made by **John Edwards** who was a deputy head teacher in the Becket school in Nottingham. The Bishop Patrick has asked him to be the pro-life coordinator in the diocese which he does on a voluntary basis. He will also fill us in I am sure with an update of the pro-life activities and indeed situation in this country. I am sure he will encourage us and our small pro-life group which needs further members for this vital work.

There will be Coffee after the 11.00am Mass for people to meet John when he will answer any questions and peak further.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY, 27 January: Bishop Declan Lang, Chair of the Bishop's Conference's International Affairs department, is encouraging to pause and remember the millions who were murdered and pray that "love will triumph over evil." On Holocaust Memorial Day, we pray for the six million people who were murdered and all those affected by the Holocaust. We also remember those who suffered and died in the genocides that followed. "This year's theme is Ordinary People, recognizing that it was ordinary people who fell victim to ordinary people perpetrating evil acts, while so many ordinary people stood by. It was also the bravery and selflessness of ordinary people that helped to rescue others. "Each one of us has the capacity for both immense good and for evil. As we take a moment to pause from our daily lives, let us reflect upon our own responsibility to prevent future genocides and consider how we view marginalised people in our communities. We commit ourselves to stand against anti-semitism, injustice and prejudice wherever it might be found. "Together we remember the Holocaust and pray that love will triumph over evil."

Some words from Pope Francis in an address to Participants in a liturgical Conference in Rome on Saturday.

One of the aims of the Council was to accompany the faithful in recovering the capacity to live liturgical action fully and to be astonished at what happens in the celebration under our very eyes (cf. *Desiderio desideravi*, 31). Note that it does not speak about aesthetic joy, for example, or the aesthetic sense, no, but rather wonder. Wonder is different to aesthetic pleasure: it is the encounter with God. Only the encounter with the Lord gives you wonder. And finally, I urge you to cultivate silence. In this age, we talk, we talk... Silence. Especially before the celebrations – a moment that is at times taken for a social gathering. We talk: "Ah, how are you? Is everything going well? Why not?". Silence helps the assembly and concelebrants to concentrate on what is to be done. Often sacristies are noisy before and after celebrations, but silence opens and prepares for the mystery: it is silence that enables you to prepare for the mystery, it permits its assimilation, and lets the echo of the Word that is listened to resound. Fraternity is beautiful; greeting one another is beautiful, but it is the encounter with Jesus that gives meaning to our gathering, to our coming together. We must rediscover and cherish silence!

INTER CARE WITH LACY: Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth warmly invite all young people, families and friends to join them on Sunday 12th March at 2.00 p.m. in a social walk, doing laps of Knighton Park, Leicester to raise funds for **Inter Care**. **Inter Care provides free access to medical aid for vulnerable patients across sub-Saharan Africa.** Take on board as short or long a walk as you wish. All monies received will help towards medical aid for the people of Africa. **4.00 p.m.** hot drinks and cake will be provided at St. Thomas More Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN. **5.00 p.m.** a Youth Mass - which will be celebrated for us by Fr. Simon Gillespie. (Lifts available from Knighton Park to the Church if required). The Mass will be offered for the vulnerable people of sub-Saharan South Africa. Sponsor forms available from paulinepayne@hotmail.com and fundraising@intercare.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you! Help us to make this the most amazing event ever! All donations to Just Giving: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/lacysponsoredwalk2023>.

Coach Pilgrimage to Knock shrine County Mayo from the 7th -12 may 2023 led by Fr John Joe Maloney. A few places left. See poster for details

THE WEEKLY ROSARY GROUP meets outside in front of Our Lady's Statue Sunday 3.30-4pm. For more information contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115(UKPrays.org)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Our children have started their first communion sessions and each session will take place in between the Masses with the Children joining their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word. Please pray for them and their Catechists.



VICTORY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS: Due to the lack of members re-joining we have had to lower the prize money to comply with the law it is hoped this may be only a short measure. 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.