

**A REGISTER OF CHURCH VOLUNTEERS** A register of **CHURCH VOLUNTEERS**: Many thanks to all who have completed their forms. Last volunteers to fill out your details? Registration forms are now available in the Narthex or by email. Who does this apply to? Really anyone who helps in any way in the Parish! From Church Cleaner, flower arranger reader, Coffee volunteer, church collection Bazaar Offertory PPC, welcomer and so on.. You can also receive the form by email from [parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com) **PS Just one form is necessary for all your roles in the parish.**



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

17th December 2023  
3rd Sunday of Advent  
Psalter Week 3  
Year B

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor  
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Email: [parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com)  
Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432  
Parish Website: [www.olvic.com](http://www.olvic.com)  
Safeguarding: [safeguarding@olvic.com](mailto: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](mailto:finance@olvic.com)  
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: [giftaid@olvic.com](mailto: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

**RED BOXES:** Many thanks to everyone who continues to find coins to put into their Red Boxes (increasingly difficult in post Covid/card only times) to help the poor and needy in our world. Your support is so much needed and very greatly appreciated. As always, please leave your box on the table in the Cloister and it will be returned after emptying, to the same place. Should anyone wish to help by taking a box, please speak to Father Chris or to Bob and Chris Shepherd. Thank you very much once more.

If you are a **Gift Aid Declaration Holder** please advise your parish office, or the Diocesan Gift Aid Department ([parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk)) of any change in your circumstances, such as **name change / address change / no longer a taxpayer**. If your spouse has died and the GA Declaration was in his / her name, and you wish to continue to contribute because you are a taxpayer, then a new GA Declaration Form will need to be completed. Please also advise of the date of your spouse's death. **Your continued support of both parish and Diocese is always very much appreciated – thank you!** If you do not Gift Aid your contributions, and you are a taxpayer, and wish to do so, please speak with your parish priest, or contact the parish office for a Gift Aid Declaration Form.

**JUBILEE FOOD BANK:** You are asked to leave food bank items in the trolleys at various supermarkets when you shop. Henderson Connellan on the High Street, Spar on Coventry Road, Eco Village, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Both Coop supermarkets, B&M, Everyone's Active: leisure centre of <https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk/> **Shopping List: WE HAVE AN URGENT NEED FOR: Dried Potato (like Smash), Tinned chicken in sauce, Tinned Veggie Meals Other Suggested Food Donations:** Tinned Custard, Tinned Ham, Corned Beef, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned/Jarred Hot Dogs, Crackers, Jars of Coffee, Sandwich Paste (small jars), Sugar (small bags if possible, 500g) Jam, Tinned Fruit, Snacks such as small bags of nuts, cereal bars, chocolate bars, dried fruit for lunch boxes and homeless. Mayonnaise, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned red meat (bolognaise, mince, stewed, chilli), UHT milk (semi-skimmed and whole), Tins of beans (red kidney beans, chickpeas... etc.), Porridge oats, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shower gel, Feminine products--sanitary towels and tampons, Used, clean, strong 'bags for life', strong carrier bags, Jars or pouches of baby food, Packets of Rice (500g if possible), Cereal, Jars of curry sauce to go with rice, Tinned potatoes, Tinned meatballs, Hot chocolate, Angel Delight, Microwave Sponge Puddings, Packets of dried custard, Packet Rice, Tinned Carrots, Marmalade, Cordial / Juice Drinks, Biscuits, Sweetcorn, Fray Bentos Pies

FINANCE	10/12/23		READERS		
Envelopes	£274.69				
Loose	£195.69		<b>Sat. 6.00pm</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
Standing Order		16/17 Dec	C. Baldam	R. van der Liet	C. Sellechia
<b>Total</b>	<b>£470.38</b>	23 /24 Dec	J. Rowland	C. Goddard	M. Crook

## TIMES OF SERVICES

### Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

6.00pm Mass: Boswell Family  
10.00am Mass: People of the Parish  
Coffee after Mass

### Monday: Advent Feria

9.00am: Michael Gatens RIP (Taylor)

### Tuesday: Advent Feria

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

### Wednesday: Advent Feria

9.45am: Morning Prayer  
10.00am Mass: Charles Thomas (Jopling)

### Thursday: Advent Feria

9.45am: Rosary  
10.00am Mass: Malcolm Wallace RIP Anniv.  
Coffee after Mass joining the school in Hall

7.00pm: Holy Hour

### Friday: Advent Feria

6.30pm: Confessions  
7.00pm Mass: November Dead List

### Saturday: Advent Feria

6.00pm Mass: Boswell Family  
**Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve**

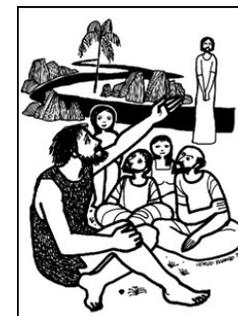
10.00am Mass: People of the Parish

### Sunday: Christmas Eve

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish  
9.30pm Carols  
10.00pm Mass: Michael & Greg O'Connor RIP

### Monday: Christmas Day

10.00am Mass: Bill Reed RIP (Rosaleen)



*There stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming.*



**CONFESSIONS**  
**Sat 11.00am & 5.15pm**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Flowers this weekend**

**FR CHRIS WRITES:** We are moving closer to the last days of advent which begins on 17th December when we look directly to the Feast of Christmas especially with Mary as we seek to open our hearts to the word made flesh. As you can see there are opportunities for Confession this week with Fr Michael and fr Peter joining us for confession on Tuesday evening. We were blessed to host the school nativities this week which were wonderful. We were also blessed to host the Montessori pre school nativity. Well done everyone and have a good school holiday.

**CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS:** We are going to have to have a special service for the Sacrament of reconciliation on **Tuesday 19 December 7.00pm**. There will be 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. 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 the **WEEKLY Rosary Group** meets every Sunday 3.30-4pm outside in front of the statue of Our Lady praying especially for Peace & Reconciliation in Society. Contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115.

**READERS WANTED:** I shall soon be compiling the Readers' Rota for 2024. Please would anyone who would like to read at Saturday evening or Sunday morning mass please give their name and contact details to Fr. Chris or Margaret Atkins. If you don't catch me at church, email or call me on [margaretatkins52@gmail.com](mailto:margaretatkins52@gmail.com) or 01858 446369."

**CHRISTMAS MASSES** as Christmas falls on a Monday this year which makes things a little complicated!

Sunday Masses at normal 6.00pm sat; 10.00am Sunday

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

**Christmas day:** 10.00am:

**St Stephen's day (Boxing day)** 7.00pm

**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.

The **ONGOING REORGANISATION OF THE DIOCESE**, enabling us all to become more missionary in a way which recognises that we now have fewer clergy and fewer parishioners, continues to make steady progress. To date the 108 parishes we had in 2017 have been reduced to 88, with 32 parishes having been amalgamated to form 12 new larger parishes. Parishioners in all our parishes are on a journey of working more closely together, in a more missionary fashion, in our united effort to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ, and to put that love into practice across the East Midlands.

Also From the start of December CAFOD is sharing **DAILY BIBLE REFLECTION**, stories of our global family, prayers and practical ideas for action, as we create a space to prepare for the coming of Christ. This **online Advent calendar** of daily prayer and reflection will offer an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Christmas. To sign-up for the Calendar, visit: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar>

The diocese is producing a **monthly podcast for the Year of Prayer** called **Encounter Prayer**. Each month a different type of prayer will be showcased; this first episode is given by Bishop Patrick who introduces the Year of Prayer, his hopes for it, and shares insights from his own prayer life. The Podcasts can be found on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music and Audible by searching Diocese of Nottingham; they are also on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer)

**A REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER:** The world in divided in two: those people who do not give thanks and those who do; those who take everything as if it is owed them, and those who welcome everything as a gift, as grace. The prayer of thanksgiving always begins from here: from the recognition that grace precedes us. A prayer sheet is available.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2024. Application forms are now available from Fr Chris after any of the Masses. Please return the form by **7 January 2023**. It is for children in year 3 and above. The first meeting for parents will take place on **Wednesday 17th January 2024 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 21 January 2023 from 9.20am - 10.20am and the children will join their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word .

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** Thanks to our safeguarding coordinators, we have nearly got through our DBS checks. I thought we could have an initial meeting to take it forward **after the 10.00am Mass on 17th December**. Many thanks to Fr. Chris.



**SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TO CATHOLIC PRIMARY ACADEMIES (Reception Year) - Children born between 01/09/2019 and 31/08/2020** The deadline for submitting your application for a school place is **15th January 2024**. Application forms are available on your 'home' Local Authority website. For every Catholic school you apply for if you wish your child to be considered and ranked under a **faith criterion** you **should also complete a supplementary information form**, and return this form to the school by the deadline, (forms are available from the LA and the school). You **MUST** also include the supporting **evidence\*** as required with this form, 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.