



*THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION
FOSTER AVENUE,
BEESTON,
NOTTINGHAM, NG9 1AE*

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Company No. 7151646 Charity No. 1134449
PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Christopher A Thomas, Presbytery, 25 Foster Avenue

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TIMES OF MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: Week Commencing 11th December 2016

Third (Gaudete) Sunday of Advent: Year A.

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT: 11th – 17th December 2016 (Weekday Cycle I / Psalter Week 3)

<u>Saturday 10th December: Advent Feria</u>	<u>PARISH FINANCES</u>	
10:00 am: Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish 10:45 am: Confessions	3 rd / 4 th December 2016	
<u>Saturday 10th December: Third (Gaudete) Sunday of Advent</u>	Envelopes:	
5:00 pm: Confessions	Loose Plate:	
5:30 pm: Mass; Kathleen Noonan RIP (Twomey)	Standing Orders:	
<u>Sunday 11th December: Third (Gaudete) Sunday of Advent</u>	TOTAL:	
9:00 am: Mass; John Myatt RIP (Choir)	Chad:	
<u>Monday 12th December: Advent Feria</u>	Intercare:	
9:00 am: Mass; Brian Hoey RIP	SVP:	
<u>Tuesday 13th December: St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr (memoria)</u>	<i>Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Parish.</i>	
12:30 pm: Confessions		
1:00 pm: Mass; Holy Souls	Second Collection THIS Weekend for the Poor and Needy Parishes	
<u>Wednesday 14th December: St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor (memoria)</u>		
7:00 pm: Mass; Brian Stratford RIP	Second Collection NEXT Weekend for the Christmas Flowers.	
<u>Thursday 15th December: Advent Feria</u>		
9:00 am: Mass; Trevor Jones RIP	<i>Gaudete, gaudete! Christus est natus Ex Maria virgine, gaudete!</i>	
<u>Friday 16th December: Advent Feria</u>		
10:30 am: Requiem Mass; Rebecca "Betty" Cockerill RIP	<i>Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born (Out) Of the Virgin Mary — rejoice!</i>	
5:30 pm: Reception; John Myatt RIP		
<u>Saturday 17th December: Advent Feria</u>		
10:15 am: Requiem Mass; John Myatt RIP	<i>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</i>	
<u>Saturday 17th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>		
5:00 pm: Confessions	Isobel Alana Barnes, Meg Bailey, Marica Borsos, Pat Constable, Rosetta Coronata, David Fox, Audrey Mc Coy, Bernadette Retallick, Mary Staley, Nick Turnbull-Ross and John Webster.	
5:30 pm: Mass; Richard & Stella Hill RIP (Williams)		
<u>Sunday 18th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>		
9:00 am: Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish		

Items for the newsletter can be given to Fr Christopher or e – mailed to frcathomas@live.com by Thursday of each week for inclusion in the next issue

ROTAS:	5.30 pm	9.00 am
Welcomers:		M Simpson & L Newbold
Next Week:		K Orford – Perkins & M Castor
Readers:	M Sully	S Yarwood
Next Week:	A Simmons	C Hallam
Offertory:	M & A Simmons	M Castor & Volunteer
Next Week:	M King & J Williams	J Powell & M Calladine
Coffee:	J Powell & M Calladine	Next Week: N Burrows & M Walton
Cashiers:	N Mason	Next Week: A Simmons
Flowers:	NO FLOWERS	Next Week: NO FLOWERS
Cleaning:	Team Newbold	Next Week: Team Shalloe
Brasses:	K Bennett	Next Week: L Newbold

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: Please remember in your prayers to pray for the repose of the soul of *Rebecca “Betty” Cockerill* who died on 24th November 2016. Betty’s Requiem Mass will take place here on **Friday 16th December 2016 at 10:30 am** followed by burial at Beeston Cemetery. Also, *John Myatt* who died on 27th October 2016. John will be received into Church on **Friday 16th December at 5:30 pm** and his Requiem Mass will take place on **Saturday 17th December 2016 at 10:15 am** followed by cremation at Bramcote Crematorium. We remember them and their families at this sad time. May they rest in peace.

POOR CLARES: the Sisters send their thanks for all the donations received from our Parish this week and they want you to know that our Parish is very special to them and always in their prayers. I shall be visiting the Convent again during the week leading up to Christmas to ensure that the sisters have our donations for their Christmas celebrations. Many thanks for your continued support. – *Diane Wilson*.

FAIR TRADE SALE: Thanks to everyone who supported the Fair Trade Sale last weekend, this was the final sale of the year and details of the 2016 sales can be found on the Fair Trade notice board at the back of Church. This year our Parish has raised £ 234. 80, for Mary’s Meals, through the sale of Fair Trade goods and the Mary’s Meals porridge sale in October. A huge thank you to everyone who has helped or supported the Fair Trade and WELL DONE. We continue our support for Mary’s Meals with the next Fair Trade sale which will be the weekend **28th/29th January 2017**. Information about Mary’s Meals can also be found at the website: www.marysmeals.org.uk. – *Diane Wilson*.

ALL FLOWER ARRANGERS: The Christmas flowers are being done on Friday afternoon **23rd December 2016** after 1:00 pm Mass. Would all flowers arrangers be at the Church for 1.45pm please. If anyone else wishes to help in any way please feel free to join us, you will be very welcome. Thank you – *Margaret Cookson*.

CHRISTMAS HOLLY & IVY: If anyone can provide us with variagated holly or variagated ivy we would be most grateful. Anyone wishing to deliver the holly and ivy can drop it at Church on Friday morning 23rd December between 10:00 am and 12:00 pm. Alternatively a collection can be arranged by ringing 0115 9229411. Thank you very much. – *Margaret Cookson*.

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH: This **Thursday 15th December 2016** at 1:00 pm.

RCIA PROGRAMME: Many thanks to all who continue to come along on Wednesday evenings for our continuation of the Catholicism Course by Fr Robert Barron. We will continue with the next chapter (7 of 10) on **Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 7:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. The topic for that week is entitled, **“Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven: The Mystery of the Liturgy and the Eucharist.”** All are welcome and if you have missed the series so far it’s still not too late to come along and join in.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE – REJOICE!): The Church is Evidence of Joyful Hope.

Joyful hope is not blind. There is incontrovertible evidence behind it. One piece of this evidence is the Church itself. For two thousand years, the Catholic Church has continued to grow and spread into every culture and corner of the world. And in spite of this incredible growth, it has kept completely intact the same Faith, Sacraments, and Hierarchical structure that it started with. Any Catholic from any place or time could pick up our Catechism, read it, and say, “That is exactly what I believe.” Our Creed is the same Creed prayed by the Emperor Constantine. If we were transported back to the catacombs in the year 200, we could go to Mass there and feel right at home, because we celebrate that same Mass today. Only the language and the frills have changed. Think of how unlikely this amazing continuity really is. If it were merely a human institution, it would be impossible. If it were merely a human institution, long ago it would have caved in under the constant pressure of corruption and cowardice that has plagued it from the time of Judas himself. But it hasn’t. Is there any other institution in history that has not only preserved itself but continued to grow, expand, and adapt over such a long period of time? The Church itself is proof that a Christian’s joyful hope is not blind, but grounded in the truth of God. It is not hard to let this spirit of true joy brighten up our lives these days, as Christmas comes closer. Even though consumerism has learned to take advantage of this season in many places, it has done so by surrounding us with decorations, images, and music that can serve as excellent reminders of the truth that Christ has come to live among us – the truth that is the source of Christian joy. The evergreen wreaths and Christmas trees are a symbol of God’s undying love, always green and fresh, even in the middle of darkest, coldest winter. The lights and glittering bulbs remind us that Christ’s light came to conquer the darkness of sin and ignorance, and that it will always continue to shine, leading us to true happiness. But above all, the manger scenes that abound this time of year vividly portray the most amazing fact in human history: God actually became a human being. He was actually born once as Mary’s little baby, so that by our faith in Him we could be born again as children of God. The manger scene in Bethlehem, in fact, is the reality that all the other symbols point to. Today, as Christ renews His presence among us in the Eucharist, let us promise that as we approach the celebration of Christmas, we will let that presence bring joy to our hearts – true joy, the kind that only Christ can give.