



*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 18th December 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Year A.

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT: 18th – 24th December 2016 (Weekday Cycle I / Psalter Week 4)

<u>Saturday 17th December: Advent Feria</u>	<i>PARISH FINANCES</i>	
10:15 am: <i>Requiem Mass; John Myatt RIP</i>	<i>10th / 11th December 2016</i>	
<u>Saturday 10th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>	Envelopes:	
5:00 pm: <i>Confessions</i>	Loose Plate:	
5:30 pm: <i>Mass; Richard & Stella Hill RIP (Williams)</i>	Standing Orders:	
<u>Sunday 18th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>	<u>TOTAL:</u>	
9:00 am: <i>Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish</i>	Chad:	
<u>Monday 19th December: Advent Feria</u>	Intercare:	
9:00 am: <i>Mass; Private Intention</i>	SVP:	
<u>Tuesday 20th December: Advent Feria</u>	Poor & Needy Parishes:	
12:30 pm: <i>Confessions</i>	<i>Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Parish.</i>	
1:00 pm: <i>Mass; Holy Souls</i>		
<u>Wednesday 21st December: Advent Feria</u>	Second Collection THIS Weekend for the Christmas Flowers.	
7:00 pm: <i>Mass; Special Intention</i>		
<u>Thursday 22nd December: Advent Feria</u>	<i>Please note that there will be Carols before Mass on Christmas Eve, half an hour before both the Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm and the Midnight Mass. Please do your best to arrive early to join in with the singing and preparation for the celebration of this great Solemnity.</i>	
9:00 am: <i>Mass; Holy Souls</i>		
<u>Friday 23rd December: Advent Feria</u>		
12:30 pm: <i>Confessions</i>	<i>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</i> 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.	
1:00 pm: <i>Mass; Special Intention</i>		
<u>Saturday 24th December: Advent Feria</u>		
10:00 am: <i>Mass; Winifred Lally RIP</i>		
10:45 am: <i>Confessions</i>		
<u>Saturday 24th December: Nativity of the Lord (Solemnity)</u>		
<i>First Mass of Christmas</i>		
5:00 pm: <i>Christmas Carols before Mass</i>		
5:30 pm: <i>Mass; Ron King RIP & Deceased Members of the Burn Family</i>		
<u>Sunday 25th December: Nativity of the Lord (Solemnity)</u>		
11:30 pm: <i>Christmas Carols before Mass</i>		
0:00 am: <i>Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish</i>		
9:00 am: <i>Mass; Special Intention</i>		

ROTAS:	5.30 pm	9.00 am
Welcomers:		K Orford – Perkins & M Castor
Next Week:		J Lowe & D Wilson
Readers:	A Simmons	C Hallam
Next Week:	P Hubberstey	A Horgan
Offertory:	M King & J Williams	J Powell & M Calladine
Next Week:	J Fox & N Brennan	D & D Wilson
Coffee:	N Burrows & M Walton	Next Week: N/A
Cashiers:	A Simmons	Next Week: N/A
Flowers:	NO FLOWERS	Next Week: ALL FLOWER ARRANGERS
Cleaning:	Team Shalloe	Next Week: Team Freyne
Brasses:	L Newbold	Next Week: E Rodrigues

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 this 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*.

PARISH SOCIAL: There will be a "Snowman" Beetle Drive on **Saturday 7th January 2017 at 7:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. All welcome. Further details to follow next week.

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 (8 of 10) on **Wednesday 21st December 2016 at 7:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. The topic this week is entitled, "*A Vast Company of Witnesses: The Communion of Saints.*" All are welcome and if you have missed the series so far it's still not too late to come along and join in.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: God Keeps His Promises.

The Old Testament is full of prophecies. But what exactly do they all mean? The Old Testament tells the history of salvation up to the coming of Christ the Saviour. It tells the story of God's action in history: from God's creation of the universe and mankind's Fall through original sin, all the way through the calling of Abraham, the liberation of the Israelites from Egypt under Moses, the establishment of the Kingdom of Israel through David and Solomon and, the breakdown of that Kingdom. Today's First Reading is taken from that last period of salvation history. The Kingdom had broken down because the people of God were unfaithful. They stopped following God's commandments, and so their nation was divided, and they became vulnerable to invasion. The people of Israel failed to keep their promises to God. They abandoned God, and they suffered the consequences. But even though the Chosen People didn't keep their promises, God still kept His. God didn't force His people to follow Him – He allowed them to break their promises. But He didn't lower himself to their level – He was faithful to His promises. The Old Testament prophecies are, in a sense, the list of God's promises, all of which were fulfilled in Christ, the Saviour and Redeemer. St Paul in the Second Reading writes that the Gospel of Jesus Christ had been, "promised long ago through His prophets in the Scriptures." And St Matthew in the Gospel passage interprets the events of Christ's birth by saying that they all took place, "to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet." This is our God, a God we can count on even when we can't count on ourselves, a God who keeps his promises: "*God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end, each one of us and humanity in its entirety. His Kingdom is not an imaginary hereafter, situated in a future that will never arrive; His Kingdom is present wherever He is loved and wherever His love reaches us. His love alone gives us the possibility of soberly persevering day by day, without ceasing to be spurred on by hope, in a world which by its very nature is imperfect. His love is at the same time our guarantee of the existence of what we only vaguely sense and which nevertheless, in our deepest self, we await: a life that is 'truly' life. (Pope Benedict XVI 'Spe Salvi,' #31).*

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