



*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
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TIMES OF MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: Week Commencing 1st January 2017

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

SECOND WEEK OF CHRISTMAS: 1st – 7th January 2017 (Weekday Cycle I / Psalter Week 2)

<u>Saturday 31st December: Seventh Day within the Octave of Christmas</u>	<u>PARISH FINANCES</u>
<p>10:00 am: Mass; In Thanksgiving (Calladine) NO MORNING CONFESSIONS</p>	<p>24th / 25th December 2016</p>
<p><u>Saturday 31st December: Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Solemnity)</u> NO EVENING CONFESSIONS</p>	<p>Envelopes: Standing Orders: TOTAL: Chad & Intercare: SVP:</p>
<p>5:30 pm: Mass; John Green RIP (Anniversary)</p>	<p><i>Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Parish.</i></p>
<p><u>Sunday 1st January 2017: Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Solemnity)</u></p>	<p>Second Collection Next Sunday is the White Flower Appeal*</p>
<p>10:00 am: Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish</p>	<p><u>REQUIESCAT IN PACE</u></p>
<p><u>Monday 2nd January: Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church</u></p>	<p>Please remember in your prayers to pray for the repose of the soul of Julianna Motowylczyk (Spanish Julie), who died on Thursday 15th December 2016. Her Requiem Mass will take place here at The Assumption Church on Monday 9th January 2017 at 11:00 am followed by Burial at Beeston Cemetery. We pray for her and her family at this sad time. May she rest in peace.</p>
<p>10:00 am: Mass; John Foster RIP</p>	<p><i>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</i></p>
<p><u>Tuesday 3rd January: The Most Holy Name of Jesus</u></p>	<p>Isobel Alana Barnes, Meg Bailey, Marica Borsos, Pat Constable, Rosetta Coronata, David Fox, Audrey Mc Coy, Fr Joseph O' Hanlon, Bernadette Retallick, Mary Staley and John Webster.</p>
<p>10:00 am: Mass; Holy Souls</p>	
<p><u>Wednesday 4th January: Wednesday before the Epiphany</u></p>	
<p>9:00 am: Service of the Word and Holy Communion</p>	
<p><u>Thursday 5th January: Thursday before the Epiphany</u></p>	
<p>9:00 am: Mass; Special Intention</p>	
<p><u>Friday 6th January: Friday before the Epiphany</u></p>	
<p>12:30 pm: Confessions</p>	
<p>1:00 pm: Mass; John Myatt RIP (SVP)</p>	
<p><u>Saturday 7th January: Saturday before the Epiphany</u></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">NO MORNING MASS NO MORNING CONFESSIONS</p>	
<p><u>Saturday 7th January: Epiphany of the Lord (Solemnity)</u></p>	
<p>5:00 pm: Confessions</p>	
<p>5:30 pm: Mass; Deceased Members of the Curtis, Bouchard & Doherty Families.</p>	
<p><u>Sunday 8th January: Epiphany of the Lord (Solemnity)</u></p>	
<p>10:00 am: Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish</p>	

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:	<i>5.30 pm</i>	<i>9.00 am</i>
Welcomers:		M Cookson & S Neely
Next Week:		M Simpson & L Newbold
Readers:	M Cummins	R Marlow
Next Week:	M Sully	S Grant
Offertory:	K Twomey & J Lyons	M Ferrara & N Iacovitti
Next Week:	M Sharp & S Spowage	R & N Wilson
Coffee:	N/A	Next Week: N Burrows & M Walton
Cashiers:	J Brennan	Next Week: N Mason
Flowers:	Ann & Kath	Next Week: Suzanne & Margaret J
Cleaning:	Team Agius	Next Week: Team Begley
Brasses:	M Castor	Next Week: K Bennett

POOR CLARES: The Sisters send their thanks for all the donations taken to them last week and they send greetings for a Happy and Holy Christmas to all our Parishioners. The next visit will be around 30th January 2017. – *Diane Wilson*.

MISSIO: I have just submitted the annual returns for our Parish to MISSIO and I am delighted to announce that our Parish has donated **£1, 178. 70** in 2016 through the RED BOXES. Well done everyone and thank you. – *Diane Wilson*.

“SNOWMAN” BEETLE DRIVE: No skill or experience needed!! **NEXT Saturday 7th January 2017 at 7:00 pm** in the Hall. **Please bring along food items to share** and any drinks that you might like. We will not be charging for this event but there will be a raffle. Beetle is a fun and entertaining game for all ages that needs no particular skill and is very social as you change partners with each new game. Please come along, it would be lovely to see you! – *The Social Committee*

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 (9 of 10) next **Wednesday, 11th January 2017 at 7:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. The topic for that week is entitled, **“The Fire of His Love: Prayer and the Life of the Spirit.”** All are welcome and if you have missed the series so far it’s still not too late to come along and join in.

***WHITE FLOWER APPEAL*:** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next weekend. In 2017 SPUC is commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act. Over 8.7 million unborn children have lost their lives due to abortion in the last 50 years. Since 1967 SPUC has been working tirelessly to uphold the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. Please help make 2017 a landmark year in SPUC’s historic campaign to win legal protection for unborn children. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC and help save mothers and babies from abortion.

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD: Mary’s Favourite Tool.

Our lives tend to be very noisy, distracted, rushed, and full of self-centered worries and self-absorbed preoccupations. At any moment of the day, if we were able to take an x-ray of the inner chamber of our soul, it would probably look like a very messy attic or a very cluttered garage, with all kinds of ideas, desires, regrets, hopes, and half-cooked thoughts strewn about like dirty clothes, broken toys, and unread magazines. But Mary’s inner chamber was different. She had a busy life – after all, she didn’t have microwave ovens, washing machines, telephones, and all the other modern time-saving devices. And yet, she kept that inner chamber neat and ordered. And as a result, she was able to hear the many gentle messages that God sent her through the events of her life. “She treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart.” Her heart was like the smooth surface of a deep pond: clear and quiet, and able to reflect accurately the sky, the sun, and the trees. And when a rock was thrown into it, she absorbed it through deep reflection, and soon the momentary disturbance and ripples smoothed out, and she was back to clarity and light. Her heart was like the inside of a violin: well-shaped by her faith and love, uncluttered, and therefore always ready to receive the notes that God wanted to play on the strings of her daily life. Her heart was like a perfectly constructed canoe: resilient and strong because of her self-mastery, but light and flexible, uncluttered with selfish worries and ambitions, and therefore able to receive God’s Word, welcome it, and continue moving easily through the stream of life. This was Mary’s interior life, the secret to her wisdom: Mary, “treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart.” Mary knows that it is hard to keep the clutter out of our hearts. We tend to get distracted by life’s hustle and bustle, by the shiny things of the world, even though they aren’t the most important things. She knows we need help learning how to reflect deeply on God’s action in our lives, and she has given us that help. She has given us a tool for developing our interior life that has a 100% success rate. Everyone who has used this tool has come closer to God and grown in wisdom, courage, and joy. This tool was given by Mary in a vision to St Dominic in the thirteenth century. Since then it has been used successfully by illiterate peasants and cultured queens, popes and bishops, mothers and widows, sailors and soldiers. All of us know about it, but not enough of us use it. It is called the Rosary. The Rosary is a key letting us into Mary’s heart, where we can sit with her, as if we were having a cup of tea together in her kitchen, just the two of us. We sit and talk things over, letting Christ’s light shine on the dark, cold corners of our mind and heart, and letting His grace heal and strengthen all that is wounded and weak in our lives and in the world. Our culture has a tradition of making a New Year’s Resolution. Why not make the resolution to spend this year learning from our spiritual Mother how to let God put order, peace, and wisdom into our lives, by treasuring, “all these things” and pondering them in our hearts through the Rosary. If we take even that small step closer to Christ, He will surely take a giant leap closer to us.

THANK YOU to all who helped to prepare the Church for the Christmas celebrations and to all those who have contributed to and supported the Parish during 2015. Special thanks to all the Cleaners, Flower Arrangers, Sacristans, Altar Servers, Readers, Ministers, Children’s Liturgy Group, Musicians, Catechists, Welcomers, Collection Counters and all those whose hard work and endeavours often go unnoticed. Many thanks to you all. I would also like to express my thanks for all your many cards, gifts and messages of support, not only at this time but throughout the year; it has been very much appreciated. I wish you all Best Wishes and Prayers for a prosperous 2017. – Fr Christopher Thomas.