



*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 15th January 2017

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: 15th – 21st January 2017 (Weekday Cycle Year 1 / Psalter Week 2)

Saturday 14th January: <u>Weekday Feria</u>	<u>PARISH FINANCES</u>
10:00 am: Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish 10:45 am: Confessions	7 th / 8 th January 2017
Saturday 14th January: <u>Second Sunday of the Year A</u>	Envelopes: Loose Plate: Standing Orders:
5:00 pm: Confessions 5:30 pm: Mass; Mr M Sawicki RIP	<u>TOTAL:</u>
Sunday 15th January: <u>Second Sunday of the Year A</u>	Chad: Intercare: SVP:
9:00 am: Mass; David Ryrie RIP (Anniversary)	White Flower Appeal: Crib Offerings:
Monday 16th January: <u>Weekday Feria</u>	<i>Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Parish.</i>
9:00 am: Mass; Julianna Motowylczyk RIP (Breame)	<u>THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM</u>
Tuesday 17th January: <u>St Anthony Abbot (memoria)</u>	Next weekend we welcome into our Parish Community Amara Mae Douglas Green who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday 21st January 2017. We pray for her and her parents, Dijon and Debra on this happy occasion.
12:30 pm: Confessions 1:00 pm: Mass; Khow Chan RIP (Melia)	<i>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</i> Isobel Alana Barnes, Meg Bailey, Marica Borsos, Pat Constable, David Fox, Audrey Mc Coy, Fr Joseph O' Hanlon, Bernadette Retallick, Mary Staley and John Webster.
Wednesday 18th January: <u>Weekday Feria</u>	
7:00 pm: Mass; Private Intention (Julia)	
Thursday 19th January: <u>Weekday Feria</u>	
9:00 am: Mass; Holy Souls	
Friday 20th January: <u>Weekday Feria</u>	
12:30 pm: Confessions 1:00 pm: Mass; Intentions of Margaret Simmons (Patterson)	
Saturday 21st January: <u>St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr (memoria)</u>	
10:00 am: Mass; Special Intention 10:45 am: Confessions 11:30 am: Baptism; Amara Mae Douglas Green	
Saturday 21st January: <u>Third Sunday of the Year A</u>	
5:00 pm: Confessions 5:30 pm: Mass; George Singleton RIP	
Sunday 22nd January: <u>Third Sunday of the Year A</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:	<i>5.30 pm</i>	<i>9.00 am</i>
Welcomers:		K Orford – Perkins & M Neale
Next Week:		D Wilson & Volunteer
Readers:	A Simmons	S O'Brien
Next Week:	P Huuberstey	N Wilson
Offertory:	M Brown & S Mills	M Castor & Volunteer
Next Week:	M & G Sawicki	J Powell & M Calladine
Coffee:	M Calladine & L Wittam	Next Week: J Powell & M Calladine
Cashiers:	A Simmons	Next Week: J Walton
Flowers:	Kay & Eve	Next Week: Shirley, Margaret & Sue
Cleaning:	Team Powell	Next Week: Team Newbold
Brasses:	L Newbold	Next Week: E Rodrigues

POOR CLARES: The Sisters send their thanks for all the donations taken to them before Christmas and they send their good wishes to all our Parishioners. The next visit will be *Monday 30th January 2017*. – *Diane Wilson*.

FAIR TRADE SALE: The next Fair Trade sale which will be the weekend *28th/29th January 2017*. We continue our support for Mary's Meals with all Fair Trade goods sold. The Christmas Crib Offerings amounted to **£ 51.82** which will also go to help support Mary's Meals. Information about Mary's Meals can also be found at the website: www.marysmeals.org.uk. – *Diane Wilson*.

RCIA PROGRAMME: Many thanks to all who have continued to come along on Wednesday evenings for our continuation of the Catholicism Course by Fr Robert Barron. We will conclude with the next chapter (10 of 10) **THIS Wednesday, 18th January 2017** at **7:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. The topic for that week is entitled, "**World Without End: The Last Things.**" All are welcome.

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE: would like to thank all those that contributed to the Snowman "Beetle" last Saturday night. A small, sometimes noisy, contingent had a very enjoyable evening. We are grateful to you all for turning up and for all the donations of food and prizes to make a great shared table and raffle. The money raised on the raffle will be put towards a future social event. We are hopeful that we will be able to put on a Barn Dance later this year. The next planned event will be on Shrove Tuesday and our Pancake Evening, which has now become established on the Assumption Social Calendar. (**Please put the date in your Diaries 28th February!**)

WOMENS REFUGE, BEESTON: The SVP are asking for donations of toiletries in order to help the WOMENS REFUGE in Beeston. Items needed are: *Liquid soap, deodorant, shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.* If anyone has any unwanted Christmas toiletries or could donate any of the above items we would be most grateful. There will be a box in the porch at back of Church labeled, "**WOMENS REFUGE**" where you can deposit the items, for the next couple of weeks. Thank you so much for your continued support. – *St Vincent de Paul Society*.

SILVER JUBILEE OF ORDINATION: As you know this year I will be celebrating the Silver Jubilee of my Ordination to the Priesthood. The Mass of Thanksgiving will be on **Friday 5th May 2017**, followed by a Parish Social celebration. (Please put the date in your diary as we will need to have an accurate idea of the numbers for catering). There will be a planning meeting **NEXT Wednesday, 25th January 2017** in the Parish Hall at **7:30 pm**. Anyone who would like to be involved in the organisation of this Parish celebration is invited to attend this meeting. – *Fr Christopher*.

PARISH MAINTENANCE: I am sure that you will agree that the Church looked so beautiful for the Christmas celebrations. However, this can only happen with the time and help given by those who generously volunteer to help maintain the Church building. A great deal of this is done by those who clean the Church and take care of the brass polishing. I have been asked again to appeal to all members of the Parish, if they would like to volunteer to help with the cleaning and polishing. Some of our existing members are getting older and not in the best of health and would like to pass the job on to younger members of the Parish. It would probably entail cleaning the Church or the brasses about once a month.

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR: Behold, The Lamb of God!

John the Baptist's favourite title for Jesus is, "The Lamb of God." It also became one of John the Evangelist's favourite titles. He uses it here in his Gospel, and then he used it again, twenty – nine times, in the Book of Revelation. It brings together three images familiar to the Jews of those times. By calling Christ the "Lamb of God," St John is telling us that those ancient images are fulfilled in Jesus. The first image: In the Old Covenant, God required the Jews to sacrifice a lamb twice a day to expiate the sins of the people (cf. Exodus 29³⁹). So, the lamb symbolized the price to be paid for sin. The second image: The primary holy day of the Jews was (and remains) the Passover. In the Passover ceremony, each family sacrifices and eats a lamb to recall their liberation from Egypt. On that night, God allowed the death of all the firstborn children and animals of the Egyptians, but spared those of the Hebrews. In order to indicate which households the angel of death was to pass over, God commanded the Hebrews to kill a lamb and mark their doorposts with its blood. Thus, the Passover lamb signified God's merciful and saving love. Finally, the third image: A lamb going silently and docilely to be slaughtered is one of the images used to describe the coming Messiah. He was going to take Israel's sins upon Himself and wipe them away through His suffering obedience. And so, by calling Jesus the "Lamb of God," John reminds us that all of these Old Testament symbols had been pointing towards Christ – the true Saviour. Jesus offered His very self for our redemption. In so doing, He showed us two things. First, He showed beyond any doubt that absolutely nothing we do can ever extinguish His love for us. He died for us while we were yet sinners – and so, we can never doubt His love for us. The Lamb of God loves us just as we are, and will always love us. We must never doubt that and we must never let anything come between us and Jesus Christ. Whenever we find ourselves doubting His love or goodness, we can be sure that that thought is a temptation from the devil – it could never come from God. Second, by giving Himself up for our salvation, He showed us the path to happiness. We were created not to indulge ourselves, but to give ourselves – to love in the full, Christian sense of the word, laying down our lives for God and neighbour, just like Christ. Christ conquered sin and evil by loving, by giving Himself to others. We conquer sin and evil in the same way – by loving, by giving without counting the cost, by forgiving without conditions. Christ is our King and our Leader. And so, to be His loyal subjects and followers, we too should bravely become Lambs of God – sacrificial offerings on the altar of our own crosses. This self – sacrificial, self – forgetful love is so central to our faith that the Church reminds us of it in every Mass, when we pray, "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us." Today, let us pray those words from the very depths of our hearts, appreciating in a fresh way all their beauty and meaning