



*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 5<sup>th</sup> March 2017

*First Sunday of Lent*

FIRST WEEK OF LENT: 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (Weekday Cycle Year 1 / Psalter Week 1)

<u>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten Feria (First Saturday)</u>	<u>PARISH FINANCES</u>	
10:00 am: Mass; Special Intention 10:45 am: Confessions	25 <sup>th</sup> / 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	
<u>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March: First Sunday of Lent Year A</u> 5:00 pm: Confessions 5:30 pm: Mass; Josef Granville RIP (Condon)	Envelopes:	
<u>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March: First Sunday of Lent Year A</u> 9:00 am: Mass; Pip & Mike Barrett 4:00 pm: Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Loose Plate:	
<u>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten Feria</u> 9:00 am: Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish	Standing Orders:	
<u>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten Feria</u> 12:30 pm: Confessions 1:00 pm: Mass; Mrs Martha Whitmore RIP (Foundation Mass)	<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	
<u>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten Feria</u> 7:00 pm: Mass; Holy Souls	Chad:	
<u>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten Feria</u> 9:00 am: Mass; Special Intention	Intercare:	<i>Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Parish.</i>
<u>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten Feria</u> 12:30 pm: Confessions 1:00 pm: Mass; Elizabeth Butler RIP (Neely) 7:00 pm: Stations of the Cross	SVP:	<b>SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR THE SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND</b>
<u>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten Feria</u> 10:00 am: Mass; Private Intention 10:45 am: Confessions	<b>CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY</b> <b>THIS Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017.</b> This year's Fast Day focus asks us to remember our neighbours from countries like Zambia where many rural families struggle to survive. We will look at the work of a CAFOD partner, the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary, who support the poorest people to start up their own businesses. Envelopes available <b>THIS</b> weekend, will be collected next weekend at Mass.	
<u>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March: Second Sunday of Lent Year A</u> 5:00 pm: Confessions 5:30 pm: Mass; Molly Gubbins RIP (Condon)	<b>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</b> Isobel Alana Barnes, Meg Bailey, Marica Borsos, Pat Constable, David Fox, Alec Groom, Audrey Mc Coy, Fr Joseph O' Hanlon, Ann Harrison, Bernadette Retallick, Mary Staley and John Webster.	
<u>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March: Second Sunday of Lent Year A</u> 9:00 am: Mass; Dina & John Whitfield RIP 4:00 pm: Stations of the Cross and Benediction		

<b>ROTAS:</b>	5.30 pm	9.00 am
<b>Welcomers:</b>		M Simpson & L Newbold
<b>Next Week:</b>		K Orford – Perkins & M Neale
<b>Readers:</b>	M Sully	R Marlow
<b>Next Week:</b>	A Simmons	N Wilson
<b>Offertory:</b>	M Brown & S Mills	D & D Wilson
<b>Next Week:</b>	M & G Sawicki	M Ferrara & N Iacovitti
<b>Coffee:</b>	J Powell & M Calladine	<b>Next Week:</b> N Burrows & M Walton
<b>Cashiers:</b>	N Mason	<b>Next Week:</b> A Simmons
<b>Flowers:</b>	NO FLOWERS (LENT)	<b>Next Week:</b> NO FLOWERS (LENT)
<b>Cleaning:</b>	Team Newbold	<b>Next Week:</b> Team Shalloe
<b>Brasses:</b>	K Bennett	<b>Next Week:</b> L Newbold

**STRENGTH TO STRENGTH:** During Lent, there will be an evening Mass on *Wednesday* evenings at 7:00 pm, followed at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall, by a series of six sessions, over six weeks, of talks on the practical benefits of daily prayer. The talks are designed to be simple and accessible to everyone who wishes to begin a fruitful daily prayer life or refresh and strengthen their existing prayer life. The first session will be **THIS Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017** at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall and is entitled, “*Pray for the Day.*” They will follow a similar format to our recent RCIA Course on Catholicism, with the opportunity for questions and answers and group discussion. Everyone welcome.

Lent is a time when the Church invites us to pay special attention to God’s Word, to the truth that Christ came to reveal to us – so that we don’t forget what is most important. There are many ways to do this. It could be as simple as spending fifteen minutes a day reading and reflecting on the Scriptures. It could mean taking more time to turn off the noise all around us and read, calmly and reflectively, a good spiritual book or a biography of Jesus Christ. It could mean taking one of the weekends during Lent to go on a retreat – to go somewhere away from our normal surroundings and rediscover God’s love, forgiveness, mercy and wisdom. It could mean finally following through on the commitment made long ago to really take time to study the Catechism – that hidden treasure house of Catholic doctrine and wisdom that we pay much too little attention to. Today Jesus will renew His commitment to us by coming once again, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, in the Sacrifice of the Mass, and by offering Himself to us as the true bread from heaven in Holy Communion. When He does, let us renew our commitment to Him. Let us not leave Church today until we have decided how we can best respond during this Lent to whatever inspiration God has placed in our hearts. Jesus doesn’t want this Lent to be “*just another Lent.*” He has something He wants to do for each one of us, something that will help us grow in our knowledge of the truth and in our ability to live accordingly. Let us give Him the chance.

**POOR CLARES:** The sisters send their sincere thanks for the donations which they received from our Parish. They want you all to know that our Parish is very special to them and that we are remembered in their prayers every day. The next visit is planned for the **27<sup>th</sup> March 2017.** – *Diane Wilson.*

**FAIR TRADE SALE:** Many thanks to everyone who supported the last Fair Trade Sale last weekend; any profit made from the sale goes to Mary’s Meals which is a charity helping to feed Third World school children. Further details are on the Fair Trade notice board at the back of Church. The next sale will be on the weekend of **25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017.** Information about Mary’s Meals can also be found at the website: [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk). – *Diane Wilson.*

**MISSIO:** The Spring edition of Mission Today is available for collection from the back of Church. Please help yourself to a copy.

**PANCAKE EVENING:** Thank you to everyone who attended the Parish Pancake Evening, a good evening was had by all and a small amount of money was raised **£77.00** for Parish Funds. – *The Social Committee*

**FR CHRISTOPHER’S SILVER JUBILEE – GIFT DONATION:** Fr Christopher will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. All our priests are special, dedicating their lives to the service of God and to us his people, they are there from the very beginning of our Christian life in Baptism and continue to administer God’s grace to us through the Sacraments right through to the end of our lives, none of this would happen without our Priests! If you would like to contribute to a gift for Fr. Christopher on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee, donation envelopes will be available after Mass next weekend (11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> March). Please place your donation in the envelope and place it in the basket after Mass the following weekend 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> March (or alternatively give the envelope to Diane Wilson or myself). Many thanks – *Marie Calladine.*

**FR. CHRISTOPHER’S SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION:** *Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017* – Mass 6.30 pm followed by Hog Roast and Social. If you wish to celebrate with Fr. Christopher on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee please put your name down on the list at the back of Church stating how many tickets you would like (please note this event is for parishioners only). The list will be removed on **17<sup>th</sup> March 2017** and tickets will be issued in due course. – *Organising Committee.*

**THE MIRACULOUS RELIC IMAGE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE:** will be visiting Nottingham Cathedral from **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017** as part of a National Pilgrimage Tour. The Service of Reception will be on the Friday at 7:00 pm, followed by Mass at 7:30 pm. The Service of Return, marking the end of the Visit, will be on the Wednesday at 1:00 pm. The Image is based at the Shrine in Bedford and is one of 220 authorised digital replicas, which confers the same blessings and graces as the original in Mexico. During this special week, there will be Masses honouring Our Lady, other events and opportunity to venerate the Image. Our Lady of Guadalupe is also Protectress of the Unborn and Patroness of the Life Movement, which is particularly significant in this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year since the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act in this country. Please visit [www.relicourladyofguadalupe.co.uk](http://www.relicourladyofguadalupe.co.uk) to see details of the National Pilgrimage Tour and to learn more about the fascinating story of the Guadalupe Miracle.

Items for the newsletter can be given to Fr Christopher or e – mailed to [frathomas@live.com](mailto:frathomas@live.com) by Thursday of each week for inclusion in the next issue.