



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION,
FOSTER AVENUE, BEESTON,
NOTTINGHAM, NG9 1AE
and
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH,
TAMWORTH ROAD,
LONG EATON, NG10 1DH



Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Company No. 7151646 Charity No. 1134449

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TIMES OF MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: THIRTY – THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR: A

Thirty – Third Week of Ordinary Time: 15th – 21st November 2020 (Weekday Cycle Year II / Psalter Week I)

Saturday 14th November: <i>Weekday Feria</i>	<i>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</i> Isobel Alana Barnes, Marica Borsos, Jessie Breame, Margaret Brown, Fr John Cairns, Pat Constable, Francesca Lina Craparotta, Jim & Margaret Dougan, Fr Theodore Gomes, Ann Harrison, Fr Peter Harvey, Andrea Hoffman, Breeda Keaney, Anne – Marie Reid, Alan Roberts, Simpson Family, Evelyn Venning and John Wilcox.
Mass; <i>Ann & Lawrence Blackburn RIP (Barnes)</i>	
Sunday 15th November: <i>Thirty - Third Sunday of the Year A</i>	HOSPITALS A number of priests are still trying to maintain an 'on – call' rota for City and QMC. This is strictly calls for Anointing of the Sick when someone is nearing the end of their life. The hospital will not call us out for a request for prayers or when someone has already died – these will be dealt with by a member of the Chaplaincy Team who may or may not be a Catholic minister. Holy Communion is not being taken into hospital by Eucharistic Ministers. Families should not contact a priest directly to visit their loved one in hospital – all requests need to go through the Ward and Chaplaincy Department. QMC 0115 924 9924 ext. 63799 or City 0115 969 1169.
Mass; <i>Holy Souls (November Dead)^{2/9}</i>	
Monday 16th November: <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
11:30 am: Requiem Mass; <i>Elizabeth Reilly RIP</i>	
Tuesday 17th November: <i>St Hugh of Lincoln, Bishop & Patron of the Diocese (Feast)</i>	
Mass; <i>Holy Souls (November Dead)^{3/9}</i>	
Wednesday 18th November: <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; <i>Holy Souls (November Dead)^{4/9}</i>	
Thursday 19th November: <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; <i>Holy Souls (November Dead)^{5/9}</i>	
Friday 20th November: <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; <i>Jack Twomey RIP (5th Anniversary)</i>	
Saturday 21st November: <i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (memoria)</i>	
Mass; <i>Pro Populo; People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 22nd November: <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)</i>	
Mass; <i>Holy Souls (November Dead)^{6/9}</i>	
THE ABOVE MASSES WILL ALL BE SAID PRIVATELY AS ALL PUBLIC ACTS OF WORSHIP ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL AT LEAST 2nd DECEMBER 2020!	
<i>The Church of Our Lady of the Assumption and the Church of St Francis of Assisi are closed to members of the public, until further notice at least 2nd December 2020. The Parish Hall of Our Lady of the Assumption and the Parish Hall at St Francis of Assisi will remain closed to members of the public, until further notice If you urgently wish to contact Fr Christopher please telephone 0115 922 8145 (at any reasonable time).</i>	
<i>For enquiries or to book a Mass, please also do this via the telephone. Stipends can be posted or given at a later date, but for the foreseeable future if you book, or have already booked a Mass Intention, then this Mass will be Celebrated in private.</i>	

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.

LOCKDOWN VESRION 2: On 5th November 2020, new regulations came into force with, “The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 4) Regulations 2020.” The Regulations preclude gatherings for communal worship, including the celebration of Mass, Baptisms and most weddings. Advice to us all is now clear, that for the next few weeks; **STAY AT HOME**. You must not leave or be outside of your home except for specific purposes. These can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>. Our Churches will remain closed until further notice. Funerals in Church will be permitted during the lockdown but with the existing limit of 30 people. All other services cannot go ahead. During this time, I will continue to celebrate Mass privately. Intentions for Masses are listed above in the weekly schedule. Please feel free to get in touch if you need any help or support during Lockdown or for any other reason. Requests will always be treated confidentially. Lots us may be struggling practically, emotionally, spiritually.....do not be afraid to ask because we all need help at some point. **Above all, keep safe and well, stay at home as much as possible and look forward to coming back together in December.**

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: Please remember in your prayers to pray for the repose of the soul of *Elizabeth Reilly* who died on **Friday 30th October 2020**. Elizabeth’s Funeral will take place on **Monday 16th November 2020 at 11:30** in Church followed by burial at Beeston Cemetery. Also, for *Anne Magee* who died on **2nd November 2020**. Anne’s Funeral will take place on **Thursday 19th November 2020 at 11:00** in Church followed by burial at Beeston Cemetery. We remember them both and their families at this sad time. May they rest in peace.

POOR CLARES: The Sisters send their sincere thanks for the donations they have received from our Parishioners when I visited them on Monday 26th October. They are all well and managing to stay safe and they want you to know that you are all in their prayers every day. The next visit will be **Monday 30th November 2020**. Thank you for continuing to support them. – *Diane Wilson*.

NOVEMBER DEAD: During the month of November we are once again encouraged by the Church to remember all those of our family and friends; whom we have known, who have died. This year we will have our Novena (Nine Days) of Masses for the Holy Souls began on **Friday 13th November 2020**. Due to current limitations, this will not be on consecutive days, however, one Mass will be offered for the general intention of the Holy Souls and specifically for all those whose names we have placed upon the altar on the following days: ¹**Friday 13th**; ²**Sunday 15th**; ³**Tuesday 17th**; ⁴**Wednesday 18th**; ⁵**Thursday 19th**; ⁶**Sunday 22nd**; ⁷**Monday 23rd**; ⁸**Tuesday 24th and**; ⁹**Friday 27th November 2020**. If you wish your loved ones to be included in the Novena, please complete a form and place it in the envelope provided, along with any donations, which you will find in the Narthex. All names will be placed on the Altar for the celebration of these Masses and also throughout the whole month of November; both during and after the Novena. All donations in the envelopes will be taken out at the end of the month and further Masses will be offered throughout the year for all the deceased members of our Parish and their families and friends. If you cannot get an envelope or list from Church, then please make your own list on a piece of paper and put it along with your donation through the door of the Presbytery, so that these names can also be included. ***I will continue to offer Mass privately during this current period of lockdown, including the scheduled Masses and Novena Masses for the November Dead.***

VOCATIONS CAFÉ: The Diocesan Vocations Team are holding a Zoom Café for men and women on Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 7:00 pm. If you would like to meet the team, ask any questions or simply just listen in, e – mail Diane at: vocationsadmin@dioceseofnottingham.uk for the link and password to enable you to join them on your device with your drink and cake. Find out what it means!!!

ADVENT LITURGY: During these different times it is more important than ever that we join as a community to share faith and love. Our Year 7 Chaplaincy Team here at The Trinity Catholic School are leading us in a livestreamed Advent Liturgy on Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at 7:00 pm to try and help us start the Advent season together and would love it if you could join us. The Liturgy will be streamed on the Be Inspirational YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/beinspirational>) for all to watch and is a wonderful opportunity to both support these students and to spend some time as a family in prayer. We hope to see you there!

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC MULTI – ACADEMY TRUST SITUATIONS VACANT: Please be aware that OLOLCMAT has the following vacancies: HR Advisor – Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi – Academy Trust; Site Manager – The Good Shepherd Catholic Voluntary Academy; Midday Supervisor – The Good Shepherd Catholic Voluntary Academy; Teacher of Religious Studies – The Trinity Catholic School; Classroom Teacher Year 2 – St Augustine’s Catholic Multi – Academy Trust and; Classroom Teacher KS2 – The Good Shepherd Catholic Voluntary Academy. These can all be accessed at: <https://www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk/vacancies-and-recruitment/>

Thirty - Third Sunday of the Year A.

Today's First Reading presents us an abbreviated wish list of everything a man should expect from a good wife, but also what is her due. A man entrusts his whole heart to a woman he considers worthy. She brings good things into his life, not grief! She is industrious and productive with her talents. She is not selfish but helps the poor and needy. She is not focused on vanity, but what the Lord expects of her. So, everything she does is out of respect for the Lord and not just her husband or society. And, as justice demands, she shall be rewarded for her good works. But more specifically this Reading reminds us that a good wife has all the characteristics of the fruitful servants in today's Gospel so that, this wish list could describe any person we consider to be good.

And today's Gospel is really a parable about life. The master in today's parable gives his servants all the capital they need, but he also expects them to use that capital in a way that benefits not only him, but them as well. Two servants use it wisely and one, so worried by a fear of his master, does not benefit the master or himself at all and pays the price. We have all been given talents, some more, some less, and we are expected to do something profitable with them. We cannot boast about coming up with any of them on our own. And it does not matter how talented we are (or think we are); what matters is how we use our talents in the service of God and for the good of others. The successful servants doubled what they had received; so if through our efforts only one more believer stands before Our Lord on Judgment Day, prepared to enter into His master's joy, we will have accomplished our mission. At the Last Supper, the Lord reminded His disciples that they were to bear fruit as the best way of glorifying the Father. So, how do we give the Lord a return on His investment in us? We must not let fear or laziness be an obstacle to truly serving Our Lord. As the unfortunate servant found out today, he was so anxious about what he thought was his master's expectations that he made the wrong move altogether. He was so conscientiously foolish that the simple steps he could have taken were far from his thoughts. Who knows how things would have turned out if he had simply asked his master for suggestions in the first place. And we too are reminded that we must ask the Lord to help us unearth our talents and teach us the best way to use them.

The master in today's parable obviously stands for Christ and the servants stand for each one of us. That is the first lesson we should think about. Do we think of ourselves as servants, as dependent upon God? In this fallen world, many people tend to think of themselves as the centre of the universe. And our contemporary society; so full of technological power and easy pleasures, increases that tendency of our fallen nature. But this parable and many others are very clear: we are not God; we are not the centre of the world; we are dependent upon God and our role is to know Him, love Him and serve Him in this life and to be happy with Him forever in the next; as the Catechism has always told us. Only by doing that will we find the happiness we desire, because doing that is after all what we were created for.

I think it was only squirrels who were created to be cute and bury nuts! Humans were created to know, love and serve God. And the parable also tells us how we are supposed to do that. God has given each of us a certain number of gifts or "talents." In Greek that word referred to a large sum of money. In the actual meaning of the parable however, it refers more to what the English word implies – all the abilities and blessings we have received from God. God has given them to us and we are free either to squander our gifts, by burying them in the hole of self – indulgence or fear or laziness or greed or, to use them as Christ would have us use them, which is the secret to happiness in this life and the life to come.

The lazy servant of the parable was cast out into the darkness because he failed to fulfil his life's mission. Why did he fail? Primarily because he had the wrong idea of his master. He feared him like a slave. Maybe he even resented his master for giving him only one talent. And from this self – centred perspective his life's mission, his vocation, seemed unreasonably demanding. His fear and self – centeredness paralyzed him and kept him from doing what he was meant to do. And so, very often we can fall into the same deception – the deception that the devil used in the Garden of Eden. Thinking of God as harsh and unreasonable provides an easy excuse for giving in to laziness and self – pity, something our fallen nature loves to do. But Jesus is not a harsh and unjust master; He is a good, generous and powerful King! He proved this by His own self – sacrifice on the Cross. But He also proved it by the clarity of His teaching, like the revelation He gives us in this parable; a crystal – clear, unambiguous explanation of the meaning of life. He shows us that our vocation is to take our God – given gifts and put them to good use, shaping the world around us as Christ would have us. Our destiny, He shows us, depends on our making a decent effort to fulfil that vocation. At first glance, such straight talk about heaven and hell may seem shocking. Yet, it flows precisely from Our Lord's own goodness and love: He wants us to know life's true purpose and end, because He wants us to live well now and be with Him forever in heaven. That is the kind of God we believe in – a God who wants to save us and give us joy, if only we will trust Him enough to follow where He leads.