



Parish of The Annunciation, Rushcliffe

Serving the Churches of Holy Spirit, West Bridgford, Our Lady of Grace, Cotgrave, St Anne, Radcliffe-on-Trent and Bingham, St Margaret Clitherow, Keyworth

<https://parishoftheannunciationrushcliffe.co.uk>

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‘Stay awake so that you may be ready.’

Matthew 24:37-44

First Sunday of Advent - YEAR A

A Season of Hope: Renewing Faith This Advent

Dear friends,

✦ A Time of Watchful Waiting

Advent invites us to pause from the busyness of life and enter into a sacred waiting. We join the longing of the prophets, the hope of the People of Israel, and the expectant cries of all humanity: “Come, Lord Jesus.” In these weeks before Christmas, we remember — and re-live — the waiting for the Messiah, and we open our hearts to the One who comes afresh to embrace us with his peace.

Let us use this time of Advent to prepare not only our homes but most importantly our hearts: in prayer, in silence, and in open-hearted waiting.

🔥 Receiving the Gift of Hope from the Holy Father

Recently, Pope Leo XIV reminded us that “hope is a constant source of joy, whatever our age.” As we journey through this Jubilee year of Hope 2025, with the whole Church — the Holy Father calls us to let that hope renew us, to trust in God’s faithfulness, to let our faith be rekindled by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

As we enter this season of Advent, let that gift of Hope take root again in our lives, our families, our parish community. Let us remember that in Christ, even when the world seems marked by sadness, uncertainty or struggle, “the Risen One walks with us and for us,” and offers us a hope that does not disappoint!

🕯 How might we Live Advent as a Season of Hope?

- **Prayer & Vigilance:** Let us watch and wait with open hearts — praying for God’s coming, asking Him to renew our faith, and preparing by turning back to Him in humility and love.
- **Acts of Mercy & Charity:** As hope calls us forward, let us reach out to those in need in our parish and community — the lonely, the vulnerable, the poor. Our faith must bear fruit in love and service.
- **Gratitude & Joy:** Let us give thanks — for life, for faith, for one another. As Pope Leo urged, saying “thank you” acknowledges our many blessings and helps root hope deep within us.
- **Unity & Community:** Advent is a time to come together — as families, parishioners, neighbours — to support one another, to pray together, and to build a community rooted in hope, love, and solidarity.

My friends, may this Advent be for each of us — individually and together as a parish — a true season of renewal, of faith rekindled, and of hope made new. I pray that in the days to come we may open ourselves more fully to God’s grace, walk more closely with Him, and welcome the Christ-child with hearts ready to receive Him in love!

Have a truly blessed and happy Advent, so that your Christmas will be everything you, wish it to be.

Peace, John

In Loving Memory of Alastair Armstrong Please continue to remember Alastair Armstrong RIP and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this very sad time. Alastair’s Funeral Service will take place at 11am on Tuesday 9th December at St Margaret Clitherow Keyworth.



SECOND COLLECTION - 6th / 7th December Next weekend, a second collection will be taken at the end of all Masses for the Diocesan Poor and Needy Parishes. Thank you for your generosity.

Fr John’s Schedule: 30th November to 5th December: on call for QMC & City Hospitals; Monday 1st Dec, 6pm: Governors’ Training; Wednesday 3rd Dec, 6pm: Becket School Advent Community Event; Thursday 4th Dec, 10am: Deanery Meeting. Sunday 7th Dec, 2pm SVP Christmas Party.

Fr Evarist’s Schedule: Monday 1st Dec: School Mass at the Becket; Wednesday 3rd Dec, 6pm: Becket School Advent Community Event; Thursday, Midday Mss followed by Parish Friendship Group Christmas Lunch; If you would like to check the diary or make an appointment with Fr John or Fr Evarist, please contact the Parish Office.

Donation Summary of Second Collection (April to September 2025) Clergy Formation Fund (£1,329.09); Holy Places of Palestine (£189.27); National collection for Jubilee (£900.15); World Communication Day (£649.46); Peter’s Pence (£926.29); Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris) (£1,195.72); Day for Life (£926.15); Home Mission Sunday (Evangelli Gaudium) (£848.51); St Patrick’s Missionary Society (£783.38); Thank you for your generosity.

Holy Masses and Services for 29th November to 7th December 2025

Saturday 29th November Feria	11am Baptism ; HS 4.30pm Mass; SA 6.30pm Mass; HS	Bella Marcisak Novena Dead List Alo Lata's Intentions
Sunday 30th November First Sunday of Advent	9am Mass; SA  9am Mass; SMC 11am Mass; HS  11am Mass; OLOG	Christine Marquina RIP Margaret Simpson RIP Barbara Winskill RIP The People of the Parish
Monday 1st December Advent Feria	9.30am Mass; SA	Philip Martin RIP
Tuesday 2nd December Advent Feria	9.30am Mass followed by Advent Reconciliation; SMC	Una Karai RIP
Wednesday 3rd December St Francis Xavier, priest (memorial)	9.30am Mass followed by Advent Reconciliation; HS	Repose of the Soul of Mal McNulty RIP
Thursday 4th December Advent Feria	No Mass	
Friday 5th December Advent Feria	11am Advent Reconciliation; SA 12pm Mass; SA 6.30pm Advent Reconciliation; HS 7.30pm Mass; HS	Christine Marquina RIP Ernie Sweeney RIP
Saturday 6th December Advent Feria	3.30 - 4.15pm Confessions; SA 4.30pm Mass; SA 6pm- 6.15pm Confessions; HS 6.30pm Mass; HS	Christine Marquina RIP Patrick Vesey RIP
Sunday 7th December Second Sunday of Advent	9am Mass; SA  9am Mass; SMC 11am Mass; HS  11am Mass; OLOG	The People of the Parish Chris Lillie RIP Tony Crump RIP Maura O'Sullivan RIP

Rosary Monday 10am SA; Tuesday 9am SMC; Wednesday 9am HS; 9am SMC; Thursday 7pm HS; Friday 10am SMC, 11.30am SA, 3pm OLOG; Saturday 4pm SA.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Wednesday 4pm SA; Friday 10.30am SMC, 11am SA, 6.30pm HS

After Mass Refreshment Sunday After Mass; SA, SMC, HS, OLOG; Tuesday After Mass/Service, SMC; Wednesday After Mass/Service HS; Friday After Mass/Service; SA.

Holy Spirit ♦ **Holy Spirit Bookshop** - Christmas cards, 2026 Catholic diaries, calendars and much more.

Please come and have a look. ♦ We are planning a **Parish Church Cleaning Day** at the end of November and early December, coordinated by Alice Fung and Theresa Brennan, to prepare our church for Advent and Christmas. If you are able to assist with the Church Cleaning, please speak to Alice or Theresa after Mass, or contact the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity and support in keeping our parish welcoming and beautiful.



Our Lady of Grace ♦ **Fairtrade** I would like to thank everyone who has continued to support our Fairtrade stall in Cotgrave. Prior to the monthly stall on the 9th of November I had been selling Christmas cards and so the total sales, including Christmas cards, amounted to £267.50. This is an excellent total and it also included £40 for food bank donations. Thank you again for your generosity and I look forward to seeing you at the next stall on the 7th of December. ♦ A date to remember - **Churches in Cotgrave** will join together to sing 'Carols in the Precinct' on Friday 19th December 5.00pm. Please come along and join us. ♦ **Rosary - 3pm every Friday** The church will be open for the Rosary to be said at 3pm every Friday in Advent, starting from the 5th of December.

Prayers for Our Newly Welcomed Enquirers and Candidates

Over the past two weeks, eight enquirers and candidates took part in the Rite of Welcome and were warmly received by our parish community. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith and grow closer to Christ. Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement.



Celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas

The Schedule of Masses and Services for Advent and Christmas is now available. Please refer to the parish website and the posters on the notice boards at each church for full details.

To support our priests during the busy Christmas season and to ensure their wellbeing — especially with Christmas Day falling in the middle of the week — there will be a temporary adjustment to the weekday Mass schedule. From Thursday, 26 December 2025, to Wednesday, 7 January 2026, weekday Masses will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m.

These changes have been thoughtfully made to care for our priests and to support them during this joyful yet demanding time. We kindly ask for your understanding and cooperation.

For any enquiries, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.



A Joyful and Memorable 35th Anniversary at Our Lady of Grace

The church was packed with parishioners old and new, including people returning to Cotgrave after many years. We were delighted to welcome back Fr. Michael and Fr. John, along with our local councillor and the head teacher of St. Edmund Campion School. Fr. John celebrated the Mass,

accompanied by wonderful music from our parish musicians, as well as performances

from the St. Edmund Campion school choir and band. After Mass, the celebrations continued in the hall with a generous spread of food provided by parishioners, a beautifully made cake, and a lively raffle. It was truly a day to remember.



Advent Appeal - SVP (Holy Spirit & St Anne) SVP is launching the Advent Appeal to support homeless charities in Nottingham, including Emmanuel House, The Friary, and the London Road Hostel.

On the weekends of 29th/30th November and 6th/7th December, lists of requested items (food, toiletries, clothing) will be distributed. We invite you to take a list, purchase any of the items you are able to, and return your filled bag at Holy Spirit Church or St Anne's Church on the weekend of 13th/14th December.

A copy of the list will be on the Parish website. We thank you for your generosity.



Parish Friendship Group Christmas Lunch at Stanton Golf Course on Thursday 4th December 1pm

There will be Mass at 12 noon in St Margaret Clitherow Church prior to the lunch. If you have not paid already please bring monies to the Lunch 2 Course £29:95 3 course £ 37:50 Thank you.

The Becket School's Advent Community Evening

You are warmly invited to The Becket School's Advent Community Evening at 6:00pm on Wednesday 3rd December 2025, in the Becket school hall and chapel. The evening will include scripture, live worship music and carols, drama, and prayerful reflection. This will be a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and begin the season of Advent in prayer. Refreshments will be available afterwards for a small donation, which will go towards supporting our Sixth Form students' pilgrimage to Lourdes.

The Old Codgers helped CAFOD raise £624 last Saturday Night. We all had a brilliant time and hopefully they will return next year, watch this space! The CAFOD team would also like to thank everyone for their support, and a huge thank you to the bar staff at the Social Centre, who like the Old Codgers, generously donated their time for our charity.

Annual Emmanuel House Christmas Quiz

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in this year's Annual Emmanuel House Christmas Quiz. Your generosity and festive spirit helped us raise nearly **£500** for Emmanuel House. Your support makes a real difference to those in need—thank you!



Upcoming Events and Job Vacancies in the Diocese of Nottingham and Nearby Parishes Please visit our parish website for full details: <https://www.parihoftheannunciationrushcliffe.co.uk/post/upcoming-events-in-the-diocese-of-nottingham-and-nearby-parishes>.

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr John Martin ☎ 0115 9814271

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Assistant Priest: Fr Evarist Kaniki ☎ 0115 9814271

☎ 07424 542925 **[FOR EMERGENCY ONLY]**

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Parish Admin: Margaret Joby 0115 9814271

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Office Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Friday, from 9.00am - 3.00pm

Parish Finance Administrator: Cecilia Cheung

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Faith Formation Coordinator: Ceci Li

✉ ceci.li@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Parish Mission Group:

Chair - Trevor Ryan

Vice Chair - Mary MacArthur

Chair of Parish Finance - Ken Elliott Smith

Vice Chair of Parish Finance - Simon Fong

Secretary - Denise Doyle

To contact the PMG, please email

pmgsecretary.nw@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Local Church Group

HS: Helen Hopkinson; Alice Fung:

✉ holyspiritchurch.lct@dioceseofnottingham.uk

OLOG: Maureen Jarvis: ✉ bandmajarvis@gmail.com

St Anne: Steve McMenemy: ✉ stevemcmen@btinternet.com

St Margaret Clitherow: Stewart Molyneux:

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Parish Safeguarding Team and Details:

◆ Holy Spirit West Bridgford - Penny Chau, Victoria Ncube

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◆ Our Lady of Grace, Cotgrave - Paula Vyze

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◆ St Anne, Radcliffe-on-Trent - Michael Chesters, Simon Nelson

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☎ 0751 372 5553

◆ St Margaret Clitherow, Keyworth - Clare Bhabra

✉ Clare.BhabraPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk

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Safeguarding Coordinator for the Diocese:

Hospitals If you know of anyone in hospital who would like a visit from the chaplain, please call:

QMC: 0115 9249924 (ext. 83799) **City:** 0115 9691169 (ext.837) or email: contactachaplain@nuh.nhs.uk

SACRAMENTS

Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation Programme and Faith Journey Group (RCIA), please contact Ceci Li, Faith Formation Coordinator.

Marriage: six months' notice required. Please contact the Parish Office.

Communion to the Sick and Housebound: Please contact the Parish Office.

Funerals: organised with local funeral directors, please contact the Parish Office to arrange an appointment with the Priest.

Confessions: Every first and third Saturday at Holy Spirit and St Anne before Mass or by request.

Newsletter inserts please contact Ceci Li, Faith Formation Coordinator. Please send your insert by Wednesday noon.

DONATIONS

We appreciate any donation you wish to give by cash, cheque or via online banking.

◆ **Set up a regular donation via your online banking**

Parish bank details: **Annunciation Rushcliffe RCP** **Account Number: 44603560** **Sort code: 30-96-18**

◆ **Gift Aid:** If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider to gift aid your donation, complete the Gift Aid

Declaration: <https://parishoftheannunciationrushcliffe.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Annunciation-Standing-Order-Form-1.pdf>

◆ **Donation Envelopes Available** They are now available at the back of the church. If you are eligible for Gift Aid, please fill in the required information on the envelope to ensure your donation can go further.

◆ The digital donation system - DONA is up and running at Holy Spirit.

Scan the QR code or visit this website
<https://donate.myдона.com/parish-of-the-annunciation> to
make your contributions online.

