



# 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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**‘Ask, and it will be given to you.’**

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR—YEAR C**

Luke 11:1-13

**Parish Finance Statements 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2025** The Parish Finance Statements are now available. You can view them on the parish website, on the church notice board, and in printed form at the back of the church.

## **August Newsletter Break & Parish Office Hours**

There will be no parish newsletter in August as the parish office takes this time to wrap up the current season, plan ahead, and prepare for a fresh start in September.

The parish office will remain open on **Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:00am–3:00pm.**

Fr John will also be taking a short break. **For urgent matters, please contact Fr. Evarist at 07424 542925.** The weekly Mass and Services Diary will continue to be shared by email and posted on the parish website.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding!

## **Thank You – Parish Consultation Opening Session**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the opening session of *Your Parish, Your Voice* on Monday, 21st July at The Becket School. Your presence and thoughtful contributions helped launch this important consultation process with a strong sense of shared purpose and community spirit.

Approximately 140 parishioners from the four churches of the Parish of the Annunciation, along with parishioners from Our Lady of the Angels in East Leake, took part in the evening. The session was hosted by Fr. John, supported by members of the Parish Mission Group (PMG), and graciously facilitated by Pat Jones from Holy Spirit Church.

The session provided an opportunity for parishioners to better understand the background and purpose of the consultation, ask questions, express concerns, and share their hopes for the future of the parish.

A summary of feedback gathered during the small group discussions—responding to the questions “*What are your hopes or concerns about this process?*” and “*What question do you need answered?*”—is now available at the back of the church, on the church notice board, and via email to newsletter subscribers.

One key takeaway from the session was a strong desire to extend the questionnaire deadline to give parishioners more time and space to reflect before responding. After discussing this with Our Lady of the Angels, we’re pleased to confirm that **the deadline has been extended to Sunday, 10th August.**

We remain deeply committed to listening to your voice and will be arranging a few more meetings either to provide updates, respond to questions, or continue gathering input from parishioners.

We are committed to keeping you informed throughout this process and will continue to share updates on the timeline and next steps. In the meantime, we warmly encourage you to stay engaged by connecting with your Local Church Group, the Parish Mission Group, the Parish Office, Fr. Evarist, or myself directly.

Thank you once again for walking this journey with us as we discern the way forward together.

Peace, John

## **Don't wait until the last minute – here are your options to take part in the Parish Consultation Process :**

- Online Microsoft Form: Scan the QR code below or use this link <https://forms.office.com/e/1ZGmXYdZT7>.
- Word Document – Request a copy from the Parish Office, complete it, and return it by email to: [Annunciation@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:Annunciation@dioceseofnottingham.uk).
- Hard Copy – Contact your Local Church Group or the Parish Office to collect and return a printed version.



## **Consultation Questionnaire support and distribution during the coming weekends:**

**Holy Spirit:** Volunteers will be on hand to distribute hard copies of the questionnaire at the back of the church after the weekend Masses and offer assistance where needed. A laptop will be available at the Social Centre on Sunday for those who prefer to complete the questionnaire by computer.

**Our Lady of Grace:** Volunteers with laptop will be available at the back of the church after the weekend Masses and offer assistance where needed.

**St Anne & St Margaret Clitherow:** Volunteers will be on hand to distribute hard copies of the questionnaire at the back of the church after the weekend Masses and offer assistance where needed. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact your Local Church Group, the Parish Mission Group, or the Parish Office.

**Let your voice be heard — this is your parish!**

### Greeting from Lukas Mickevicius, Pastoral Placement during Summer

Thank you very much for the warm welcome that I've received in your parish! Fr John has encouraged me to write to you here to share a few things about myself and my vocation to the priesthood.

I was born in Lithuania to a Catholic family (Lithuania is mostly Catholic), baptised when I was small, received First Holy Communion at the age of 9, but did not engage much with the Faith. I came to this country to finish school at boarding school in Wiltshire. I then came here to study biochemistry at the University of Nottingham - there in the Catholic Chaplaincy I began to understand the Faith much better and in the fourth year of my studies - as the country was emerging out of Covid - it began to dawn on me that I may be called to be a priest rather than a scientist. I joined some friends in the monthly diocesan discernment group that was run by Fr Neil Peoples and Fr Liam Carpenter, who many of you will remember. After 1.5 years of discernment, during which I graduated and started working, I was put forward and accepted by Bishop Patrick to be a seminarian for our diocese. Since that day I've spent a year in the Royal English College in Valladolid, Spain and started a 6 year course in St Mary's College, Oscott in Birmingham. These are the basic facts, but if you'd like to find out more about me or about seminary, or about discernment/vocation, or about anything else that you think I might be competent at, catch me after weekly or Sunday Masses or any time you see me in the parish and I'd be happy to talk to you. I'll be staying in the parish until Monday 4th August.

I very much look forward to seeing all of you over the next few days.

With prayers, Lukas Mickevicius



### To Our Teachers, Students, and Families

Thank you to our wonderful teachers for your dedication and care throughout the year. We also extend our appreciation to our students for their efforts, and to families for their continued support. Wishing you all a joyful and restful summer — may it be a time to relax, refresh, and enjoy special moments together!

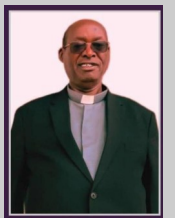


### In Loving Memory of Fr. Vincent Kanyankole

With deep sorrow, we share that Fr. Vincent Kanyankole passed away on Thursday, 17 July 2025, following a motor accident.

He was deeply loved and will be remembered for his gentle spirit and dedicated service.

We keep his family and all who mourn in our prayers. May he rest in peace. Amen.



**Holy Spirit** Rosary for Vocations, will be prayed in church every Thursday at 7pm starting in September and will be on during term-time only.

**Holy Spirit's Music Group** A heartfelt thank you to our music group for your beautiful and faithful service in our Masses. Your music has truly uplifted and inspired our community.

As you take a well-deserved break this August, we wish you a restful and refreshing summer. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new season!



**Our Lady of Grace - Fairtrade/ethical stall** Thank you to everyone who so generously supported our Fairtrade/ethical stall last Sunday. The amazing total of £166.75 came for £50 of sales during July, £61.75 from sales on the stall and a fantastic £55 of donations for products to be donated to the food bank. I think you will agree this is an excellent total and I can assure you that these sales provide a very positive impact to both our local community and those struggling abroad. The next stall will be on the 17th of August. I hope you won't all be on holiday! Please do ask me if you want anything before then. Thank you, Lynn Harrison.

**St Anne's Friday lunch time refreshments** Refreshments will be suspended for the month of August, but we look forward to welcoming you back on 5th September.

**St Anne's Local Team Meeting** The next meeting is on Tuesday next, 29th July at 6.30 for 7.00 This is an open meeting. We will feedback on Monday's Becket meeting and you will be able to share views on our parish future. All welcome.

### Help Build Our Parish Social Media!

We're looking for **volunteers**—especially **young people**—to help create and manage our parish's social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.).





**Join a small team to:** Share parish news and events; Create faith-filled, inspiring content; Help connect our community online

No experience needed—just enthusiasm and a willingness to learn! Interested? Contact Parish Office by email: [annunciation@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:annunciation@dioceseofnottingham.uk); Ceci Li: [ceci.li@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:ceci.li@dioceseofnottingham.uk).

Let's bring our parish to life online—together!



## Holy Masses and Services for 26th July to 3rd August 2025

<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July</b> Sts Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	4.30pm Mass; SA 6.30pm Mass; HS	The People of The Parish George Jackson RIP
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>Seventeenth Sunday of the Year</b>	9am Mass; SA  9am Mass; SMC 11am Mass; HS  11am Mass; OLOG	Philip Adam's Intentions Clare and Sarah Thompson RIP Repose of the Soul of Mal McNulty RIP Sarah Teresa Smith RIP
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>Feria</b>	9.00am Mass; HS 9.30am Mass; SA	Evelyn Searson RIP The People of The Parish
<b>Tuesday 29th July</b> <b>St Martha, Mary and Lazarus, (memorial)</b>	9.00am Mass; HS	Holy Souls
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>Feria</b>	9.30am Mass; HS	Fr Anselm RIP
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July</b> <b>St Ignatius of Loyola, priest (memorial)</b>	No Mass	
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August St Alphonsus Mary de'Liguori, bishop and doctor (memorial)</b>	12pm Service of Word and communion; SA 7.30pm Mass; HS	In Thanksgiving
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August</b> <b>Feria</b>	3.30 - 4.15pm Confessions; SA 4.30pm Mass; SA 6 - 6.15pm Confessions; HS 6.30pm Mass; HS	John Clark RIP  Michael Blake RIP
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August</b> <b>Eighteenth Sunday of the Year</b>	9am Mass; SA  9am Mass; SMC 11am Mass; HS  11am Mass; OLOG	Calum, Laura Lazenby Dias, Birthday Curtis Family The People of the parish Repose of the Soul of Tony Farrell RIP

**Rosary** Monday 10am SA; Tuesday 9am SMC; Wednesday 9am HS; 9.30am SMC; Friday 10.15am SMC, 11.30am SA; Saturday 4pm SA.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** Wednesday 6pm 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.

**The Diocesan Curia is looking to appoint to the following vacancies, see Diocesan Career Page for the details (<https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers>):**

- 1. Clergy Health and Wellbeing Assistant**, to be based at Diocesan Curia Office, Nottingham
- 2. Parish Administrator** for the Parishes of Corpus Christi, Clifton, and Our Lady and Saint Patrick in the Meadows, Nottingham.
- 3. University Catholic Lay Chaplain** to be based a Lincoln & Bishop Grosseteste Universities.

### Appeal for Catechists and Helpers – Sacramental Programmes

We are looking for **catechists and volunteers** to support our parish's sacramental preparation programmes, including **First Holy Communion, Confirmation**, and **RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults).

To continue this important work we need **your support and involvement**. Whether you have experience or simply a heart to help, we warmly encourage you to consider joining our team.

- For First Holy Communion, having catechists and helpers from the different churches within our parish gives us much greater flexibility in planning the location and timing of sessions—making it more convenient for families across the parish to attend and participate fully.
- Please note that all volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults are legally required to undergo a **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check**. This is an essential safeguarding step to help ensure a safe and trustworthy environment for all involved. As the DBS process can take some time, we encourage anyone interested to express their interest as soon as possible.

If you would like to learn more or are considering helping in any capacity, please contact **Ceci Li**. Your time, support, and presence could make a lasting impact on someone's journey of faith.



## PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

**Parish Priest:** Fr John Martin ☎ 0115 9814271

☎ 07714 460526 **[FOR EMERGENCY ONLY]**

✉ [john.martin@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:john.martin@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Evarist Kaniki ☎ 0115 9814271

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

✉ [evarist.kaniki@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:evarist.kaniki@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**Parish Admin:** Margaret Joby 0115 9814271

[annunciation@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:annunciation@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

### Office Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Friday, from 9.00am - 3.00pm

**Parish Finance Administrator:** Cecilia Cheung

✉ [cecilia.cheung@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:cecilia.cheung@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**Faith Formation Coordinator:** Ceci Li

✉ [ceci.li@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:ceci.li@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

### Parish Mission Group:

**Chair** - Trevor Ryan

**Vice Chair** - Mary MacArthur

**Chair of Parish Finance** - Tony Petersen

**Vice Chair of Parish Finance** - Simon Fong

**Secretary** - Denise Doyle

To contact the PMG, please email

[pmgsecretary.nw@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:pmgsecretary.nw@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

### Local Church Group

**HS:** Helen Hopkinson; Alice Fung:

✉ [holyspiritchurch.lct@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:holyspiritchurch.lct@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**OLOG:** John Murray: ✉ [john.murray.whm@ntlworld.com](mailto:john.murray.whm@ntlworld.com)

**St Anne:** Steve McMenemy: ✉ [stevemcmen@btinternet.com](mailto:stevemcmen@btinternet.com)

**St Margaret Clitherow:** Stewart Molyneux:

✉ [stewartmolyneux71@gmail.com](mailto:stewartmolyneux71@gmail.com)

### Parish Safeguarding Team and Details:

- ♦ Holy Spirit West Bridgford - Penny Chau  
✉ [Penny.ChauPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:Penny.ChauPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk)  
☎ 07513 725480
- ♦ Our Lady of Grace, Cotgrave - awaiting appointment
- ♦ St Anne, Radcliffe-on-Trent - Christine Marquina  
✉ [Christine.MarquinaPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:Christine.MarquinaPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk)  
☎ 0751 372 5553
- ♦ St Margaret Clitherow, Keyworth - Clare Bhabra  
✉ [Clare.BhabraPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:Clare.BhabraPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk)  
☎ 0751 372 5415

### Safeguarding Coordinator for the Diocese:

Rachael Campion ☎ 0115 953 9849

✉ [safeguarding@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:safeguarding@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**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](mailto: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>

- ♦ **New! 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 new digital donation system - DONA is up and running at Holy Spirit.

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



## Parish Consultation Meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025: Questions and Concerns

*A summary of c. 30 minutes in which the small groups fed back. The points in bold gained wider support from the participants by applause or cheers. Some points have been summarised to avoid repetition. We invited people to answer two questions: what are your hopes or concerns about this process; and what question do you need answered.*

*These are consolidated notes from the recordings and notes made by the PMG secretary.*

### Questions raised

#### A About the options mentioned in the questionnaire

1. Has the option been considered of having one or two churches with Mass and others remaining open but without Mass? Have a rotation of masses across the churches
2. **Why can't we retain some of the churches as Mass Centres** with a big screen so that people can gather and zoom in together to a streamed Mass, and retain their communities? We could use Eucharistic Ministers and still have our own music and celebrations? **Is this not a way we can retain our churches in our communities not just for now but going forward too?**
3. If we retain the buildings even without Mass, how will we find the money to pay their maintenance? (But Cotgrave is self-sustaining and this can be managed..). How will the different Churches be maintained and financed. Holy Spirit and Radcliffe need a lot of money spending on them. It is impractical to keep them all – there are still costs to maintain them even if they are standing idle
4. Has any consideration been given to grouping churches differently from what we have at the moment? For example, could Our Lady and St Patrick's be linked, or Corpus Christi Clifton; what are the parameters for the grouping we've got?
5. Why was the solution of using Becket discarded?
6. Has there been consideration of using other Christian churches in the borough which may be redundant or have space? e.g. the Methodist Church in Bingham.
7. **What options have been considered already and discounted?** How can options have already been dismissed if the process is open and transparent? If there was a proposal to close two Churches, why was that not said in the Consultation?

#### **Added as the meeting ended:**

8. What did the Bishop base his decision on when he decided that one church in a new location would work for the 4 parishes?
9. What work has been done to establish why numbers at Mass are in decline and what has been done to increase numbers?



## **B About how we do the process well**

10. If/when one or more churches close it will be like a bereavement; can we make sure we have a process to really welcome those who then come to other churches?
11. **Have we been into the schools to ask our young people their opinion, because they are our future?**
12. There is a question in the questionnaire for parents to discuss with their children.
13. **What's the timeline going forward, and how will decisions be made?** Can we have more information on the timescales. Who will make the ultimate decision?
14. **Can we see the accounts, to understand the financial situation? They have not been published. We need to know the information (Including detailed costings of each church) to make competent decisions and become more generous.** Transparency should extend to advice about potential renovation cost. Projections of Mass attendance and demographic changes in the area.
15. What is a reasonable ask of our parish priests in terms of Mass commitments; maybe we need to work to this and then supplement this with deacons led services of the Word.
16. Can we have more information on the timescales
17. What attempts have been made to make efficiencies in the admin of the Parish?

### ***Added as the meeting ended:***

18. Would it be helpful to have an idea of what number and type of laity would be needed to successfully 'staff' three churches, such as deacons, eucharistic ministers etc, and then see about a recruitment drive to meet this?
19. Many people would find it helpful to have clear outlines of a variety of plans, and the possibility of voting on them, providing a clear outcome that could be carried forward. This would avoid the sense of unclarity and going round in circles.

**C About wider issues which are relevant but probably can't be solved in this process; we can keep these to report to the Bishop and/or discuss later.**

20. What can we do about vocations and evangelisation, to see the numbers in church going in an upward direction?
21. Can we look at the criteria for ordination; **why can we not consider women priests and married priests?**

## D Concerns raised

- About the relationship between schools and the parish if there is no church in West Bridgford; there will be an impact on Becket and the primary schools which are so tightly linked through many events and activities. What will be the impact on the children's growth in faith
- About the location of churches; what is best to achieve objectives like evangelisation, the sacraments and reaching out to the poor; What location or locations are best to achieve those objectives; bearing in mind that West Bridgford is 40% of borough; and about the need to consider transport links; many don't have cars and bus routes run between West Bridgford and the villages but not between the villages. People will go to town or to Clifton if they don't drive. And as we age, we won't all be able to drive, even if we drive now. Taking two buses to get to Mass is too much. People are more likely to bus to the Meadows and go to St Patricks or bus to town and go to the Cathedral. So you will be losing a lot of people who don't drive and currently go to West Bridgford.
- Think about those who are on the edges of our parish as well as those in the 'centre' of West Bridgford; what needs do they have?
- We need to look at the causes, not just the symptoms of too many buildings and too few priests; how do we increase attendance? it starts with children and younger people; how do we get out children into a church which is not within walking distance of the school premises? Where would the budget come to cover this cost. This is also essential if we're concerned about vocations; they also start with children and young people being active in the church to increase the likelihood of vocations.
- Where are our young people in this community? What are their parents doing to encourage participation in faith and the church?
- About the loss of community if the church is a great distance from where you live; people will go somewhere else. Community is 'a massive thing'.
- If you take the church out of the community, you lose the community. It seems perverse to close the Church with the biggest Mass attendance and the proximity to schools.
- About the size of the community; this parish is already getting to the point where the human scale is difficult; people need communities of a certain size if they are to be able to relate to one another; if we have only one or two churches, how are we going to have the kind of community that passes on faith?
- About the transparency of this process; If an offer was made on land at Tollerton, how can this process be described as not a foregone conclusion? It feels as though there is a '**foregone conclusion**' because there is no 'do nothing' option presented; so it feels as though what we will end up with is different from what we have now; which still feels like 4 parishes, even though joined together. It's vital that the decision-making is transparent; otherwise this is just a waste of time and will fragment the parish further
- How does building a big Church help if taking away from the schools? There is a lack of facts. What is the evidence? The transparency of the process has to be obvious. Is it an executive decision, and is this all a waste of time?
- About the loss of the actual buildings; each church is important in its own locality; people drive past and can get pulled in; if the buildings are not there, their outreach will disappear.
- About the experience of people in Bingham; when the mass centre closed in COVID, many, even most, did not travel; **whatever church you decide to close, you will have a big loss in that area.** There was a big Catholic community and they would not travel, so whatever Church you decide to close you will have a big loss of people in that area. People will zoom or go to into the Cathedral. The community will fragment, which is a shame as it is a good community. There are lessons from the loss of Bingham and the beautiful Masses there; it had a higher attendance than Radcliffe; not many of those now go to Radcliffe; some go to the CofE or elsewhere. The many Hong Kong families in Bingham go to the Methodist Church and give generously there.
- About the dissonance between Bishop Patrick asking us to be missionary disciples and the reality that all around, churches are closing, and the church seems to be in decline.
- About the lack of detail in the statistics, which are out of date and seem to indicate decline in numbers; but they don't seem to include the numbers who come as new members; for RCIA etc; the new



members mostly go to HS. The school has welcomed a huge number of Hong Kong families and many have taken part in the RCIA, which has been 'humbling'; if we close Holy Spirit doors, we will be closing our door to the Holy Spirit.

- How would the personal commitments made at the Holy Spirit be preserved if Holy Spirit was closed?
- Where have the people gone that we have lost from our churches? Has there been any outreach?

***Added as the meeting ended***

- Parking at Holy Spirit is an issue if we want planning permission, but it's a red herring if we don't need planning permission. 10 years ago we had 4 busy masses at the weekend and we all managed to park further away and walk.
- If one church is expanded there is a concern that all management/activity to run the church would fall to those who already manage things at that church. This is the case at Holy Spirit for parish wide events and leads to concern that others won't volunteer to help at a church that isn't theirs.
- What will happen to community services that the local churches provide e.g. Holy Spirit Social Centre and Cotgrave charity shop?

## E Hopes expressed

- We want to bring everyone with us, young and old. Whatever happens, we shouldn't fall out about the decisions. We have to help and support each other.
- What matters is what does God want for us, not what do we want.
- Reflecting on everyone having their own gifts, what more can we do to support the priests?
- **Build a community upwards from the children; have specific things for children, with fun and something different built in?**
- We have to train people to be missionaries in their own communities.