



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

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'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.'

Matthew 18:21-35

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - YEAR A



Holy Father's Prayer Intention, September: For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Dear Friends,

It is with a heart full of both gratitude and bittersweet emotion that I write to you as my time with you will be coming to an end on Sunday 13th September 2026



When I first arrived in the Churches in Rushcliffe, I could not have imagined the profound impact these communities would have on my life and faith. Together, we have shared in times of great joy—celebrating baptisms, weddings, and milestones—as well as times of challenge and sorrow, where we held one another in prayer and comfort. Through it all, your deep faith, resilience, and love for one another have been a constant source of inspiration to me.

Thank you. Thank you for your warm welcome, your patience, your faithful partnership in ministry, and the countless ways you have shown the love of Christ to me. You never fail to amaze me with your friendship and generosity. Serving alongside you has been one of my greatest privileges of my life. You took me into your hearts and homes.

As I prepare to transition to retirement, *(although I will continue to minister to the travelling community and supply when needed)* please know that you will remain very close to my heart and in my prayers. I also ask for a remembrance in your prayers during this time of transition.

I have no doubt that God has wonderful things in store for the future of this inspiring Parish of the Annunciation. May you continue to grow in faith, serve one another with joyful hearts, and be a shining light in the wider community, and beyond as you do in so many ways of responding to the call of the Gospel, to your Brothers and Sisters in need. The world is a much brighter place because of your care for each other. Saint John of God had a saying, "Each day of your life, you should always look to God". I have witnessed this act of faith in your communities, day in and day out. Keep your eye on Jesus, live your life under the gaze of God and he will be your anchor in life.

As you have heard me say at the end of each Holy Mass. 'GO JOYFULLY GLORYFING THE LORD, BY YOUR WAY OF LIFE'! Know the treasure that you hold deep within you.

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you." (Philippians 1:2–3)

With deep affection and blessings,
Peace, John

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Dear Friends,

As I prepare to leave you, I want to take this opportunity to say a very sincere thank you to each and every one of you.

These past two years have been a very special part of my priestly journey. I am deeply grateful for the love, kindness, friendship, encouragement, and support you have shown me throughout my time with you.

Sometimes words are simply not enough to express what is in our hearts, but you have been so wonderful to me, and I will always be grateful for the way you welcomed me and made me feel at home.



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For me, this was not simply a parish where I came to serve. It became my home away from home, and you became my family. Being far away from my own family has not always been easy, but you welcomed me, cared for me, and gave me many reasons to smile and be happy.

I will truly miss you all, not only the celebrations, but also the ordinary moments. I will remember the smiles and greetings after Mass, the conversations at the church door, our chats during tea and coffee in the hall after Mass, the laughter, and simply seeing you and sharing life together as a parish family.

I leave with a very grateful heart, and I take with me many beautiful memories that I will treasure for years to come. These memories remind me that being a priest is not only about standing at the altar; it is also about walking with people, sharing their joys and sorrows, carrying each other in prayer, and becoming part of one another's lives.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of your lives and for allowing me to serve you. It has been a privilege and a blessing.

As I move to a new parish, please remember me in your prayers, and I assure you that I will always remember all of you in my prayers, especially when I celebrate the Holy Mass.

May almighty God bless you and your families abundantly, and may He continue to guide and protect you.

As I always like to say, God is good, all the time!

HAKUNA MATATA

Evarist



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE FAREWELL CELEBRATION MASS

Parking:

Parking may be challenging on Sunday as there will be sporting matches taking place at The Becket School. Please follow the guidance of our parking marshals, who will help direct you to the available parking areas. If possible, please consider walking to the school or car-sharing. We kindly ask for your patience and cooperation.

Photography:

Volunteer photographers will be taking photographs during the celebration. Some photographs may be used in the parish newsletter and on the parish website. Personal photographs may be taken after Mass, only with the permission of those included. If you have any concerns or would prefer not to be photographed, please speak to one of the stewards or contact the Parish Office.

Food and Allergies:

To help us keep everyone safe, please note the following arrangements:

- Food will be labelled with their contents and ingredients, and ingredients will be listed for homemade cakes.
- Gluten-free options will be kept separate and clearly labelled.
- Anything containing nuts will be clearly identified and kept separate.
- Please speak to a volunteer if you have any specific food allergies or dietary requirements.

Tidy-Up:

We would be very grateful for volunteers who are able to stay behind after the celebration to help tidy the hall and atrium. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for your support in helping us prepare for and welcome everyone to this special celebration. Your help and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

Important Note: There will be **only one Vigil Mass** in the parish on Saturday 12th September at 4.30pm at St Anne's, and **only one Sunday Mass** in the parish on Sunday 13th September at 10.30am at The Becket School.

Parish Collections This Week The First Collection is for the parish. There will also be a Second Collection as a token of our gratitude to Fr John and Fr Evarist for their ministry, dedication, and service to our parish (*for anyone who has not had an opportunity to contribute and would like to*).

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank them for all they have done for our parish community and for the care and commitment they have shown throughout their ministry.

Second Collection in the weekend of 19th/20th September: Diocese: Home Mission Sunday, for more details please see: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home-mission-sunday/>

Parish RCIA Programme (Faith Journey Group) We are pleased to announce that our Parish RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Programme, known as the Faith Journey Group, will begin on Tuesday 29th September, meeting at 7.00pm in the Holy Spirit Social Centre Hall.

If you know anyone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or becoming a Catholic, please invite them to join us. For more information, please contact Ceci Li at ceci.li@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

The RCIA is open to adults who wish to: ♦ Learn more about the Catholic faith; ♦ Prepare for Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation; ♦ Explore the possibility of becoming Catholic and being received into the Catholic Church. We warmly welcome anyone who would like to find out more and begin this journey of faith with us.

Baptism Preparation Course for Infants The next course will be on Wednesday 16th September, 6.30pm at Holy Spirit Social Centre. Please contact Ceci Li at ceci.li@dioceseofnottingham.uk to reserve a place.

Monthly Bible Study with The Chosen Looking to dive deeper into Scripture and build community with fellow Christians? Join us for our next monthly Bible study – everyone is welcome!

We will reflect on the life and teachings of Jesus, using clips and themes from the hit series The Chosen to spark conversation. Whether you've watched every episode or have never seen the show, your perspective is welcome! Young people from the Acutis Club will also be joining this session and meeting afterwards.

Bring a friend, your Bible and an open heart, all are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

Details & Location: Saturday, 19th September | 2.30pm – 4.00pm | Holy Spirit Social Centre

Education Sunday – 13th September This weekend we celebrate Education Sunday, giving thanks for all those who work in Catholic education and praying for pupils, students, teachers, chaplains, school leaders, governors and support staff as the new academic year begins. Bishop Marcus Stock, Bishop of Leeds and Chair of the Catholic Education Service, has written a special letter for Education Sunday, reflecting on the call to forgiveness, reconciliation and peace, and on the vocation of Catholic education.

Copies of the letter will be available at the back of the church this weekend, and it will also be available on our parish website. We encourage you to take a copy and keep all those involved in education in your prayers.

The Diocesan Education Service is piloting a brand-new podcast resource to support staff, parents and families across the Diocese. This new podcast, Nun the Wiser, focuses on the Diocesan 'Word of the Week' and helps to unpack what it means within a practical, living faith context. A new episode will be released each Friday looking ahead to the following week, and will help listeners engage with different scripture and ways of living out our faith in the world. Sister Liz Dodd CSJP will bring a fresh perspective and pastoral voice to the discussions: do join each week on Spotify or YouTube.

Secondary School Application Deadline. If your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 he or she will be starting Year 7 in September 2027. You must apply for a secondary school place through your home Local Authority by Saturday 31st October. If you would like your child to be considered for a Catholic school under a Catholic faith admission criterion, there is an additional step:

- ♦ Complete the school's Supplementary Information Form (SIF).
- ♦ Send the completed SIF directly to the school.
- ♦ Send the required supporting evidence (for example, a copy of your child's Baptism certificate) directly to the school.

The Supplementary Information Form and supporting evidence must be sent to the school, not to the Local Authority. The Local Authority application and the school's Supplementary Information Form are separate processes. Both must be completed by the deadline if you wish your child to be considered under the school's faith-based admissions criteria. If the school does not receive the Supplementary Information Form and supporting evidence by the deadline, your child may be placed in a lower admissions category, which could affect their chance of securing a place. If you do not have a copy of your child's Baptism certificate, contact the parish where your child was baptised as soon as possible to request a replacement.

The Marriage Resource Centre is conducting a global study into the experience of married Catholics. If you married in the last 10 years and one or both spouses are Catholic, please consider completing this short survey. All answers are anonymous and confidential, and the survey is open until the end of September, at: <https://thepmrc.org/survey>

Holy Masses and Services for 12th to 20th September 2026

Saturday 12th September Feria	1pm Baptism ; HS 4pm Rosary ; SA 4.30pm Mass; SA	Clover Heidi Martin The People of the Parish
Sunday 13th September Twenty- Fourth Sunday of The Year	10.30am Special Parish Mass; Becket School 2pm Baptism ; OLOG	For Fr John Martin and Fr Evarist Kaniki Arabella Kamila Telega
Monday 14th September Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Feast)	9.30am Service of Word and Communion ; SA 10am Rosary ; SA	
Tuesday 15th September Our Lady of Sorrows (memorial)	9am Rosary ; SMC 9.30am Mass; SMC	Maureen Allen- Jones RIP
Wednesday 16th September Sts Cornelius, pope, and Cyprian, bishop, martyrs (memorial)	9am Rosary ; SMC 9am Rosary ; HS 9.30am Mass; HS 6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ; SA	James and Catherine Downie RIP
Thursday 17th September Feria	9.30am Service of Word and Communion ; OLOG	
Friday 18th September Feria	10am Rosary ; SMC 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ; SMC 11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ; SA 11.30am Rosary ; SA 12pm Mass; SA 1pm Baptism ; HS 5pm Rosary ; OLOG 6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ; HS 7pm Mass; HS	For a good recovery from Operation, for Bernie Anabelle Niamh Gotts St Clair Ernie, Martha & Patrick Sweeney and Mary Irwin
Saturday 19th September Feria	3.30 - 4.15pm Confessions; SA 4pm Rosary ; SA 4.30pm Mass; SA 6 - 6.15pm Confessions; HS 6.30pm Mass; HS	P.D. Jose RIP John Paton RIP
Sunday 20th September Twenty- Fifth Sunday of The Year	9am Mass; SA  9am Mass; SMC 11am Mass; HS  11am Mass; OLOG	John and Alice Doyle RIP Una Karai RIP Helen and Geoff Peers RIP The People of the Parish

The Service of the Word and Communion, Rosary and Adoration schedule may vary depending on the availability of volunteers to lead the service.

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

HOLY SPIRIT ♦ **Macmillan Cancer Care Coffee Morning** on Friday 25th September 2026 from 10am to 12.30pm in the Holy Spirit Social Centre. Please come & support this worthy cause. We all know someone who has been affected by cancer. The money raised will go to providing better cancer care. Any donations of cakes on the day will be very welcome. There will also be a raffle & lots of good company. Hope to see you there! Catherine Daly 07495 689595

OUR LADY OF GRACE ♦ **Fairtrade** The next stall will be on the 20th of September, which is at the start of Fairtrade fortnight so please, if you have never shopped with us before come and have a browse. Climate change is leading to increased hardships for many producers and so our support is more vital than ever. Thank you, Lynn Harrison.