



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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‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’

Matthew 3:1-12

Second Sunday of Advent - YEAR A

My Dear Friends,

As we enter the **Second Sunday of Advent**, the season of waiting and hope, I invite you to reflect with me on a powerful message recently given by Pope Leo XIV — a message that resonates deeply with the call of Advent: to be peacemakers in a world longing for unity and reconciliation. (<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-11/pope-be-messengers-of-hope-in-world-where-religion-used-justify.html>)

A TIME FOR PEACE AND HOPE

At his Mass in Istanbul, Pope Leo reminded us that Advent is not only a time to prepare for the coming of Christ — but also a time to recommit ourselves to peace. Drawing on the prophetic vision from Isaiah — where swords become ploughshares and nations learn war no more — he asked a simple yet urgent question: “**How can we contribute to peace today?**”

He spoke of three “bridges” we are called to build:

- **Within our own community**, in the everyday relationships of parish life.
- **Between Christians of different traditions** — ecumenical friendship and mutual respect.
- **With all people of faith**, and indeed with all our neighbours — regardless of religion or background.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US AS A PARISH

As we light our second Advent candle of *Peace*, let us ask ourselves:

- *How can we bring peace into our families, our parish, and our neighbourhood?*
- *Where can we build a bridge of understanding and compassion?*
- *How can we be a living sign of hope for others — especially those who feel overlooked or alone?*



Perhaps it is by offering a kind word, by reaching out to someone who needs support, by welcoming a newcomer, or by promoting justice and solidarity in our actions.

May this second week of Advent deepen our longing for Christ’s coming — and strengthen our resolve to be bearers of His peace in our world.

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 This 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: Thursday 11th December 11am, Reconciliation, followed by Midday Mass at Our Lady of Grace. If you would like to check the diary or make an appointment with Fr John or Fr Evarist, please contact the Parish Office.

Christmas Offerings to our Priests As is traditional, there is a Christmas collection to provide a gift to our Priests. If you would like to contribute to this, please put the gift in an envelope (these are available in all our churches), or you can donate through the digital donation system at Holy Spirit. If you would like to do this by bank transfer please mark the online payment as Christmas Offering. Thank you for your generosity.

Parish Office closed for Christmas Please note that we are closed from 3pm of Friday 19th December and we will resume duty on Tuesday 6th January. For any emergencies please contact the Clergy Team. Please refer to the contact details from the newsletter, or the notice board at the church or on the Parish website.

Newsletter Update During Office Closure The newsletters will be preprinted before the office closure. If you have any inserts to include, please send them to Ceci Li or the Parish Office by Wednesday 17th December. Thank you for your cooperation.

Holy Masses and Services for 6th to 14th December 2025

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
Monday 8th December The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of our Diocese	9.30am Mass; SA	Bob Beves RIP
Tuesday 9th December Advent Feria	11am Funeral Service ; SMC	Mr Alastair Armstrong RIP
Wednesday 10th December Advent Feria	9.30am Mass; HS	Ratti de Sousa RIP
Thursday 11th December Advent Feria	11am Advent Reconciliation; OLOG 12pm Mass; OLOG	Mr David Robinson RIP
Friday 12th December Advent Feria	12pm Mass; SA 7.30pm Mass; HS	Noreen Jennings RIP Olivia and John
Saturday 13th December St Lucy, virgin and martyr	4.30pm Mass; SA 6.30pm Mass; HS	Mrs Ann Dalton RIP The Duffy Family and the Grant Family
Sunday 14th December Third Sunday of Advent – Gaudete Sunday	9am Mass; SA  9am Mass; SMC 11am Mass; HS  11am Mass; OLOG	Bob Beves RIP Ernest Raynor RIP For those affected by the fire in Hong Kong The People of the Parish

Rosary Monday 10am SA; Tuesday 9am SMC; Wednesday 9am HS; 9am SMC; Thursday 7pm HS; Friday 10am SMC, 11.30am SA; 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. ♦ **The Holy Spirit Church Cleaning Day**, including the cleaning of toys for the Baby & Toddler Group at the Social Centre, will take place on Saturday, 6th December, from 2–5pm. Everyone is warmly welcome to join.



Thank you for your generosity and for helping to keep our parish welcoming and beautiful..

Our Lady of Grace ♦ **Fairtrade** The next stall is on the 7th of December, all are welcome. ♦ 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.

St Anne ♦ **St Anne's Bereavement Listening Hour** This will be held on Wednesday, 10th December, from 11am to 12 noon in St Anne's Meeting Room, and will continue on the second Wednesday of each month. This is a gentle and welcoming space to share, to listen, and to find comfort and support. All are warmly invited.

♦ **No Adoration at St Anne on 24th December** Due to Christmas Eve, there will be no Adoration at St Anne on Wednesday, 24th December.

Update from CAFOD

CAFOD - Our Christmas Hamper Raffle and Fare raised £1020, thanks to your support and generosity. The Hamper winners are D Lee from Holy Spirit, M Ryan from Holy Spirit and P Long from St Annes, well done and enjoy your prizes. Your CAFOD team would like to thank you all for your ongoing support, generosity, kindness and prayers. Your commitment to CAFOD enables the charity to provide resources, education and hope to our most marginalised and desperately poor brothers and sisters around the world. God Bless you all.

Celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas - Schedule of Masses

Christmas Eve Masses - Wednesday 24th December

Christmas Family Masses

- ◆ Holy Spirit; St Anne - 4pm
- ◆ Holy Spirit; Our Lady of Grace - 6.30pm

Carols and Midnight Mass

- ◆ Holy Spirit - 11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Masses - Thursday 25th December

Holy Spirit; St Anne; St Margaret Clitherow - 10.30am

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 as follows:

Weekday Masses (Post-Christmas): 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.

The information is also on the parish website and on the notice boards at each church.

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



Fr Evarist's Holiday: 5 January – 7 February

Fr Evarist will be in Tanzania for his holiday from 5th January to 7th February. During this period, we kindly ask for your understanding and support as some adjustments to our Mass and Service schedules will be necessary.

After consultation and careful listening to feedback from the PMG and our local church groups, we have worked hard to secure supply priests so that our Sunday Mass schedule can remain stable across all churches except Sunday 25th January. We are grateful to those priests who are able to assist.

Weekday provision, however, remains more challenging. We also ask for your understanding as Fr John needs to conserve his energy during this time, and therefore the following temporary adjustments have been put in place.

From Thursday 8th January to Thursday 5th February:

- Monday 9.30am, SA - Service of Word and Communion
- Tuesday 9.30am, SMC - Mass
- Wednesday 9.30, HS - Mass
- Thursday - no Mass
- Friday Midday, SA - Mass

Important Note about Sunday 25th January

We have not yet been able to secure a priest to celebrate Mass on Sunday 25th January. We are continuing to work on this, and we ask you to please check the parish website and newsletter for the latest updates.

Securing supply priests in January has become increasingly difficult. Several retired priests are unable to drive in the dark or have health concerns, which limits availability. Please also be aware that supply priests receive a stipend of £75 plus travel expenses for each Mass they celebrate. We are deeply appreciative of their support whenever they are able to help. Thank you for your patience, support, and understanding as we work together for the good of our parish community. Please feel free to share any feedback that may help us continue to improve.

Appeal and Update from SVP (Holy Spirit & St Anne) :

Advent Appeal - SVP is launching the Advent Appeal to support homeless charities in Nottingham, including Emmanuel House, The Friary, and the London Road Hostel.

On the weekend of 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 to 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.

A huge thank you for your exceptionally generous donations. We raised £874 at Holy Spirit and £537 at St Anne, and we will also receive additional Gift Aid from the tax office. Gift Aid truly makes a difference, so if you pay tax, we are grateful for the time you take to complete the Gift Aid form on our collection envelopes.

Thanks to your kindness, we will be able to support several families during this costly time of year with vouchers. Thank you once again for your generosity and compassion.



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

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

✉ john.martin@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Evarist Kaniki ☎ 0115 9814271

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

✉ evarist.kaniki@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Parish Admin: Margaret Joby 0115 9814271

annunciation@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Office Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Friday, from 9.00am - 3.00pm

Parish Finance Administrator: Cecilia Cheung

✉ cecilia.cheung@dioceseofnottingham.uk

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:

✉ stewartmolyneux71@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Team and Details:

◆ Holy Spirit West Bridgford - Penny Chau, Victoria Ncube

✉ Penny.ChauPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk

✉ Victoria.NcubePSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk

☎ 07513 725480

◆ Our Lady of Grace, Cotgrave - Paula Vyze

✉ Paula.VyzePSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk

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

✉ Michael.ChestersPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk

✉ Simon.NelsonPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk

☎ 0751 372 5553

◆ St Margaret Clitherow, Keyworth - Clare Bhabra

✉ Clare.BhabraPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk

☎ 0751 372 5415

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.

