

THURSDAY 8th DECEMBER: An evening Mass will be celebrated at 7pm on the occasion of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

RCIA: The next two meetings will take place on **Thursday 8th** and **Thursday 15th December** at 7.30pm in the Library.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: This will take place next **Sunday, 11th December** at 3.00pm, followed by the Children's Christmas Party.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS are now on sale at your local post office. Be sure to ask for the religious ones!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT in support of **Rainbow's Hospice**. Singing for fun at Kegworth Hotel DE74 2DF. 7.30pm **Monday 5th December**. Do join us! Please see poster at the back of the church.

EVENING OF CAROLS AND POPULAR CHRISTMAS SONGS: **Friday 9th December**, 7.30pm at the United Reform Church Frederick Street with the Singing for Fun Group. Admission free. Retiring collection for Loughborough Town of Sanctuary. All welcome.

NOTTINGHAM CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE: **Tuesday 6th December** at 7pm. Escape the hustle and bustle of the pre-Christmas season with an evening of traditional carols and readings in our beautiful Cathedral featuring our Cathedral Choir, Youth Choir and the dazzling *Essentially Brass*. Refreshments afterwards and retiring collection.

A CONSTRUCTIVE ADVENT: Each day on the following Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/nottinghamjusticeandpeace/> a suggestion will be posted during Advent for an action, prayer or reflection in line with both the scriptures of the day and current areas of work in the Justice & Peace Commission. If you have a Facebook account, the Commission would like you to 'like' their page so you will receive these daily posts in your newsfeeds. Please share them widely, and invite your friends to 'like' them, so the campaign will grow. **If you do NOT have a Facebook account, you don't need to lose out. Simply go to their website <http://nottinghamjp.org/> and select the Facebook icon. This will allow you to read their posts without signing up to Facebook yourself!** Each post begins with the words 'Constructive Calendar Campaign.'

INTERNATIONAL PEACELIGHT: This year's East Midlands Reception Service for the Peacelight will be held at St. Francis RC Church, Tamworth Road, Long Eaton **Wednesday 14th December** at 7.30pm. Please see our noticeboard for further information.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCE

First collection: **£805**

Standing orders: **£623**

Thank you

The next **Second Collection** will be on **11th December** for New and Poor Parishes.



St. Mary's Catholic Church

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Served by the Rosminians:

Fr Philip Sainter, Parish Priest; Fr Paul Gillham, Assistant Priest

In community: Fr Charles Sormany and Fr Simon Giles

Newsletter for Sunday 4th December 2016 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

Psalter Week 2

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The **Advent** theme of "*preparing a way for the Lord*" is again being repeated in our readings – in the imperative!: **'A voice cries in the wilderness: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight" '!**

Whilst Isaiah points to The One to be born of the family of Jesse (- Jesse was the father of King David, the ancestor of Jesus (see Mt 1:1-16), and with pointed urgency John the Baptist preaches a baptism of repentance, **both** speak of the eschatological judgement that will take place: Isaiah says, *'He will judge the wretched with integrity, give a verdict for the poor, strike the ruthless and bring death to the wicked'* (vv 3&4); John the Baptist says *'His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning the chaff'* (v 12. see also Lk 3:7-8). That He will do this with fine-honed accuracy (*c.f. the Hebrew word for 'delight' in Is 11:3*) – as our Creed professes - the mercy of God is such that **all who turn to him with a contrite heart** (Ps 50:17; Mk 1:14-15) **making straight their paths** (Mt 3:3 //) **will be granted salvation.**

Let all of us prepare a way for the Lord to come into our personal lives, our family situations and our society, by coming into the presence of Christ in prayer and through the sacraments.

Fr Philip Sainter

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS AT ST. MARY'S

| | | | |
|--------------|------------------|---|---|
| Sat | 3 rd | 1730-1755 | Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request |
| | | Vigil Mass for Second Sunday of Advent | |
| | | 1800 | Charles Connolly RIP |
| Sun | 4 th | | Second Sunday of Advent |
| | | 0900 | For the Parish |
| | | 1030-1055 | Sacrament of Reconciliation + on request |
| | | 1100 | Cliff Brookes RIP |
| | | | <i>Baptism of Alexis Dione Sameh-Ebong</i> |
| | | 1245 | Polish Mass |
| | | 1600 | Italian Mass |
| Mon | 5 th | 0915 | Hugh Cavanagh RIP |
| | | 1900 | Latin Mass (old rite) |
| Tues | 6 th | 0915 | Hallam – Faulks families RIP |
| | | 1900 | Parish Reconciliation Service |
| Weds | 7 th | 0915 | Venancio Castillo Jr. RIP (Anniversary) |
| Thurs | 8 th | | The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (SOLEMNITY) |
| | | 0915 | School Mass in Church |
| | | 1900 | Merwick family - Intentions |
| Fri | 9 th | 0915 | Don & Kath Howell - Intentions |
| Sat | 10 th | 0915 | Giuseppe, Stanislavo & Giovanna Sparano RIP |
| | | 0945-1200 | Adoration and Reconciliation in Church throughout Advent *** |
| | | | Vigil Mass for Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete Sunday) |
| | | 1800 | Catherine Connolly RIP |
| | | | <i>Judith Spence from Carpenter's Arms to speak</i> |

MORNING PRAYER: 9.00am, Monday-Friday inclusive, before 9.15am Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------|--|
| Tues | 6 th | 1815 | Rosary – in Church ** please note different time ** |
| | | 1900 | Reconciliation Service - Church |
| | | 1925-2025 | Scripture & Tradition Group - Library |
| | | | The Visiting Group meeting has been cancelled |
| Weds | 7 th | 1230-1500 | Senior Citizens' Group – Christmas Lunch at Lynroys |
| Thurs | 8 th | 1930 | RCIA - Library |
| Fri | 9 th | 1430-1700 | St. Mary's School Christmas Fair |

PARISH VOICE: The next issue of Parish Voice will be produced in the New Year, so if you have any articles for inclusion there is still time to submit them as the deadline has been extended.

CARPENTER'S ARMS / ST. JOSEPH'S STOREHOUSE: Christmas hampers will be distributed from the charities during the week beginning **Monday 19th December**. A big thank you to all for your festive contributions so far - there are two weeks still to go for further donations! St. Mary's has a long tradition of being very generous to this cause, so let's make it a bumper year! There is a list on display at the entrance doors to the church giving ideas on which items to donate. A team of parishioners ensure that these goods are taken to the Carpenter's Arms on a weekly basis. Once again thank you for your generosity.

Carpenters Arms: The new rotas have been published. Please will the teams collect them from the Repository Stand. Thank you.

FUNDRAISING FOR BREAST CANCER: A student at Loughborough University plans to take part in the London to Paris cycle ride to raise funds for this worthwhile charity. If you feel moved to help, go to <https://12p17.everydayhero.com/uk/london-to-paris-2017-3> for more information, or email Eamon Kitching on eamonkitching@hotmail.com

CHILDREN DUE TO START SCHOOL NEXT SEPTEMBER 2017: Applications are invited from parents and families for any child due to start school for the first time in September 2017. A form needs to be completed for the Local Authority via their website: www.leics.gov.uk and a school application form needs to be completed and sent back to school. The final date for applications is **16th January 2017**. If parents know of any children due to start school next September 2017, please urge them to complete all the forms in good time and return them to the local authority and to the school. ***I would strongly urge parents to complete the Local Authority form online.*** Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AROUND THE FOUNTAIN: Monday **5th December** outside Hazlerigg Building at Loughborough University. Traditional Christmas Carols, fellowship and a mug of hot chocolate!

CHRISTMAS COMEDY SHOW: **Friday 9th December** at 7.30pm Emmanuel Church. Please see Church noticeboard.

PLEASE PRAY for those who are sick: Frank Chatonda, Brian Smith, Rosinah, Janet Middleton, Justin Johns, Kevin and Olive Chapman, Sue Moreland, Stewart Brady, Malcolm Leaf, Phillip Dew, Roger Hubank, Rowena Orton, Ann Checketts, Vera Cunningham, Crispin Castillo, Holly Jones, Reuben Farrant (aged 8), Jack Murray, Brenda Schuler, Vera Hurry, Andrew Spicer, Margaret Stanford, Christina Mortell, Clelia Paciolla, Freddie Hess, Margaret Woodhouse, Pauline Davey (nee Woodhouse), Lee Raven, Louise Raven, Danilo Salvador, Christopher Browne, John Beasley, David and Claire Potter, Caroline Hillyer, Jamie, Mark, Stephen Coultas, Jane Moss, Jean Hooper, David Hart, Eddie Hamilton, Katie Mercer, Hannah Bechler, Alan and Judith Creighton, Val Wells.

for those who have recently died: Christopher Dover **may he rest in peace**

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Aislabie Harrison, Bill Shaw, Robert Di-Niro, Margaret Sheaf, Ernie Willett, Frank Shelton, Bill Flatley, baby and Morgan Isherwood, Elizabeth Kendall, Arthur Makey, Christina Johnstone and Venancio Castillo Jr.