

**RED BOXES:** Many thanks to everyone who continues to find coins to put into their Red Boxes (increasingly difficult in post Covid/card only times) to help the poor and needy in our world. Your support is so much needed and very greatly appreciated. As always, please leave your box on the table in the Cloister and it will be returned after emptying, to the same place. Should anyone wish to help by taking a box, please speak to Father Chris or to Bob and Chris Shepherd. Thank you very much once more.

**JUBILEE FOOD BANK:** You are asked to leave food bank items in the trolleys at various supermarkets when you shop. Henderson Connellan on the High Street, Spar on Coventry Road, Eco Village, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Both Coop supermarkets, B&M, Everyone's Active: leisure centre cf <https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk/> **Shopping List: WE HAVE AN URGENT NEED FOR: Dried Potato (like Smash), Tinned chicken in sauce, Tinned Veggie Meals Other Suggested Food Donations:** Tinned Custard, Tinned Ham, Corned Beef, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned/Jarred Hot Dogs, Crackers, Jars of Coffee, Sandwich Paste (small jars), Sugar (small bags if possible, 500g) Jam, Tinned Fruit, Snacks such as small bags of nuts, cereal bars, chocolate bars, dried fruit for lunch boxes and homeless. Mayonnaise, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned red meat (bolognese, mince, stewed, chilli), HT milk (semi-skimmed and whole), Tins of beans (red kidney beans, chickpeas... etc.), Porridge oats, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shower gel, Feminine products--sanitary towels and tampons, Used, clean, strong 'bags for life', strong carrier bags, Jars or pouches of baby food, Packets of Rice (500g if possible), Cereal, Jars of curry sauce to go with rice, Tinned potatoes, Tinned meat-balls, Hot chocolate, Angel Delight, Microwave Sponge Puddings, Packets of dried custard, Packet Rice, Tinned Carrots, Marmalade, Cordial / Juice Drinks, Biscuits, Sweetcorn, Fray Bentos Pies

If you are a **Gift Aid Declaration Holder** please advise your parish office, or the Diocesan Gift Aid Department ([parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk)) of any change in your circumstances, such as **name change / address change / no longer a taxpayer**. If your spouse has died and the GA Declaration was in his / her name, and you wish to continue to contribute because you are a taxpayer, then a new GA Declaration Form will need to be completed. Please also advise of the date of your spouse's death. **Your continued support of both parish and Diocese is always very much appreciated – thank you!** If you do not Gift Aid your contributions, and you are a taxpayer, and wish to do so, please speak with your parish priest, or contact the parish office for a Gift Aid Declaration Form.

READERS			
	<b>Sat. 6.00pm</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
6/7 Jan	N Williamson	C. Reed	K. Lilley
13/14 Jan	C. Baldam	C. Sellechia	R. van der Liet
20/21 Jan	J Rowland	R Lewin	M Lewin
27/28 Jan	J Snaith	P Green	J Thayaseelan

FINANCE	December
Envelopes	£1440.61
Loose	£4005.53
Standing Order	£3497.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8943.64</b>



# Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor  
 Tel: House: 01858 462359  
 Email: [parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com)  
 Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432  
 Parish Website: [www.olvic.com](http://www.olvic.com)  
 Safeguarding: [safeguarding@olvic.com](mailto:safeguarding@olvic.com)

Schools:  
 Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.  
 Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057  
 Parish Accountant: [finance@olvic.com](mailto:finance@olvic.com)  
 Parish Gift Aid Organiser: [giftaid@olvic.com](mailto:giftaid@olvic.com)  
 Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449  
 Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

7th January 2024  
 3rd Week of Christmastide &  
 1st Week of Ordinary Time  
 Psalter Week 1

## TIMES OF SERVICES

### Sunday: EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6.00pm Mass: Clive Blencowe RIP (Angela)

10.00am Mass: People of the Parish

Coffee after Mass

Rosary 3.30pm

### Monday: THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

10.30am: Funeral Mass Doreen Kimberlin

### Tuesday: Feria

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

### Wednesday: Feria

9.45am: Morning Prayer

10.00am Mass: Mary Mack RIP (Langford Family)

### Thursday: Feria

9.45am: Rosary

10.00am Mass: Kay Curran RIP (Rosaleen)

No Coffee

7.00pm: Holy Hour

### Friday: Friday

5.00pm: Peace vigil at town Square

7.00pm Mass: November Dead List

### Saturday: Feria

6.00pm Mass: People of the Parish

### Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

10.00am Mass: Estelle (Stella) Yarsley RIP

... We Have Seen HIS Star in The East..



*We saw his star  
 and have come  
 to do the King  
 homage.*

## CONFESSIONS

11.00am  
 5.15pm

**FR CHRIS WRITES:** May I take this opportunity to wish you all once again, a Blessed New Year and may I thank you for the Christmas cards and gifts and very indeed extremely generous Christmas offerings. But above all for your continued prayers and support.

**THE WEEKLY ROSARY GROUP** meets every Sunday 3.30-4pm outside in front of the statue of Our Lady praying especially for Peace & Reconciliation in Society. Contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115.

The diocese is producing a **monthly podcast for the Year of Prayer** called **Encounter Prayer**. Each month a different type of prayer will be showcased; this first episode is given by Bishop Patrick who introduces the Year of Prayer, his hopes for it, and shares insights from his own prayer life. The Podcasts can be found on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music and Audible by searching Diocese of Nottingham; they are also on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer)

**A REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER, SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY:** Christ is the Mediator, the bridge that we cross to turn to the Father. He is the only Redeemer, He is the Mediator par excellence. Each prayer we raise to God is through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, and is fulfilled thanks to his intercession. The Holy Spirit extends Christ's mediation to every time and every place: there is no other name by which we can be saved. Jesus Christ, the only Mediator between God and humanity. To read the full reflection and find more resources at [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer). A prayer sheet is available.

**PEACE VIGIL ON THE TOWN SQUARE** The annual Candle-lit Peace Vigil will take place on Friday January 12th at 5.00pm in The Square. People are invited to bring a candle or other form of light to hold while they stand in silent prayer for half an hour. It seems that praying for peace is even more important this year, so do join us. We are invited afterwards to the cafe space at the Baptist Church for hot drinks and more reflection.

**COMMUNICATIONS HELP NEEDED** We need someone to take over the communications role for Churches Together in Harborough. The role is not huge and involves organising the rota for the weekly Church Talk column in the Harborough Mail and forwarding contributions (with any minor adjustments needed) to the appropriate staff at the newspaper. It also involves compiling the occasional CTH newsletter from submitted information, and occasionally producing reports or alerts for the Mail, Harborough FM, and the CTH website. Some communications experience might be helpful but is not necessary – some mentoring would be available. If you or anyone you know in your church might be able to consider this, please contact the current Communications Officer Derek Williams on [communications@harboroughchurches.org.uk](mailto:communications@harboroughchurches.org.uk)



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2024. Applications forms are now available from Fr Chris after any of the Masses. Please return the form by 14 **January 2023**. It is for children in year 3 and above, The first meeting for parents will take place on **Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 7.00pm in the Octagonal Hall** when we will introduce the course and give out the plan. The first session for children will take place on Sunday 21 January 2023 from 9.20am- 10.20am and the children will join their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** We shall gather **this Sunday 7th January** for a further planning meeting Fr. Chris



**A REGISTER OF CHURCH VOLUNTEERS:** Many thanks to all who have completed their forms. Any last volunteers to fill out your details? Registration forms are now available **In the Narthex or by email. Who does this apply to?** Really anyone who helps in any way in the Parish! From Church Cleaner, flower arranger reader, Coffee volunteer, church collection Bazaar Offertory PPC, welcomer and so on.. You can also receive the form by email from [parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com)  
**PS Just one form is necessary for all your roles in the parish.**



It's called **DDPY FITNESS CLASS**. Suitable for all ages and is a combination of body weight exercises, callisthenics, stretching and strengthening. No equipment required. All ages and abilities welcome and it will be open to parishioners with a donation to the church for each class. Wednesdays 6-7pm. Starting 10 January. Contact Sean Downey for more details: 07766054754 [Seangdowney@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Seangdowney@hotmail.co.uk)

**HOLY COMMUNION AND BENEDICTION:** We continue our holy Hour on Thursdays: With Exposition from 7.00pm: There will be some meditations and finishing with Benediction about 7.50pm. The Eucharist and the Real presence of our Lord in is so important for us. The opportunity to come and pray with Our Lord when the Blessed Sacrament exposed is a source of special graces. *For families with Children Why not one of the parents come and pray for the whole family for a time during the hour?*



**SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TO CATHOLIC PRIMARY ACADEMIES (Reception Year) - Children born between 01/09/2019 and 31/08/2020** The deadline for submitting your application for a school place is **15th January 2024**. Application forms are available on your 'home' Local Authority website. For every Catholic school you apply for if you wish your child to be considered and ranked under a **faith criterion** you **should also complete a supplementary information form, and return this form to the school by the deadline, (forms are available from the LA and the school).** You **MUST** also include the supporting **evidence\*** as required with this form, eg baptism certificate (photocopies acceptable). Failure to supply the required supporting evidence will mean your child is ranked in a lower criterion which may affect your chance of a place. \*If you do not have the required evidence please contact the parish where your child was baptised for a copy certificate in good time.