



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION,
FOSTER AVENUE, BEESTON,
NOTTINGHAM, NG9 1AE
and
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH,
TAMWORTH ROAD,
LONG EATON, NG10 1DH



Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Company No. 7151646 Charity No. 1134449

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TIMES OF MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: C

Sixth Week of Easter: 22nd – 28th May 2022 (Weekday Cycle Year II / Psalter Week I)

<u>Saturday 21st May:</u>	<u><i>Sixth Sunday of Easter: C</i></u>	<i>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</i> Isobel Alana Barnes, Marica Borsos, Margaret Brown, Pat Constable, Francesca Lina Craparotta, Jim & Margaret Dougan, Ann Harrison, Fr Peter Harvey, Andrea Hoffman, Farzin Kazem, Breeda Keaney, Julie Mortimer, Anne – Marie Reid, Simpson Family, Kay Twomey, Evelyn Venning, John Wilcox and Bob Wilson.
5:30 pm: Vigil Mass;	Peace Poppy Smith RIP (5 th Anniv) (Lesley)	
<u>Sunday 22nd May:</u>	<u><i>Sixth Sunday of Easter: C</i></u>	
9:00 am: Mass;	Pro Populo; People of the Parish	
11:00 am: Mass (St Francis);	Intentions of Margaret Allison (Smith)	
3:00 pm: Service for the Sick followed by Tea in the Hall		
<u>Monday 23rd May:</u>	<u><i>Easter Feria</i></u>	
10:00 am: Mass;	Phyllis Bennett RIP (Karen)	
<u>Tuesday 24th May:</u>	<u><i>Easter Feria</i></u>	
10:00 am: Mass (St Francis);	Special Intention	
<u>Wednesday 25th May:</u>	<u><i>St Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor (memoria)</i></u>	
10:00 am: Mass;	Intentions of Hannah Mc Cay (Hopkins)	
<u>Thursday 26th May:</u>	<u><i>The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)</i></u>	
10:00 am: Mass (St Francis);	Intentions of John Bayley (Curtis)	
7:00 pm: Mass;	Pro Populo; People of the Parish	
<u>Friday 27th May:</u>	<u><i>St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop (Feast)</i></u>	
10:00 am: Mass;	Pauline Russell RIP (Anniversary) (Russell Family)	
<u>Saturday 28th May:</u>	<u><i>Seventh Sunday of Easter: C</i></u>	
5:30 pm: Vigil Mass;	Stephen Green RIP (Anniversary) (Sully)	
<u>Sunday 29th May:</u>	<u><i>Seventh Sunday of Easter: C</i></u>	
9:00 am: Mass;	Norman Brennan RIP (2 nd Anniversary) (Joe)	
11:00 am: Mass (St Francis);	Mr Robert Cooper RIP (Goodhind)	

THURSDAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD AND IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. Some of the children from English Martyrs' School will be joining us for Mass at St Francis of Assisi at 10:00 am.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: This weekend we welcome two new members into our Parish Community: *Jack Joseph Sarno* and *Luke David Sarno* who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism on *Saturday 21st May 2022*. We pray for them and their parents, *Stephen* and *Heather* on this happy occasion.

READERS NEEDED (BEESTON): We are a bit short on readers for the Masses at Beeston – a few people are doing a great job at the moment, but it would be better to have more! If you think you might be able to read at Mass (on a rota basis), please sign up on the sheet at the back of Church or contact David Aldred (07845 920647). There will be a meeting beforehand to talk about what is involved and to deal with any concerns you may have.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Please remember in your prayers the children of our Parish as they make their First Confessions this weekend in preparation for their First Holy Communion. The next preparation class for the children will be **THIS Sunday, 22nd May 2022** immediately after the 9:00 am Mass at The Assumption Parish Hall, Beeston. The next meeting for parents of the children will be on **Wednesday 15th June 2022 at 7:30 pm** at The Assumption Parish Hall, Beeston. If there are any problems or difficulties with either of these meetings, please let me know as soon as possible.

WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES: This year's weekly collection envelopes are due to finish at the end of May; new envelopes will be ready for collection shortly. If, however you would like to change your donation to Direct Debit or vice versa, if you want to change to envelopes, please indicate this on the form at the back of church. For new Parishioners if you would like a set of envelopes or to set up a Direct Debit for your weekly offering, please could you add your name to the list at the back of church. Donating by envelope or Direct Debit is completely confidential and has the benefits of claiming the tax on your donation, which is an extra 25% that can be added to parish funds. To do this you need to be a UK taxpayer and complete a Gift Declaration Form; if you would like to do this, please tick the box on the form. Thank you for your continued financial support of our Parish. – *Marie Calladine*.

SPONSORED WALK FOR SVP: I would like to thank all Parishioners for all your kind support and generosity in sponsoring me on my 10-mile coastal walk. I actually did nearly 14 miles and enjoyed every step. The weather was beautiful, and I certainly enjoyed the fish and chips that I treated myself to at the end of my walk. Total amount raised was a fantastic **£ 945.00** for SVP funds. Thank you once again – *Helina*.

JOINT PARISH BBQ: Now that we are able to get together after 2 long years of lockdown to bring both communities together, there will be a joint Parish BBQ on **Sunday 12th June 2022 at 2:00 pm**. It would be really lovely if as many of our Parish Communities could attend this event for a relaxing and enjoyable time of getting to know each other a little better. The BBQ will consist of Sausages, Burgers and Chicken Skewers along with Vegetarian / Vegan Options. Tickets will be priced at £3 per person and will include 1 of each food item, there will also be a shared table of Salads / Desserts (if you are a family, please bring 1 dish per family) also bring a drink of your choice. This event is open to every Parish Member so please try to come along and spend some time with your parish family. Tickets will be on sale from next weekend.

TEA AND COFFEE ROTA: We are very short of volunteers to make teas and coffees after Mass on Sundays. This is not a difficult job and is very sociable and rewarding, so if you could spare an hour after Mass, please could you put your name on the list at the back of Church and we can put a Rota together; the more people the less your turn will come around. Thank you. – *Marie*.

POOR CLARES: The Sisters send their sincere thanks for the generous gifts I took to them from Parishioners. They appreciate very much your continued support during this difficult time for them. My next visit will be *Monday 30th May 2022*. Thank you again for your support. – *Diane Wilson*.

BLESSED SACRAMENT PROCESSION: led by Bishop Patrick, will be celebrated on Corpus Christi, *Sunday 19th June 2022*, starting from Saint Mary's Church in Hyson Green, Nottingham (NG7 6FZ) at 2:00 pm, and finishing at our Cathedral at around 4:00 pm. All are very welcome – see the poster for more details.

PLATINUM JUBILEE: Bishop Patrick warmly invites people from across the diocese to Saint Barnabas Cathedral on *Thursday 2nd June 2022* for *Happy and Glorious*, a musical celebration to mark the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen. Tickets for the evening are available at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/jubilee. Come and join HM's Lord Lieutenant and other guests as we give thanks to God for The Queen.

RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS IN WALSINGHAM 10th – 11th JUNE 2022: Christus Vivit (the Diocese's Young Adult Ministry) is organising a retreat for Young Adults (18 – 35 years) to coincide with the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham. The cost of the retreat is £60 (full board including transport from the Diocese), there are also a limited number of 50% funded places. Please email cv@dioceseofnottingham.uk for more information or to sign up by Monday 16th May 2022.

Items for the newsletter can be given to Fr Christopher or e – mailed to frcathomas@live.com by WEDNESDAY of each week for inclusion in the next issue.



Returning to Mass at Pentecost

An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales

This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity – “The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.” It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures.

We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. "Virtual viewing" of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord's Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

***Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops' Conference
Friday 6th May 2022***