



ALL SAINTS, OLD GLOSSOP, AND ST MARY CROWNED, GLOSSOP

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NOTTINGHAM

REGISTERED OFFICE: WILLSON HOUSE, 25 DERBY ROAD, NOTTINGHAM. NG1 5AW

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CHRISTMAS 2021

Sunday 26th December 2021

Fr Martin writes,

"I send my heartfelt and appreciative thanks to everyone who so generously donated to the Christmas Offering, and to all those whose kindness was also expressed in such beautiful Christmas cards and thoughtful gifts. May God reward you for your wonderful generosity to me, blessing you and yours with bountiful gifts, and keeping you safe in the year ahead."

Fr Martin writes, RIP

Our prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Lily O'Neill, who died recently. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

The funeral arrangements for Mrs O'Neill had not been confirmed as this newsletter went to press, but it is expected that the funeral will take place in the week beginning 17th January.

Christmas Morning Prayer

The Holy day of joy returns, Heavenly Father, and bestows another year with peace and goodwill.

Help us to correctly remember the birth of Jesus, so we may also participate in the song of the angels, the joy of the shepherds, and the adoration of the wise men.

Help us to shut the doors of hate and open the doors of love all over the world.

Lord, let kindness accompany every gift and good desires to come with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil God, through the blessing that Christ brings, and show us to be merry with clean hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Your children, and the Christmas evening take us to our bed with thankful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Christmas Market

Many, many thanks to all who helped in any way with our Christmas market stall earlier this month.

The stall was highly successful and raised a profit of over £350, which has been shared between our parishes.

Thoughts from today's Gospel Reading: Lk 2:1-14

During the Christmas season, our liturgy invites us to consider the birth of the Lord from many vantage points.

As we begin this season, it is useful to remember that the stories of Jesus' birth and childhood are found in only two of our Gospels, Matthew and Luke. Throughout this season, we will hear stories from both Gospels. Those Gospels tell different but complementary stories about Jesus' birth, highlighting items of theological importance about the Incarnation and the salvation that Jesus brings.

On this day, the Feast of Christmas, we are given the details of Christ's birth as found in the Gospel of Luke.

Here we learn about the census that brings Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where Jesus is born. We also hear about the angel's announcement of this good news to the shepherds. In these details, we find two of Luke's particular concerns: (1) to locate the coming of Christ in the wider framework of salvation history as good news for all people, Gentiles and Jews, and (2) to show the Lord's favour upon the poor and lowly.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is born as one of the poor. Laid in a manger in a stable, because there was no room at the inn, he comes into the world through obscure and surprising means. Yet, as the angel proclaims this good news to the shepherds, this infant is announced as the Messiah and Lord.

In the song of the angels, all are invited to give glory to God for this miraculous birth, in which God comes to share our humanity.

The angels sing that Jesus' coming brings peace. Yet there is little in the details of this Gospel that gives evidence of peace. Jesus is born as a traveller away from home, born in a stable in a crowded city under the occupation of foreigners.

The appearance of the angel to the shepherds frightens them. When the angels proclaim Jesus' birth as the harbinger of "peace on earth," the evangelist Luke clearly wants us to take the long view.

The shepherds are invited to claim a faith that will enable them to see this infant as a sign God's promise of a messiah. It is through such faith that one finds the peace of which the angels sing.

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Joint Parish Pastoral Council: 08445 880856. Jenny Cieslik, Lorraine Doyle, Christine Hulley, Ann King, Natalie Mellor-Fallon, Sandra Mellor-Fallon, Barbara Payne and Fr Martin Sylvester. (Calls to 0844 numbers cost 7p/min plus your network charge. The parish does not receive any income from this charge - it is retained by the virtual switchboard service provider.)
Parish Newsletter Editor Liz Nash **Website** www.glossopcatholics.org.uk
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The Week Ahead (ASC = All Saints Church, SMH = St Mary's Hall, SMC = St Mary's Church)

Parish Mass Book: This weekend's Readings: p.97/p.102, Gloria p. 9, Creed p.12

Saturday 25th 10.30am,	The Nativity of the Lord ASC Christmas Day Mass (Anthony and Howard Mellor and Kevin Fallon RIP (SMF)) <i>Please note that there will be no 6pm Mass at ASC today</i>
Sunday 26th 9.15am, 11.15am,	The Holy Family - Feast SMC Holy Mass (The People of the Parishes) ASC Holy Mass (Tony Payne RIP (BP))
Monday 27th 10.00am,	St John, Apostle and Evangelist ASC Holy Mass (Gertrude Roean RIP - Anniversary (BD))
Tuesday 28th	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs <i>Fr Martin will offer Holy Mass today for the Holy Souls</i>
Wed'sday 29th 10.00am,	St Thomas of Canterbury (Becket), Bishop and Martyr ASC Holy Mass (Jean & Phil Hoath RIP (BP)) <i>Please pray for the Pastoral Council Meeting which takes place this evening</i>
Thursday 30th 10.00am,	Sixth Day within the Octave of Christmas SMC Holy Mass (Hilda Waldron RIP)
Friday 31st 10.00am,	St Sylvester 1, Pope SMC Holy Mass (Anne McLeish RIP (BB))
Saturday 1st 6.00pm,	Mary, the Holy Mother of God ASC Holy Mass (Vigil Mass) (The Gadd and Shanahan Families RIP (GS)) <i>Confessions: the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Saturday 8th January, God willing</i>
Sunday 2nd 9.15am, 11.15am,	Second Sunday after Christmas SMC Holy Mass (Anne Walsh – Christmas Blessing (CW)) ASC Holy Mass (The People of the Parishes)

Forthcoming Events in the Parishes:

GLOSSOP ROSARY: We are continuing the Rosary on Monday 27th December with the Joyful Mysteries.

Covid-19: Government Plan B:

The Government announced during the past week the move to their 'Plan B' in order to control the spread of the new variant of Covid-19. Plan B covers a number of areas of guidance for public action.

As a result, the use of face coverings in public places, including places of worship, is once again mandatory. These should be worn throughout your time on church premises.

Face masks, as well as hand sanitiser, are available at the entrances of our churches.

Please be aware that following the guidance helps to restrict the spread of the virus, and protects not only oneself but others too, a goal that we as Christians embrace willingly.

Any further changes to the guidance which affect our churches will be provided as soon as is possible

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives.

You can donate on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

HELPING HANDS:

During the pandemic, 'Helping Hands' has responded to requests for help with shopping and prescription collection as well as other requests. Drivers and shoppers are available to help those who are unable to leave the house. **CONTACT:** Wynne or Rob.