

THE PARISHES OF HOLY CROSS AND OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF BESTWOOD, BULWELL AND HUCKNALL.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Priest: **FR. RICHARD HARDSTAFF** Tel: 0115 9278403
The Presbytery
Brooklyn Road, Bulwell,
Nottingham NG6 9ES

Parish Secretaries: Mrs Maria Cummins Tel: 0115 9278403
Mrs Breege Chapman
Tuesday—Thursday 9am to 1pm

Parish Email: holycrosshucknallandourladybulwell@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Website: www.bulwell-and-bestwood-catholic-churches.org.uk
<http://www.holycrosshucknall.org.uk>
Facebook: <https://facebook.com/bulwellandbestwood>

Parish Deacon: Rev. Martyn Swaby Tel: 07561121724
Retired Priest: Canon Anthony Dolan
Hall Booking: ourladybulwell.booking@gmail.com

SCHOOLS SERVING OUR PARISH:

PRIMARY SCHOOLS:
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell
Head Teacher — Mrs. Fiona Wadsley
0115 9150500
St Margaret Clitherow, Bestwood
Head Teacher — Mrs Sarah Sweeney McGinty
0115 9150296
Holy Cross, Hucknall
Head Teacher—Mrs. Tammie McNamara
0115 9534577

SECONDARY SCHOOLS:
Trinity School, Aspley
Head Teacher — Mr. Matthew Shenton
0115 9296251
Christ The King, Arnold
Head Teacher —Miss Jo Love
0115 9556262

23RD/24TH DECEMBER 2023 — FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 23rd December 5pm Our Lady's
Sunday 24th December 9am Holy Cross, 11am Our Lady's

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AND SERVICES

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 16th December
11.00am - 12 noon Holy Cross

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE
5.00pm Our Lady's

MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY
9.00am Holy Cross

TUESDAY 26TH DECEMBER Saint Stephen (Feast)
11.00am Our Lady's
10.00am Our Lady's

ADVENT HOLY HOUR WITH RECONCILIATION
Tuesday 19th December
7.00pm Our Lady's

Please use this opportunity for individual confessions
"The Lord never tires of forgiving. It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness." Pope Francis

THURSDAY 28TH DECEMBER The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)
10.00am Our Lady's

ADVENT PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord, lend your ear to our prayer. Light up the darkness of our minds with the grace of your loving kindness so that we may prepare worthily for the celebration of the birth of your Son; who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 16TH/17TH DECEMBER 2023 MASS TIMES, SERVICES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Suggested Donation for Newsletter 20p

SATURDAY - VIGIL OF THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	16th	11.00am 5.00pm	HOLY CROSS OUR LADY'S	Confessions Edward Giles RIP
SUNDAY - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY	17th	9.00am 11.00am 2.00pm 4.00pm	HOLY CROSS OUR LADY'S OUR LADY'S HOLY CROSS	People of the Parish Maurice Stanslaus RIP Carol Service Prayers for Vocations (please see note)
MONDAY - ADVENT FERIA	18th			
TUESDAY - ADVENT FERIA	19th	9.30am 7.00pm	OUR LADY'S OUR LADY'S	Margaret Doyle RIP Advent Holy Hour with Reconciliation
WEDNESDAY - ADVENT FERIA	20th	11.00am	HOLY CROSS	Funeral Service for Marguerita Umney RIP
THURSDAY - ADVENT FERIA	21st	9.30am 10.00am	OUR LADY'S OUR LADY'S	Michael Sweeney RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
FRIDAY - ADVENT FERIA	22nd	12.00noon	HOLY CROSS	Ruben Alcantara & Aileen A Alcantara RIP
SATURDAY - VIGIL OF FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	23rd	5.00pm	OUR LADY'S	Mary Ryder RIP
SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	24th	9.00am 11.00am	HOLY CROSS OUR LADY'S	People of the Parish Mrs Jackie Stanslaus RIP
SUNDAY—VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY (SOLEMNITY)	24th	5.00pm	OUR LADY'S	Liam Dowling & Oliver Begley RIP
MONDAY—THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY (SOLEMNITY)	25th	9.00am 11.00am	HOLY CROSS OUR LADY'S	Nicholas Williams RIP Catherine & John Heraghty RIP

MINDFUL MERCIFUL CAFÉ'S
HOLY CROSS will be open again on **Wednesday 27th December at 9.30am** in the meeting room.
OUR LADY'S every **Thursday 10am—12.30pm** in the Parish Hall. **EVERYONE WELCOME.**

<p style="text-align: center;">HOLY CROSS CHURCH—READER December 24th - Paul Glover</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOLY CROSS CHURCH—WELCOMERS December 24th - Dominic Dixon & Lauren Whitehouse</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOLY CROSS CHURCH CLEANING December 24th - Colleen & Rose Cash</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OUR LADY'S CHURCH—READERS Saturday December 23rd - Teresa Doherty Sunday December 24th - Pietro Albano</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OUR LADY'S CHURCH—WELCOMERS Saturday December 23rd - Bev Remm & Noeleen Knight Sunday December 24th - Jason Young & Janet Thornton</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OUR LADY'S CHURCH CLEANING FOR DECEMBER Team D (Anthony, Gloria, Cynthia & Claire) REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS Sunday December 24th—Emmanuel & Nana</p>	<p>A hearing loop system is available in both churches. Please set your hearing aid to 'T' (Telecoil) setting in order for it to work.</p> 
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CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE - OUR LADY'S
Our Lady's are holding their Carol Service this **Sunday 17th December at 2.00pm.**

RECONCILIATION AT OUR CHURCHES
This **Saturday 16th December** Fr Richard will be available in Holy Cross Church from 11.00am to 12.00 noon to hear confession. On **Tuesday 19th December** we will have Holy Hour with Reconciliation in Our Lady's church at 7.00pm. Please use this opportunity to come to the Sacrament of Confession as part of our preparation for Christmas.

MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR FORDE
Parkinson's disease prevents me from writing as well as I could at the moment so though you won't receive a card from me, be assured that you will all be remembered in my prayers at Christmas and beyond. Thank you for all your Christmas good wishes and please be assured of mine.

"I pray that happiness be at your door. May it knock early, stay late and leave a gift of God's peace, love, joy and good health behind".
HOLY CROSS - COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
There will be a collection taken at Sunday morning Mass this weekend for flowers for Christmas.

Your generosity as always is very much appreciated.
PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS AT HOLY CROSS
This will now take place at Michael's house from this Sunday at 4.00pm. If you require a lift please ring 0115 9630925.

HOLY CROSS PETITION FOR CEASEFIRE
We are appealing to our Member of Parliament for Sherwood, through his influence with our Government, to press the Government of Israel to show compassion and arrange a ceasefire for a lasting settlement that is equitable to both sides, with whoever succeeds in representing the Palestinian people in Gaza. The petition for signing will be at the back of church after Mass this weekend. Thank you for your support.

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. A supplementary form will need to be completed for every Catholic school you apply for.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY POPE FRANCIS
Please remember in prayer Pope Francis as he celebrates his 87th birthday this Sunday. May the Lord continue to preserve him and give him strength!

PLEASE PRAY FOR
Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Marguerita Umney RIP** who passed away recently and whose funeral will take place at Holy Cross Church this **Wednesday 20th December at 11am.**

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of **Annie Fleming RIP** who died recently. Funeral details to follow. We remember their families and friends at this difficult time. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

A PLEA FOR WELCOMERS ON A SUNDAY MORNING AT OUR LADY'S.
We now only have 3 teams which makes it very demanding on their time and goodwill. Please think about joining this important Ministry - just a few more volunteers will really help to keep it running smoothly. The more teams we have, the less you will be called upon. Thank you for your support.

A REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER
A reflection from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer: Very often it happens that we do not pray, we don't feel like praying, or many times we pray like parrots, with the mouth, but our heart is not in it. This is the moment to say to the Spirit: "Come, come Holy Spirit, warm my heart. Come and teach me to pray, teach me to look to the Father, to look to the Son. Teach what the path of faith is like. Teach me how to love and, above all, teach me to have an attitude of hope."

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR HOLY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Are you looking for a way to live out your faith and serve your local community at the same time? If so, becoming a foundation governor could be just the thing for you. Holy Cross school is seeking to appoint a new foundation governor. Foundation governors play a vital role in maintaining and developing the Catholic character of our schools. If you are interested or would like more information, please email: julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk

WEEKEND COLLECTION 9TH/10TH DECEMBER; HOLY CROSS £287.50 S/O - £153 OUR LADY'S £584.20 S/O £540
SECOND COLLECTION POOR & NEEDY PARISHES: HOLY CROSS £104.16 OUR LADY'S £112.52

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES: Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell: Bridget Doyle Holy Cross, Hucknall: Rosaleen Walters 07513 725395
Diocesan Safeguarding Contact: Rachel Campion safeguarding@dioceseofnottingham.uk or telephone 0115 9539849