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 Deacon Rev. Martyn Swaby Tel: 07561121724

Parish Secretaries: Mrs Maria Cummins

> Mrs Breege Chapman Tel: 0115 9278403

Tuesday—Thursday 9am to 1pm

holycrosshucknallandourladysbulwell@dioceseofnottingham.uk Parish Email:

Website: www.bulwell-and-bestwood-catholic-churches.org.uk

http://www.holycrosshucknall.org.uk https://facebook.com/bulwellandbestwood Facebook

Hall Booking: holycrosshucknallandourladysbulwell@dioceseofnottingham.uk



SCHOOLS SERVING OUR PARISH:

PRIMARY SCHOOLS:
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell Head Teacher — Mrs. Fiona Wadsle 0115 9150500 St Margaret Clitherow, Bestwood Head Teacher — Mrs Sarah Sweeney McGint 0115 9150296 Holy Cross , Hucknall Head Teacher—Mr Paul Tibble 0115 953457 SECONDARY SCHOOLS Trinity School, Aspley 0115 9296251 Christ The King, Arnold Head Teacher —Miss Jo Love 0115 9556262

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - 27TH/ 28TH DECEMBER 2025 MASS TIMES. SERVICES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Suggested Donation for Newsletter 20p

SATURDAY - VIGIL OF THE HOLY FAMILY (FEAST)	27th	5.00pm 6.00pm	OUR LADY'S OUR LADY'S	Brendan O'Boyle RIP Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help
SUNDAY - THE HOLY FAMILY (FEAST)	28th	9.00am 11.00am	HOLY CROSS OUR LADY'S	C M Joseph RIP Friends of Jesus of Nazareth Community
MONDAY - SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY (BECKET), BISHOP AND MARTYR (FEAST)	29th			
TUESDAY - SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS	30th	6.30pm	OUR LADY'S OUR LADY'S	No Mass Ephphatha Healing Service
WEDNESDAY - SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS	31st		HOLY CROSS	No Mass
THURSDAY - MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (SOLEMNITY)	1st		OUR LADY'S	No Mass
FRIDAY - SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT, AND GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS AND DOCTORS (MEMORIAL)	2nd	7.00pm	OUR LADY'S	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Chaplet
SATURDAY - VIGIL OF SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	3rd	5.00pm	OUR LADY'S	People of the Parish
SUNDAY - SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	4th	9.00am 11.00am	HOLY CROSS OUR LADY'S	Sean Lanigan RIP Maurice Stanslaus RIP

RECONCILIATION - Our Lady's - Saturdays 4.15 - 4.45pm Holy Cross - after Mass on Wednesdays

PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS IN OUR PARISH

HOLY CROSS

FRIENDS OF JESUS OF NAZARETH COMMUNITY

at Our Lady's church - Sunday at 4.00pm.

at Michael Hallam's house Sunday at 4.00pm. If you require a lift please ring 0115 9630925.

If you are unable to attend, you can join in by saying the Rosary and the following prayer to the Holy Spirit in your homes: O Holy Spirit, pull down the barriers and take away those inhibitions that prevent or hold back those whom God the Father has chosen, and whom His Son Jesus has called to follow Him to serve in His Vineyard. Empower them with courage and steadfastness in Faith to respond to His call, to the glory and praise of the Most Holy Trinity.

SCRIPTURE GROUP

The next meeting will now be in the New Year. Dates to be confirmed.

BIBLE STUDY MEETINGS HOLY CROSS

are paused until Tuesday 13th January 2026.



THE LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady's - Every Sunday after 11am Mass. Everyone welcome to join.

WORD OF THE WEEK: FAMILY. Family looks different for everybody and they are a gift from God that provide us with love, support, and belonging. We can find strength and comfort in our families. The Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, give us a powerful example of what family should be, and inspire us to love one another as they did.

Who are the people you call family? Make time for them this week and find an opportunity to be together.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2025

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

During the season of Advent we reflected on the prophecies concerning the coming of the Messiah. We were invited to prepare a way for the Lord in our hearts so that when we celebrated his birth we would be ready to welcome him with true joy.

The Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke present us with the infancy narratives, beginning with the genealogies, situating the birth of Jesus in the context of his human descent. Jesus is true God and true man wholly and entirely, and it is important to recognise his humanity equally with his divinity. Christmas is a time to reflect on the birth of God's only Son and what this means for us. The Word of God became flesh and entered into time and creation which was made through him and for him, laying aside his power and glory to become helpless and defenceless.

This defining event in our history is about trust: not our trust in God, but God's trust in us in the persons of Mary and Joseph, two inexperienced parents (Joseph being the guardian of Jesus) with no material support, alone in an unfamiliar town. God entrusted his only-begotten Son to Mary and Joseph in a world full of danger and peril, born in poverty in a cellar of a stranger's house. The shepherds were the first to hear the good news about the birth of the saviour from the angel. David, the youngest son of Jesse was a shepherd before he was anointed by Samuel as the future King of Israel, and since one of the titles of the Messiah is Son of David, it was

appropriate that the shepherds were the first to welcome Jesus as one of their own.

Whilst St. Matthew and St. Luke concentrate on the human ancestry of Jesus, St. John focusses on his divinity in the prologue of his Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word." St. John makes it clear that the Word was with God and the Word was God, since before the beginning, existing from all eternity, who became flesh and entered the world that had its being through him, unrecognised and unaccepted by his own people, giving power to become children of God to those who did accept him and welcome him. The eternal light has entered the world, and although there is so much darkness in the world, the darkness cannot overcome the light that Jesus brings, a beacon of hope for all people.

> Christmas is a time of peace and joy, a time to reconnect with family and friends. Wishing you and all your loved ones a blessed and joyful Christmas, Fr. Richard.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNON 2026



Registration is now open for all candidates who wish to receive these Sacraments at Holy Cross and Our Lady's Church. Registration forms are available at the back of church and completed forms need to be returned to the parish office by Sunday 11th January 2026. Applications are welcome from baptised Catholics who are in School Year 3 and above. If you have any questions please contact the parish office on 0115 9278403 or email: holycrosshucknallandourladysbulwell@dioceseofnottingham.uk

OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will reopen on **Tuesday 6th January**. Breege and Maria wish everyone a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year.

HUCKNALL MUTUAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR CANCER PATIENTS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS.

The group will run on the final Friday of every month, from 10am until 11.30am in the meeting room at Holy Cross church. The first session will be on Friday 30th January 2026. It's open to anyone who is in cancer treatment now, or has previously been in treatment, or the friends and family of people in that situation. It's an opportunity to share a cuppa with people in a similar situation and offer mutual support, at a time when it can be too difficult to share your feelings in depth with loved ones.

THE PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

which was gifted to the Diocese of Nottingham, is now available to visit homes throughout the year. Individuals and families are welcome to request a visit. For details, please email Abigail (Legion of Mary) at abbieleen@yahoo.com or see Cheryl at St Barnabas Cathedral Nottingham Gift shop. Ave Maria!

EPHPHATHA HEALING SERVICE

This Tuesday 30th December 6.30pm to 8.15pm. Praise and Worship, Adoration, Prayer Ministry and Healing Mass presided over by Fr. John Martin, All welcome.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Thank you for bringing your wonderful children! We are taking a break now until 4th January but a couple of reminders! Did you complete a consent form earlier in the school year? If not, please ask for one. Also, if you are running late, please bring your children to the parish hall as they must be registered every week. Thank you! Phil and the team.

OUR LADY'S 250 CLUB WINNERS

November 2025: 1st No. 224 Mary Wilson, 2nd No. 1 Breege Chapman, 3rd No. 132 Eloise Williams. Please collect your prize from the sacristy. Many thanks.

MINDFUL MERCIFUL CAFÉS

HOLY CROSS will be open again in the New Year in the meeting room.

OUR LADY'S meets every Thursday 10am—12.30pm in the parish hall.

EVERYONE WELCOME.

13TH/14TH DECEMBER

HOLY CROSS £342.64 S/O £233 OUR LADY'S £405.13 S/O £498

COLLECTIONS

HOLY CROSS HEATING FUNDRAISING NOVEMBER COLLECTION £328.80. Total raised to date: £10.250.98.

NEXT SECOND COLLECTION FOR HEATING FUND - SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

READER

Sunday 4th January-Vivien Flynn

WELCOMERS

Sunday 4th January - Nnamdi & Fum Anyameluhor

CHURCH CLEANING

Sunday 4th January - Coleen & Rose Cash

OUR LADY'S CHURCH

READERS Saturday 3rd January - Julie O'Boyle Sunday 4th January - Sister Bakhita

WELCOMERS Saturday 3rd January - Sue Sullivan and Annette Scholes Sunday 4th January - Jason Young and Monica Cassidy **OUR LADY'S CHURCH CLEANING FOR JANUARY**

Team A (Teresa, Maram, Juliana, Chiamaka, Cynthia & Antony) **REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS**

Sunday 4th January - Emmanuel and Nana

Please set your hearing in order for it to work

A hearing loop system is

available in both

churches.



SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell: Bridget Doyle & Chris Reilly Holy Cross, Hucknall: Rosaleen Walters Tel 07513725395 Diocesan Safeguarding Contact: Rachel Campion safeguarding@dioceseofnottingham.uk or telephone 0115 9539849

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