



**The Parish of**  
**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE**  
**CHESTERFIELD and DRONFIELD**

[parishofourladyqueenofpeace.org](http://parishofourladyqueenofpeace.org)

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The Presbytery 2 Spencer Street Chesterfield S40 4SD

Parish Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.30am – 5.00pm, 01246 232686

**Rev. Fr Adrian Tomlinson STL. VF.**  
**PARISH PRIEST**

**Rev. Fr Christopher Ainslie**  
**ASSISTANT PRIEST**

**Third Sunday in Advent: YEAR B:**  
**GAUDATE SUNDAY**  
**17<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**SPREADING CHRISTIAN JOY**

All of us here today believe in Jesus Christ and his unhesitating love for us,  
the source of true, lasting joy.

And yet, often the troubles of life seem to fill our hearts  
with discouragement and sadness.

When that happens, we need to turn back to Christ in prayer,  
to let him remind us that he is with us, guiding us, and loving us.

Often, he permits struggles in our life precisely so that we will come closer to him,  
never giving in to the temptation to base our joy on something temporary and fragile.

But what about those around us who don't have a faith to turn back to?

Some of them have never heard the Gospel –  
they think Christmas is about parties with big punch bowls  
and presents with big credit card debts.

Others used to have faith, but they left it aside.

For them, Advent and Christmas are bittersweet seasons:  
surrounded by so many signs of joy, when they look into their hearts  
they don't find any reason for joy, because they don't know Christ.

God wants to do for them what he has already done for us;  
and he wants us to help him.

In the eight days we have before Christmas, let's commit to doing two things.

First, let's take enough time for personal prayer  
so that we stir up our own Christian joy

- the devil wants to keep us so busy that we can't do that; let's outsmart him.

And second, let's reach out to someone who needs to discover  
the only source of lasting joy:

a deep, personal friendship with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

If we make an effort, putting our little bit of bread onto the altar;

God will work a miracle, just as he is about to do in the sacrifice of this Holy Mass.

## **THE BLESSING OF THE BAMBINELLI** **TODAY AT THE END OF ALL MASSES**

This tradition was first instituted by St. John Paul II. On the Third Sunday of Advent, the children of Rome are encouraged to bring the baby Jesus (Bambinelli) from each of their Nativity sets to St. Peter's Square. Following the Sunday Angelus address, the Pope blesses the figurines.

Now celebrated in thousands of churches around the world, this Advent tradition is a way for all of us to reconnect with the central message of Christmas and the importance of the Crib/Nativity scene in the heart of all our homes, and to connect their Nativity scene at home to the celebration of the Nativity in Church.

### **THANK YOU! CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD THANK YOU!**

*This was an outstanding success and so many people have said how much they enjoyed it. Well done to all who worked so hard to make it happen and all who supported and enjoyed this parish celebration of our diversity and unity. What a gift this was to us all to see and experience the joy of our different cultures coming together to experience the treasures of our lives. Thank you. May God reward you all!*

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION**

Today you have a further opportunity to contribute to the Christmas Flower Collection. There is a button on the Card machines in addition to the baskets at the back of the church

### **CAROLS AND CAKE THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER.**

On **Thursday 28th December**, there will be carols in the Church of the Annunciation for everyone to sing from **5pm**. For those who wish there will be cake and family party games afterwards in the parish centre 5.45pm - 7pm. Come and join other parishioners and, if you wish, children please dress up as a nativity character and adults a nativity headdress.

Suggestions of your 3 favourite carols can be added to the PC suggestion box.

In the book/sheet at the back of church,  
please write your name and number of family attending for cake and games,  
so we have enough cake!

More details from Liz Stead [olqpcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:olqpcouncil@gmail.com)

### **APPEAL FOR READERS AT THE SUNDAY 8.30am MASS**

From January 2024, there will be just three readers – Ministers of the Word – to fulfil this valuable ministry at the 8.30am Mass on Sundays. If you have been thinking about offering your services, please would you consider now doing so? Full support will be given.

If you feel able to join this small group, please contact either of the priests in the sacristy, or the parish office on 01246 232686, or Janet Dillon on 01246 567005. Thank you.

### **JUMBLE SALE SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024 .**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January there will be a jumble sale in the parish centre.

If you have any donations, especially clothes, or if you would like to help out please contact Chris on 01246 229517

### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION & NEW MINISTERS**

There will be a morning of recollection and training for Extraordinary Ministers on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 10.00 – 12.00noon. Please make a note in your Diary!

### **SUNDAY COFFEE MORNINGS**

Each Sunday following 10.00am Mass, teas and coffees will be served in the Annunciation Parish Centre Please do join us.

Any help is greatly appreciated - if you would like to help out please let us know.

## PARISH COUNCIL

Can you find a member of the parish council? Please look out for PC members at the end of Mass during the first 3 weeks of Advent. Their photos at the back of church should help you!

They are there to listen and encourage you to make suggestions as to how together we can strengthen our parish and share our faith (a suggestion box is also at the back of church). We will visit Holy Spirit Church in January, but suggestions welcome now. Contact us by email at [olqpcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:olqpcouncil@gmail.com)

## WARM SPACES AND LIFE LUNCHES

Warm spaces and Life Lunches at The Church of the Holy Spirit, Dronfield every Tuesday.  
Tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits served from 10.30am - 2.00pm.  
Homemade fresh soups served from 12.00noon - 1.30pm.

## CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

First of all, a big thank you to the very many who have responded to our request to make offerings by way of standing order. The response continues to be excellent and details of how to pay by standing order and a mandate are available on our website or from the email address shown below.

As so many no longer have Christmas Offering envelopes, yellow gift envelopes will be available at the back of our Churches over the next few weeks.

These can be used for BOTH gift aid and Non-Gift Aid offerings.

You only need to print your name on the envelope if you are an existing Gift Aider and we will match these to our Gift Aid records.

Complete all the details **but only add your signature** if you wish the offering to be gift aided.

Peter Sharp: [pete@pasharp.co.uk](mailto:pete@pasharp.co.uk)

## CHRISTMAS FOODBANK APPEAL.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to the Foodbank Christmas Appeal. We collected an amazing **473.5 kg! This equals 1127 meals, feeding 375 people 3 meals each.**

Your generosity, and that of the parishioners who support the Foodbank by cash donations or standing order, truly shows our faith in action.

God bless you all,  
Lisa Eustace

## CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

Donations are urgently needed to help support aid workers providing vital humanitarian aid including food, water, medical care and emergency shelter to those in need. Donations can be made via the parish website (under the News menu) or via the contactless terminals in the Annunciation Church. Please continue to keep those affected by this crisis in your prayers.

## PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSING

Please note that the parish office will close for Christmas on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 5.00pm and will not reopen until Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am.

A priest will be available for Funeral arrangements and Sacrament of the Sick (Last Rites)

## YOUR COLLECTION OFFERING

**Are you Giving in Cash?**

**Could you give that amount with your Debit Card using the Contactless machines at the Back of Annunciation Church?**

**Even better by weekly or monthly Standing Order?**

*Please be aware that if you are eligible for Gift-Aid, you only need to enter your details in the contactless terminals once, thereafter they will be remembered and applied every time you donate using the same card. Similarly, if you're in a rush, you can enter your Gift-Aid details in the terminals or via the parish website at any time and any previous donations will have the Gift-Aid applied.*

## LITURGY TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<p>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p> <p><b>1.00pm Annunciation</b></p>	<p>Beryl Moore</p> <p><b>Requiem Mass for Rosaria Iannantuono</b></p>
<p>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>9.30am Holy Spirit</p> <p>12.00 noon Annunciation</p>	<p>Intentions of David Crackenall</p> <p>Michael Collins</p>
<p>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>7.30am Chesterfield Royal Hospital</p> <p>11.00am</p> <p>12.00noon Annunciation</p> <p><i>6pm until finished</i></p>	<p>Private Intention</p> <p><i>Exposition and Confessions</i></p> <p>James Edward Galloway</p> <p><i>Confessions</i></p>
<p>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December</p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p>	<p>Fredrico Humar (SVP)</p>
<p>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</p>	<p><b>9.30am Annunciation</b></p> <p><b>1.00pm Holy Spirit</b></p>	<p>Patricia McCann</p> <p><b>Requiem Mass of Gillian Margaret Trigg</b></p>
<p>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</p> <p><b>VIGIL MASS</b></p>	<p>11.00am Convent</p> <p><i>4.30pm Holy Spirit</i></p> <p>5.00pm Holy Spirit</p>	<p>Private Intention</p> <p><i>Rosary and Confessions</i></p> <p>Eileen Foley (née Flanagan)</p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> <b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b> 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent: Year B</p>	<p>8.30am Annunciation</p> <p>10.00am Annunciation</p>	<p>Gambetta Family</p> <p>The People of the Parish</p>
<p><b>Vigil Masses of the Nativity of the Lord</b></p>	<p>4.00pm Annunciation</p> <p>5.00pm Holy Spirit</p> <p>6.00pm Annunciation</p> <p>8.00pm Annunciation</p>	<p>VIGIL MASS</p> <p>VIGIL MASS</p> <p>VIGIL MASS</p> <p>MASS DURING THE NIGHT</p>