



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

parishofourladyqueenofpeace.org

annunciationchesterfield@gmail.com

The Presbytery 2 Spencer Street Chesterfield S40 4SD

Parish Office Hours: Closed until Thursday 4th January 2024

01246 232686

Rev. Fr Adrian Tomlinson STL. VF.
PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Fr Christopher Ainslie
ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fourth Sunday of Advent YEAR B
24th December 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

These past few years have brought with them more than their fair share of challenges and difficulties.

The wars in Ukraine and the Holy Land, cost of Living crisis and the ongoing fear of disease continues to be of challenge and change, which are neither comforting or easy.

For some the change has once again been more immediate,
the pain of a closing church and dispersing community.

For others, it is the reality of changes yet to come which must be embraced.

But change has arrived for us all in one degree or another.

We are one family. There is no “us and them” - there is just *one community*, with one goal,
the Praise of the One True God and the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ
faithful to the teaching of the Church.

The majority of us wish to take the wealth of past experience and build a future
that uses our history and our present to be the best we can be for the future.

When the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary her Virgin Motherhood, her life was changed. When Joseph learned his intended wife was pregnant by the Holy Spirit, his life changed. When Christ was born in Bethlehem, Shepherds and Wise Men had their lives changed beyond recognition and forever. When Herod slaughtered the innocents, trying to kill the Messiah, families were changed forever. When Jesus grew and entered the lives of those who professed a belief in Him, their lives were changed forever.

When He died and rose from the dead, the world was changed forever.

“Jesus Christ the same Yesterday, Today and Forever” the author of the Hebrews tells us. He alone is unchanging, and for us every change is to make ourselves and those around us more into the image and likeness of the God who made us: A God of mercy and love, who calls us to a unity of purpose
so that we may be one in Him, through Him and with Him,

so that the world may come to know Him, who is the one and only salvation.

The past is familiar, unchangeable and comfortable. The future is strange, unpredictable and challenging.

But the future is where Jesus leads us, He stands at the door and says, “Follow me!”

He does not say where or how, only “Follow me.”

So, we who profess to believe in Christ must follow where He leads.

We, like the Shepherds and the Wise men of the Christmas Story, must leave behind the trusty and familiar and encounter a new born King, who will change our lives forever.

With confidence then, in the providence and unending love of Christ for His Church, we step into the future holding firmly the hand of Jesus. Let us Journey with the Our Lady, Mother and Queen of Peace, who knew change and uncertainty, but who never lost faith or trust in God’s promise.

**On behalf of your Priests may we wish you all a very
Blessed and Holy Christmas and May God Bless you always**

LITURGY TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<p>Monday 25th December</p> <p><i>NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</i></p>	<p>8.00am Annunciation</p> <p>9.30am Annunciation</p> <p>11.00am Annunciation</p> <p><i>4.00pm Holy Spirit</i></p> <p><i>6.30pm Annunciation</i></p>	<p>DAWN MASS</p> <p>MASS OF THE DAY</p> <p>MASS OF THE DAY (In Latin)</p> <p>SYRO-MALABAR RITE MASS</p> <p><i>MASS in POLISH</i></p>
<p>Tuesday 26th December St Stephen Proto-Martyr</p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p>	<p>Moira Dillon</p>
<p>Wednesday 27th December St John Apostle</p>	<p>10.00am Holy Spirit</p>	<p>Fred & Mary Dawson</p>
<p>Thursday 28th December The Holy Innocents</p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p>	<p>David Finn</p>
<p>Friday 29th December St Thomas of Canterbury</p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p>	<p>Lauretta Risorto</p>
<p>Saturday 30th December Vigil Mass</p>	<p>5.00pm Holy Spirit</p>	<p>John Phynn</p>
<p>Sunday 31st December</p> <p>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH</p>	<p>8.30am Annunciation</p> <p>10.00am Annunciation</p> <p><i>3.00pm Annunciation</i></p> <p>5.00pm Annunciation</p>	<p>Dresund Heidline</p> <p>The People of the Parish</p> <p><i>Polish Mass</i></p> <p>Frank Yates</p>

**The Parish Office closed for Christmas on
Friday 22nd December. It will reopen at 9.30am Thursday 4th January.
A priest will be available for the Last Rites
and Funeral arrangements Only**

LITURGY TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Monday 1st January 2024 SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD	10.00am Annunciation	People of the Parish
Tuesday 2nd January St Basil & St Gregory	9.30am Holy Spirit	Intentions of J P Jenkinson
Wednesday 3rd January The Holy Name of Jesus	7.30am <i>Hospital Chapel</i> 12.00noon Annunciation	Private Intention Intentions of Meave Walsh (Recovery)
Thursday 4th January	12.00noon Annunciation	Ruth Bleakley
Friday 5th January	12.00noon Annunciation	Requiem Mass for Kathleen Cooper
Saturday 6th January Vigil Mass	11.00am Convent 5.00pm Holy Spirit	Private Intention Fr Michael Beattie
Sunday 7th January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	8.30am Annunciation 10.00am Annunciation 5.00pm Annunciation	Patrick & Shelia Crean Sue Hancock The People of the Parish

*Your prayers are asked for all who have recently died.
 May they rest in peace and may the bereaved be comforted and consoled.
 We pray also for all in hospital and all sick and housebound*

JUMBLE SALE SATURDAY 6th JANUARY 2024 .

Saturday 6th 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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

The First Holy Communion Programme, for children who have already registered, will begin on
Saturday 13th January 2024.
 The classes will take place upstairs in the Parish Centre 9.30 - 11.30am

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.

1. They can be used by everyone and not just those who Gift Aid.
2. If you Gift Aid please print your name and address on the envelope (this enables us to match the records.)
3. If you wish to Gift Aid this offering only then please fully complete and SIGN the envelope

Peter Sharp: pete@pasharp.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE: AN OPTION IS AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS ON THE PAYMENT TERMINALS AT THE ANNUNCIATION CHURCH.

CAROLS AND CAKE THURSDAY 28th 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 that we can ensure we have enough cake!

More details from Liz Stead olqpcouncil@gmail.com

PARISH LUNCH GROUP

The next meeting of the lunch group is on Tuesday 9th January at 1pm at the Olde House. To help with seating arrangements please let Irene know by Friday 5th January if you are planning on coming. For further information please contact Irene O'Donnell: 07941 049 158 or on Parish Lunch Group WhatsApp. Thank you!

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.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION & NEW MINISTERS

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

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

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.