



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

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The Presbytery 2 Spencer Street Chesterfield S40 4SD

Parish Office is CLOSED until Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

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

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

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
**25<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**The Wise Men**

Church nativity scenes come in all shapes sizes states of disrepair and number of figures. The nativity scene in one of my previous parishes was one such unique collection. Why? It did not have any figures of the Kings. It was a very old set of figures, making it difficult to find a set to match. After years of searching, a set of kings in the correct dimensions was found by a supplier. After some restoration and repainting, for the first time in a very long time, the Nativity scene was complete. However, on Christmas morning, a lady expressed concern upon seeing the scene. "Father," she exclaimed "I am not sure that is an accurate scene anymore. Somewhat bemused I asked "Why?" She responded, "Because we don't have wise men in our parish."

Well maybe not in that parish, but this last year in this parish, I have been privileged to work alongside three wise men whose fidelity and support have been my rock. I am of course speaking of Fathers Michael Beattie, Roy Pannell and Sean Smith.

These three wise men have provided us all with unfailing wisdom and sacramental support in the huge parish in which we all partake. They have provided me with constant support and wisdom and have been a source of consolation in these sometimes very dark and hard last 11 months.

They embody for us all that we are a Eucharistic Church of Priest and People together. That the Priesthood of the Ordained and the Baptised are co-workers in the vineyard of the Lord and each have vital and distinct ministries to advance the Kingdom of God.

As we celebrate our first real post Pandemic Christmas, I wish to pay tribute to these three wise men who have journeyed constantly to see the face of the Christ child and to make Him manifest to all. Praised be the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, for their fidelity and their fortitude and continuing example. They remind us all of the unique and central importance of the Ordained Priesthood in the life of our Universal Church and how much we need to promote and treasure this Gift of Christ, His enduring presence in the "*Alter Christus*" the dispenser of His Word and Sacrament throughout our lives.

I think that one of the greatest thanks we can offer them is the resolution to be ever more faithful to our practice of the faith, attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy days. To regular confession and living a truly Catholic Life and witness in our homes our schools and our places of work and play. They could be enjoying a carefree and leisurely retirement, instead they stand with us and for us at the altar, so that the sacraments of God maybe celebrated and the people of God may be fed.

***On behalf of all your priests,***  
***may we wish you a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and a joyful and faith filled New year.***

## **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. Otherwise 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)

## **CHESTERFIELD FOODBANK ADVENT APPEAL**

Many thanks to everyone who has collected food for Chesterfield Foodbank over Advent. We can collect your gifts from Wednesday, December 28th.

Please text Lisa on 07583391823 AFTER Christmas to arrange a drop-off/pickup. There is still time to collect the following items if you are able:

TINNED MEAT, TINNED FISH, TINNED FRUIT, RICE PUDDING,  
SMALL PACKETS OF BISCUITS, SMALL PACKETS OF CEREAL,  
250g PACKETS OF RICE, SPONGE PUDDINGS,  
PACKETS OF MASHED POTATO, 100g BARS OF CHOCOLATE

Thanks again for being Christ's hands on Chesterfield: wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. God bless, Lisa Eustace and Mary Platts

## **DRONFIELD LIFE LUNCHES**

Please note, there will not be a Life Lunch at Holy Spirit Church on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December

These will resume on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to all the members of our parishes who contribute to the life of our community throughout the year. Service takes many forms and a non-exhaustive list includes: servers & sacristans, organists & singers, reading & ministering, church cleaning & laundering, children's' liturgy & sacramental preparation, piety stall, maintaining websites, grounds & buildings, florists, supporting our schools, the SVP & the sick and the housebound...in short, those who work and serve in anyway.

We have space and capacity for so many more!!

## LITURGY TIMES AND INTENTIONS

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| <b>Monday</b><br><b>26<sup>th</sup> December</b>   | 12.00noon<br>Annunciation  | Moira & Gerard Dillon   |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>27<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><br>St John Evangelist                            | 12.00noon<br>Annunciation<br>3.00pm<br>Holy Family                           | May Ruth Bleakley<br><br><b>Polish Mass</b>                         |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>28<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><br>Holy Innocents                              | 12.00noon<br>Annunciation  | Veronica Baggott  |
| <b>Thursday</b><br><b>29<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><br>St Thomas Becket                             | 12.00noon<br>Annunciation  | Private Intention   |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>30<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><br>Feast of the Holy Family                       | 12.00noon<br>Holy Family   | Private Intention   |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>31<sup>st</sup> December</b><br><br>Vigil Masses                                 | 11.00am<br>Convent<br><br>5.00pm<br>Holy Spirit<br><br>6.30pm<br>Holy Family | Denise O'Sullivan<br><br>Private Intention<br><br>Private Intention |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>1<sup>st</sup> January 2023</b><br><br><b>SOLEMNITY OF MARY,<br/>MOTHER OF GOD</b> | 8.30am<br>Annunciation<br><br>10.00am<br>Annunciation                        | People of the Parish<br><br>The Unborn<br><br><i>No 5pm Mass</i>    |

### PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve until Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.**

Please note all non-urgent emails and phone calls will be dealt with once the office reopens.

Fr Adrian will be available for Last Rites and Funeral appointments. We pray and hope that you too will have a peaceful and a happy Christmas break from the routine and pressures of normal life,

## LITURGY TIMES AND INTENTIONS

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| <b>Monday</b><br><b>2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>   | 12.00noon<br>Annunciation  | Cherly   |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>  | 9.30am<br>Holy Spirit<br><br>12.00noon<br>Annunciation   | Herbert Sykes<br><br><b>Requiem Mass for<br/>Celina Rodrigues</b>  |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> January</b>  | 7.30am<br>Hospital<br><br><i>11am – 11.45am<br/>Annunciation</i><br><br>12.00noon<br>Annunciation  | For Patients and Staff<br><br><i>Confessions</i><br><br>Mary Holian  |
| <b>Thursday</b><br><b>5<sup>th</sup> January</b>   | 9.30am<br>Holy Family<br><br>12.00noon<br>Annunciation   | Yorkshire Brethren<br><br><b>Requiem Mass for<br/>John Kennelly</b>  |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>6<sup>th</sup> January</b><br><br>Solemnity of the Epiphany          | 12.00noon<br>Annunciation  | Intentions of the SVP Society  |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>7<sup>th</sup> January</b><br><br>Vigil Masses                     | 11.00am<br>Convent<br><br>4.30pm<br>Holy Spirit<br><br>5.00pm<br>Holy Spirit<br><br><i>5.00pm<br/>Holy Family</i><br><br>6.30pm<br>Holy Family | Sr Catherine Maguire<br><br><i>Confessions</i><br><br>Private Intention<br><br>Holy Hour and Confessions<br>(pre-arranged)<br><br>People of the Parish |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>8<sup>th</sup> January</b><br><br><b>THE BAPTISM<br/>OF THE LORD</b> | 8.30am<br>Annunciation<br><br>10.00am<br>Annunciation<br><br>5.00pm<br>Annunciation  | Susan Fomin<br><br>Andrew Langen<br><br>Zach Wall  |