

First Sunday of Advent

Parish of The Most Holy and Undivided Trinity
The Catholic Church in
Grimsby, Cleethorpes & Immingham



Contact Us

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(Admin & Finance)

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Newsletter



Today on the First Sunday of Advent, we enter that four-week Season with which a new liturgical year begins and that immediately prepares us for the Feast of Christmas, the memorial of the Incarnation of Christ in history. Yet, the spiritual message of Advent is more profound and already orients us to the glorious return of the Lord at the end of our history. Adventus is the Latin word that could be translated by “arrival”, “coming” or “presence”. In the language of the ancient world it was a technical term that indicated the arrival of an official, and especially the visit of kings or emperors to the provinces, but it could also be used for the appearance of a divinity, which emerged from its hidden dwelling place and thus manifested its divine power; its presence was solemnly celebrated with worship.

By using this term, “Advent”, Christians wanted to express the special relationship that bound them to the Crucified and Risen Christ. He is a King who, having entered this poor province called earth, made us the gift of his visit and after his Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven desired in any case to stay with us; we perceive his mysterious presence in the liturgical assembly. Indeed, in celebrating the Eucharist, we proclaim that he did not withdraw from the world, that he did not leave us alone and, even though we cannot see and touch him as with material and tangible realities, he is in any case with us and among us. Indeed, he is in us, because he can attract to himself and communicate his life to every believer who opens his/her heart to him. Thus, Advent means commemorating the first coming of the Lord in the flesh, with his definitive return already in mind, and, at the same time, it means recognizing that Christ present in our midst makes himself our travelling companion in the life of the Church who celebrates his mystery.

Homily excerpt of Pope Benedict XVI, 30 November, 2008

Sanctuary Lamps

Immingham

Sick & Housebound

Cleethorpes

Welfare of the Homeless

Grimsby

Welfare of Polish Community

Parish Office Hours

Holy Trinity Presbytery
Grimsby, DN32 9DZ
01472 342301

Monday,
Tuesday & Wednesday
9.00am until 12.30pm
Outside of these times the office
will not be available.

Fr Robbie's Friday Spiritual Surgery

Holy Trinity Presbytery
Grimsby, DN32 9DZ
01472 342301

Each Friday Morning
by Appointment Only
via the Parish Office

Appointment Times Available:
9.00am, 10.00am and 11.00am

Parish Finances Last Week

Thank you for your generosity
to the work of the Church!
In your Will, please remember
your Church.

Loose Plate	£230.20
Contactless	£111.00
S/Orders	£ 1,156.17
Total	£1,497.37

Sign up for the Parish Bulletin



Sanitising Hands

Please continue to exercise
personal and social
responsibility by sanitising
your hands when entering and
leaving the church. This
should continue through the
winter. If you are feeling
unwell or tested positive for
covid or the flu/cold, please
stay home and celebrate Mass
online to slow the spread to
others. Thank you

News for the Pews

Emily McCullagh (National Strategic Safeguarding Advisor) - **Safeguarding Refresher Training** - I would like to thank Emily and the Parish Safeguarding Team, for providing, in their own time, this vital refresher training. I thank all of you for attending one of the sessions, which mean that we continue to take safeguarding in our three churches, one parish, seriously, and we are committed to the safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults - as well as following best practice for ourselves and visitors alike. **Fr Robbie**

Ad Memoriam - Bishop Patrick was saddened to hear of the death, on Tuesday 18th November, of **Sister Perpetua Crerand pbvm**, who died peacefully at the Mercy Care Centre in Derby after almost 75 years of faithful service to her Lord. Sister Perpetua was born in Longford, Ireland, and joined the Presentation Sisters in Buxton, making her First Profession in 1950. She trained as an infant teacher, teaching across our Diocese in Market Harborough, Buxton, Shirebrook, Glossop and Scunthorpe, as well as spending two years in Nigeria. On retiring, Sister undertook parish ministry as well as working with those with special needs in various places in the Diocese. May the Good Lord receive her gentle soul and may Sister Perpetua rest in peace.

We pray also for the happy repose of the soul of **Bishop Thomas McMahon, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood**, who died on Monday 24th November at the age of 89. An obituary from the Diocese of Brentwood is attached.

The Estate of the late Thomas Valentine (Val) Walsh RIP - We have been deeply moved this past week, by Val's act of generosity towards his parish in his Last Will and Testament. A most generous gift to the parish has been received from his daughters (executors) on his behalf. I know Val has also beneficed support to other Catholic charities in his Will, which he has supported over many years, including a donation to the Diocese of Nottingham. May I sincerely thank Val for thinking of his parish in a legacy of support. I shall also for the next 25 years place the celebration of holy Mass for the repose of his soul, that of his wife Grace and also of their son Philip, each year on the 16th February, which was Val's birthday. **Fr Robbie**



Saturday Holy Hour & Confessions - Will permanently move to Corpus Christi Church, Cleethorpes each week, from Saturday 6th December 2025. Please note that there will be **no Saturday Holy Hour & Confessions on 29th November 2025**.

30th November is usually St Andrew's Day - We send our prayers to Fr Andrew

Would you like to join the Catholic Church as an Adult? Beginning in November Fr Robbie and his team of Catechists will be running a formation course. The journey will teach you all aspects of the faith in an enjoyable manner – leading to you being received into the Church at Easter 2026. **Please contact the Parish Office, even if you completed a 'Journey in Faith' form previously.**

Parish Finance Administration

As you are aware Duncan had been asked previously, by Fr Andrew, to temporarily take on Finance Administration, and agreed to do so.

He has agreed to make this arrangement permanent.

I have agreed with Duncan that he is available for Parishioners during office opening hours, but that outside of this time he needs to be able to focus and prioritise finance and gift aid, implementing the recommendations of our most recent end of year audit.

In light of this, please do contact Duncan, in the parish office, regarding any questions or queries in relation to, expenses, bookkeeping, gift aid, standing orders and/or legacies moving forward.

Thank you - Fr Robbie



Help lift a life

CAN YOU HELP LIFT A LIFE THIS CHRISTMAS AND BEYOND?

Families are being pulled down by financial pressures and real poverty. We're asking supporters to help lift them up – with warmth, dignity, food, comfort, connection.

<https://svp.org.uk/>

News for the Pews

Parish Christmas Draw

Thank you so much to Patrick and his Team of Merry Elves, that ran the Parish Christmas Prize Draw on Saturday. Congratulations to all who won prizes and for all the funds that were raised to support your parish. Thank you to those who ran stalls and folded tickets and donated prizes. Thank you to those who served tea & coffee.

Parish Christmas Lunch

Sunday 14th December at The Humber Royal Hotel at 12.30pm

A Three Course Lunch at £22.50 per Adult & £15.00 for Under 14s

Raffle – Jumper Parade – Quiz

(Bookings to be paid for by **THIS SUNDAY** 30th November please)



Christmas Calendar

Wednesday 17th December - 6.30pm

Carols by Candlelight

Festive Mince Pie and Mulled Wine at Cleethorpes

Wednesday 24th December - 5.30pm

Mass of Christmas Eve - Cleethorpes

Wednesday 24th December - 8.30pm

Mass of Christmas Night - Grimsby

Thursday 25th December - 9.00am

Mass of Christmas Dawn - Immingham

Thursday 25th December - 11.00am

Mass of Christmas Day - Grimsby



Sick Housebound Visit Request - for Fr Robbie to visit those who are Sick or Housebound during the first three weeks of Advent.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone Number:

Person Requesting: Actual Person/Relative/Friend (please circle)

Your Name:

Mobile No:

All who use this request form **must** have the permission of the person named or if that person is sick or confused, you **must** provide Fr Robbie with the person's Relative/Next of Kin/Guardian for Safeguarding.

Name:

Telephone Number:

Please hand this request only to Fr Robbie directly for confidentiality

Please hand this slip to Fr Robbie a.s.a.p.



Our Schools

**St Marys Catholic Primary
Voluntary Academy**
Wellington Street
Grimsby
DN32 7JX

Mr Joseph O'Connor
Headteacher

Tel: 01472 357982
office@smp.nelcmail.co.uk

**St Joseph's Catholic
Voluntary Academy**
Philip Avenue
Cleethorpes
DN35 9DL

Mrs Michelle Steeper
Acting Headteacher

01472 690672
office@sjp.academy

Our Hospital

**Diana, Princess of Wales
Hospital**
Scarcho Road
Grimsby
North East Lincolnshire
DN33 2BA
01472 874111

Parish Safeguarding Team

Richard Mellows
(lead)
&

Sarah Pollard
(deputy lead)
01472 342301 (ext 6)

safeguarding
@holyltrinitygci.uk

richard.mellowspr
@dioceseofnottingham.uk
07513 725509

sarah.pollardpsr
@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Sunday: Yr. A - Weekday: Cycle II

Eucharistic Prayer: II - Psalter: I

Saturday 29th November - Feria

*** No Adoration or Confession ***

10.30-11.30am - Safeguarding Refresher Training Cleethorpes
THIS IS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS (in Corpus Christi Church)

12.00pm - 2.00pm - Parish Christmas Draw - All Welcome



5.00pm - Immingham - Vigil Mass - Lorenzina Auckland RIP - Karin Lund

6.00pm - Grimsby - Polish Language Vigil Mass

Sunday 30th November - First Sunday of Advent

9.00am - **Cleethorpes** - Mass - People of God

11.00am - **Grimsby** - Mass - Pat Corr RIP & Welfare of Corr Family - T
Watson

Monday 1st December - Advent FERIA

No Mass/No Service

Tuesday 2nd December - Advent FERIA

9.00am - Grimsby - Mass - Julie Overton RIP - David and Marylin

11.30am - Deanery Meeting - Woodhall Spa

6.45pm - Grimsby - Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday 3rd December - Saint Francis Xavier, priest

9.00am - Immingham - Rosary

9.30am - Immingham - Mass - Wellbeing of Rosan Corin - Gaughan Family

4.00pm - Grimsby - Reception of Joan Bampton RIP

5.45pm - Grimsby - Eucharistic Adoration with Confessions

6.30pm - Grimsby - Mass - Anne & Ronnie Gardner RIP - Shirley Gardner

7.30pm - Grimsby - Catenian Circle Meeting (Guest Fr Robbie)

Thursday 4th December - Advent FERIA

10.30am - Grimsby - Requiem Mass Joan Bampton RIP

6.00pm - Grimsby Hebrew Congregation Talk (Guest Fr Robbie)

7.00pm - Grimsby - Parish Finance Committee

Friday 5th December - Advent FERIA

2.15pm - Funeral Service - John Healey RIP - Grimsby Crematorium

5.45pm - Cleethorpes - Eucharistic Adoration with Confessions

6.30pm - Cleethorpes - Mass - Mary Linfit - Mark Linfitt

Saturday 6th December - Advent FERIA

10.00am - Holy Hour in Cleethorpes

10.00am until Noon - Confessions in Cleethorpes

5.00pm - Immingham - Vigil Mass - Edward Owen McMahon RIP -
Pauline McMahon

6.00pm - Grimsby - Polish Language Vigil Mass

Sunday 7th December - Second Sunday of Advent

9.00am - **Cleethorpes** - Mass - People of God

11.00am - **Grimsby** - Mass - For all Deceased SVP Beneficiaries &
Vincentians

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Right Reverend Thomas McMahon, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood Diocese**, who died peacefully at his home in Stock at 10 am this morning. May he rest in peace.



Bishop Thomas McMahon, the sixth and to date the longest-serving Bishop of Brentwood, was born at Dorking, Surrey, on 17 June 1936. An identical twin, he was born of Irish parents who had emigrated to England and had three older siblings. His father was a building surveyor and owing to employment in various parts of the country, his twin sons were educated as boarders at St Bede's College, Manchester. Meanwhile, the future bishop's parents moved to Old Harlow, thus beginning his association with the Diocese of Brentwood. In 1954 Thomas McMahon was accepted as a student for the priesthood by Bishop Beck and entered the Seminary of Saint-Sulpice, Paris. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Wall at St John's Seminary, Womersley, on 28 November 1959.

His first appointment as an assistant priest was at St James the Less & St Helen, Colchester (1959-1964) followed by Our Lady Help of Christians & St Helen, Westcliff-on-Sea (1964-1969). At Westcliff his first parish priest was Canon Thomas Bishop, who had been the first priest ordained for the Diocese of Brentwood on its formation in 1917. On 6 August 1969 Bishop Wall appointed Father McMahon as Parish Priest of Stock. He arrived there on 30 August and at the time of his death had been parish priest of Stock for no less than 56 years. At Stock he was responsible for re-ordering the Church of Our Lady & St Joseph and establishing a Parish Council. He also developed many ecumenical links, both nationally and locally – he was appointed to the Brentwood Diocesan Ecumenical Commission (becoming Chairman in 1979) and to the National Ecumenical Commission of the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales. Likewise, his interest in liturgy was marked by his appointment as a Consultant to the Brentwood Diocesan Liturgical Commission, the editing of a missal for altar servers and the publication of *The Mass Explained* (1977). He was also Editor of the Brentwood Diocesan Directory (1973-1978). Moreover, in 1972 Father McMahon was appointed as Catholic Chaplain to the University of Essex. Every Sunday in term-time, in addition to his duties at Stock, he would travel to Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, to celebrate Mass at midday. During the week he would return to the campus to minister to students and staff.

On 12 December 1979 Bishop Casey resigned as Bishop of Brentwood and accepted the office of Administrator Apostolic while awaiting the appointment of a successor. On 17 June 1980 it was announced that Father Thomas McMahon had been appointed as the sixth Bishop of Brentwood. It also happened to be his 44th birthday on day the news was made public. His episcopal ordination took place at St Helen's Cathedral, Brentwood, on 16 July with Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, as the principal consecrator, assisted by Bishop Casey and Bishop Burke (Auxiliary of Salford), who had taught the new bishop when the latter had been a pupil at St Bede's College). Bishop McMahon decided to remain as Parish priest of Stock and to live there since the presbytery (re-named Bishop's House and subsequently extended) was more central to the diocese than Bishop's House, South Woodford E18. In 1983 the diocesan offices were moved from South Woodford to Cathedral House, Brentwood, utilizing part of, and adding to, the former Convent of Mercy adjacent to the Cathedral. Throughout the whole of his episcopal ministry of nearly thirty-four years, Bishop McMahon maintained his pastoral ministry at Stock, celebrating Mass there when free of diocesan commitments, holding meetings of the Parish Council, visiting the sick and officiating at weddings and funerals.

As a bishop his national and international responsibilities included membership of the International Commission for English in the Liturgy (ICEL), on which he represented the Bishops of England & Wales on the Episcopal Board and the chairmanship of the Pastoral Liturgy Committee of the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales (1983-1997), followed from 2001 by chairing the Patrimony Committee. He also served as Chairman of the Bishops' Music Committee (1985-2001). He acted as patron of several groups and societies, including Vice-President of Pax Christi (appointed in 1987). He was a founder member of the Movement for Christian Democracy. Ecumenically, he maintained very close links with successive Anglican Bishops of Chelmsford, as well as being a member of the London Church Leaders' Group and serving as Chairman of the Essex Churches' Consultative Council (1984-1993). In 2004 he was elected as an Honorary Fellow of Hertford College, Oxford, and an Honorary Canon of Chelmsford Cathedral. His involvement in the life and affairs of the County of Essex was recognised when he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Essex (1991) and elected as President of the Essex Show (1992). He was also a member of the Court of the Universities of Essex and East London, and held an Honorary Doctorate from Anglia Polytechnic (now Anglia Ruskin) University.

Within the Diocese of Brentwood itself he will be remembered for initiating and supporting many developments during his long episcopal ministry, including the liturgical re-ordering of nearly every ecclesiastical building, the establishment of a twinning arrangement with the Diocese of Dundee in South Africa, which he visited on several occasions, the formation of various diocesan commissions, a Diocesan Pastoral Centre and a Diocesan House of Prayer.

Perhaps his most lasting achievement, however, was the building of a new cathedral at Brentwood, commissioning the architect Quinlan Terry to execute the work. The Cathedral of St Mary & St Helen was solemnly dedicated by cardinal Hume on 31 May 1991. It was the first cathedral to be built in the classical style since Wren's St Paul's in London. He also inaugurated the Cathedral & Choral Trust to provide funding for the musical tradition which since his appointment to Brentwood he had promoted; and in 2000 extended the Choir School which earlier he had established. In June 2001 he had the joy of welcoming HRH Prince Charles to visit the cathedral. Bishop McMahon celebrated his episcopal Silver Jubilee in 2005 and (during the coronavirus lockdown) kept his Ruby Jubilee in 2020. He submitted his resignation to Pope Benedict XVI in June 2011 but it was not until 14 April 2014 that his successor was appointed. Bishop McMahon will be remembered not only for his longevity as a bishop but also for the dedication and enthusiasm which he brought to the various facets of his ministry, for his unstinting pastoral visitation of his diocese and, especially after his retirement, for his generosity as a speaker on spiritual themes. Requiescat in pace.

Yours in Christ & Mary,

+Alan, sm



BISHOP'S HOUSE
27 CAVENDISH ROAD EAST
THE PARK
NOTTINGHAM NG7 1BB

0115 947 4786

bishop@dioceseofnottingham.uk

November 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we enter this holy season of Advent, a time of joyful hope and preparation for the coming of our Saviour, I write to commend to you the **Inter Care Advent Appeal**. As many of you are aware I am a longstanding patron of Inter Care and have been fortunate enough to see at first hand the impact this charity can have during my visit to Tanzania in 2022. I have seen how it enables rural clinics to treat preventable and curable illnesses, and how it transforms lives by restoring health, dignity, and hope.

Inter Care, based in Syston, Leicestershire, is a small but remarkable charity dedicated to sharing the gift of health and healing with our brothers and sisters in Sub-Saharan Africa. The charity collects and recycles surplus medical supplies from across the UK and sends them to rural health clinics in Malawi, Tanzania, and Sierra Leone. These supplies are given entirely free of charge, allowing local clinics to offer healthcare at no cost just as we are blessed to receive care through our NHS.

This Advent, Inter Care is aiming to raise £20,000 through a special match-funding campaign, which means that every pound you donate will be doubled, making your gift go twice as far in saving lives and easing suffering.

I therefore warmly invite you to support the Advent Appeal for Inter Care, through your prayers, your generosity, and by encouraging others in your parish and community to take part. Your support will help ensure that more people can live healthy and fulfilling lives.

May this season of Advent renew in each of us a spirit of compassion and love for our neighbour.

With every good wish and gratitude for anything you can give,

Rt Rev Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham

YOUNG ADULTS / 18-35s

Christmas Party

Holy Mass followed by party drinks
and nibbles (+party games!)

Sun | 14 | Dec | 2PM

Saint Mary's Catholic
Church, Derby

Follow @dioceseofnottinghamyoungadults on instagram!



The
Catholic
Diocese of
Nottingham

JOIN OUR TEAM

Parish Bookkeeper

Based at: St Hugh's House, 1 Castle Quay, Nottingham, NG7 1FW. Post holder will be required to work at any other DCO location.

Purpose of role: The Parish Bookkeeper is responsible for supporting parishes across the Diocese of Nottingham with the maintenance of accurate accounting and Gift Aid records in line with diocesan requirements.

This new role will provide a professional bookkeeping service that parishes can draw upon directly. Where parishes do not engage with the service and fall behind in meeting essential obligations—such as entering data into OPAS, completing bank reconciliations, and administering Gift Aid—the Parish Bookkeeper will be deployed to clear backlogs and restore compliance.

Hours of work: 37.5 hours per week

Rate: Circa £27k – £30k depending on experience

Apply by: Monday 1st December 2025 9AM

To apply please complete the application form which can be found on the Diocese of Nottingham website:
www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers