First Sunday of Advent

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

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

The Parish Office
Mrs Tina Dixon
Parish Administrator
01472 342301
holytrinitygci@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Monday, Tuesday and Friday
8.30am - 11.30am (Admin/Finance)
11.30am - 12.30pm (Safeguarding)

Parish Priest
Dean of Northern East Lincs
Fr Robbie O'Callaghan VF
robbie.ocallaghan@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Parish Assistant Priest
Fr Michael Odenigbo
michael.odenigbo@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Deacon Stephen Durkin
07505 559360

Parish Sister
Sister Ann Helen Byrne
Ann.byrne@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Fr Robbie's Spiritual Surgery
Holy Trinity Presbytery
01472 342301
Each Friday Morning by Appointment Only
via the Parish Office
Appointment Times Available:
9.00am, 10.00am, 11.00am and Noon

Our School
St Marys Catholic Primary
Voluntary Academy
Wellington Street, Grimsby
DN32 7JX
Mr Joseph O'Connor
Tel: 01472 357982

Our Hospital
Diana, Princess of Wales
Scartho Road, Grimsby
Tel: 01472 874111

Hospital On Call Number:
24/7 Emergency Use Only
On Call GCI Mobile:
07761 074427
For Grimsby Hospital Only

Parish Safeguarding Team
Richard Mellows (lead)
richard.mellowspsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk
07513 725509
Sarah Pollard (deputy lead)
sarah.pollardpsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk
01472 342301

Parish Finances
Last Weekend 21/22 November

Thank you for your generosity to the work of the Church!

Loose Plate	£ 594.00
Contactless	£ 300.00
S/Orders	£1,145.00

(S/O each week averaged out)

Total £2,039.00

Remember your parish in your Will

Donate by Mobile

Parish Finances
October Collections 2026

04/10/26	£1,894.56
11/10/26	£2,138.70
18/10/26	£1,811.04
25/10/26	£2,112.55
31/10/26	£1,847.42
Total	**£9,804.27**

Parish Finances
September Collections 2026

05/09/26	£2,104.46
13/09/26	£2,073.80
20/09/26	£1,663.03
26/09/26	£1,684.82
Total	**£7,526.11**

Finance Committee

After a year of reviewing the financial structure of the Parish with the help of the Diocese, I have decided as Parish Priest to disolve the present Parish Finance Committee and to start a fresh **now that we are on a better financial footing**. I ask that members of the present Finance Committee, and those of you who wish to offer their skills and attend four finance meetings a year, to please contact me explaining your skills for the role, or agreeing to continue your service to the parish. All applications will considered. Four meetings a year, come on your can volunteer!

This past year has seen me with the assistance of the Diocese correcting the parish accounts, clearing all outstanding debts/payments of over £30,000+ and the fixing of incorrect reporting for a number of years. We are now ready to move forward.

The deadline for a note of interest is Tuesday 1st December 2026.

robbie.ocallaghan@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Year A - Cycle II - Eucharistic Prayer: III - Psalter: I

Saturday 28th November - Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.30am - Cleethorpes - Mass - Holy Souls

10.00am to 11.00am - Cleethorpes - Holy Hour and Confessions



5.00pm - Immingham - Vigil Mass - Holy Souls

6.00pm - Immingham - Anointing of the Sick

6.00pm - Grimsby - Polish Language - Vigil Mass

Sunday 29th November - First Sunday of Advent

8.00am -10.00am - Grimsby - Antiochian Orthodox Mission Liturgy

9.00am - Cleethorpes - Mass - Mrs Philomena Myers RIP (Michelle O'Sullivan)

11.00pm - Grimsby - Mass - Stephen Dugard RIP

Sikrat Anthonia Iyasele RIP (Dr Pauline Adiotomre (daughter)

Monday 30th November - St Andrew (Feast)

No Mass - No Service

2.15pm - Grimsby Crem - Funeral Service of Maria Emma Limon RIP

Tuesday 1st December - Advent Feria

9.00am - Grimsby - Rosary - Sorrowful Mysteries

9.30am - Grimsby - Deceased Sherman, Strype and Vernon families (MT)

Wednesday 2nd December - Advent Feria

9.30am - Immingham - Rosary - Glorious Mysteries

10.00am - Immingham - Mass - November Dead List

5.46pm - Grimsby - Eucharistic Adoration with Confessions

6.30pm - Grimsby - Mass - Winne and Edmund Strype RIP (Marie Therese)

7.15pm - Grimsby - RCIA

Thursday 3rd December - Advent Feria

9.00am - Cleethorpes - Rosary - Luminous Mysteries

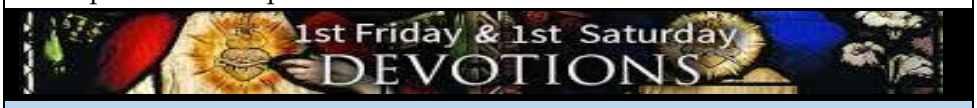
9.30am - Cleethorpes - Mass - Holy Souls

10.00am - Cleethorpes - Anointing of the Sick

Friday 4th December - Advent Feria (First Friday Prayers)

5.45pm - Cleethorpes - Eucharistic Adoration with Confessions

6.30pm - Cleethorpes - Mass - November Dead List



Saturday 5th December - Mass of the Virgin Mary (First Saturday Prayers)

9.30am - Cleethorpes - Mass - Angela Linfitt RIP (Mark Linfitt)

10.00am to 11.00am - Cleethorpes - Holy Hour and Confessions

5.00pm - Immingham - Vigil Mass - November Dead List

6.00pm - Immingham - Anointing of the Sick

6.00pm - Grimsby - Polish Language - Vigil Mass

Sunday 6th December - Second Sunday of Advent

8.00am -10.00am - Grimsby - Antiochian Orthodox Mission Liturgy

9.00am - Cleethorpes - Mass - Ross Gallagher RIP (Butler Family)

Angela Linfitt RIP (Mark Linfitt)

11.00pm - Grimsby - Mass - Private Intention (NB)

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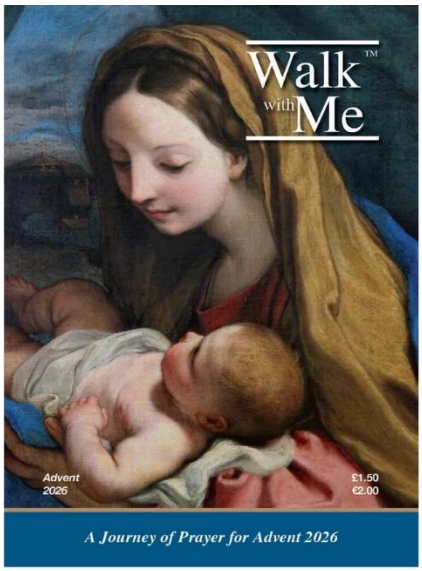
Advent 2026
Walk with Me Booklets



Now Available - Only £1.50

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

After a year of immersing myself in parish life: praying, watching and slowly learning about the beautifully complexed body that makes up the Christian Life at Holy Trinity GCI… I realised my first task as your new parish priest, wasn't to invent, more and more new ventures, but actually allow parishioners to listen with their hearts. Transition is difficult, and it was even more apparent to me when I arrived, that people still had scars due to past closures and the dynamics that brought to all of you. I spiritually floated, watched, inherited, listened and prayed, whilst only bringing Christ to the centre of our Parish by continuing and increasing the faith-based worship of the parish that we do so well and the already existing culture, traditions and needs.

As your Parish Priest, I have decided to dissolve the present Parish Pastoral Committee. As we move forward, we need to create a new committee that represents the change in the GCI parish's demography: Aged Groups Families, The Housebound and Sick, Hospital Support, Ethnicity, Culture, Parish & School Dynamics, Local Communities. I am looking to have on the committee representation from all the above groups, as well as those who may wish to continue from the existing committee. Let us move forward to new community horizons.

The deadline for a note of interest is Tuesday 1st December 2026.

robbie.ocallaghan@dioceseofnottingham.uk

News for the Pews

African Mass - The Community of GCI experienced a most joyous and holy celebration of the feast of Christ the King. We thank the steering committee who organised such a beautiful Mass with Fr Michael - with African Liturgy: expressing readings and hymns that reflected the many countries represented in our parish from the African continent. A most beautiful choir: female and male (and some choir from Lincoln joined us) and with traditional instruments accompanied the Mass. Everyone came together in faith. Many of our European parishioners attended, and they were ecstatic leaving church. A shared table created lunch for the community and there were continued celebrations continued in the parish hall. **Well done to everyone** who helped in big ways, and in small ways, to make our First African Mass so spiritually uplifting for everyone – young and old alike. We thank those who accommodated the time change as parishioners and ministries. **Fr Michael & Fr Robbie**



SVP Retiring Collection - **Next Sunday** - As we move into the winter months, please continue to be supportive of the work of SVP in our local and wider community, as they support families and refugees struggling in these difficult times. - **Dona Payment Available**

7-day Sanctuary Lights: Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham
If you would like any of these lit for the week in memory of a loved one or a special intention, please contact Tina in the parish office.
A donation of £5 is suggested as an offering per 7-day Sanctuary Light.

The 7-day candle at **Grimsby** burns this week in prayer for:
November Dead List

The 7-day candle at **Cleethorpes** burns this week in prayer for:
For the wellbeing of Stacie Hutchinson

The 7-day candle at **Immingham** burns this week in prayer for:
Welfare of 17yr old Kegan

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Christmas Diary

Cleethorpes 24th Dec

5.30pm

Gathering Carols

6.00pm

Mass of Christmas Eve Vigil

Grimsby 24th Dec

8.30pm

Gathering Carols

9.00pm

Mass of Christmas Night

Immingham 25th Dec

9.00am

Mass of Christmas Morning

Grimsby 25th Dec

11.00am

Mass of Christmas Morning



Grimsby 26th Dec

11.00am

St Stephen's Day Mass

Immingham 26th Dec

5.00pm

Mass of The Holy Family

Cleethorpes 27th Dec

9.00am

Mass of The Holy Family

Grimsby 27th Dec

11.00am

Mass of The Holy Family

News for the Pews

Maria Limon RIP - It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Maria. Her Funeral Service will take place at Grimsby Crematorium, on Monday 30th November at 2.15pm Please keep Maria's Family in your thoughts and prayers at this sad time. **Request in pace**.

Andrew Flinn RIP - It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Andy. His Requiem Funeral Mass will take place at St Marys on the Sea, Grimsby, on Friday 11th December at 11.30am, followed by committal at Scartho Road Cemetery at 1.00pm. Please keep Ann and Family in your thoughts and prayers at this sad time. Requiescat in pace.

Edward O'Donnell RIP - It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Edward. His Funeral Service will take place at Grimsby Crematorium, on Friday 13th December at 10.45am Please keep the Family in your thoughts and prayers at this sad time. **Request in pace**.

Christmas Flower Retiring Collection

Next Weekend. Let us be as generous as possible so that our churches may look beautiful. Please give generously - **Dona Payment Available**

Stella Maris 'Christmas Chocolate' Appeal - This Advent Season, once again, you are invited to donate chocolate for the seafarers to receive on Christmas Day. It is always very warmly received; alongside the other support of warm clothing, we donate. So, when you go shopping, please buy a bar or two for the seafarers this Advent/Christmas. The Stella Maris Team will have a drop off box in all three churches this season.



The word **"Advent"** comes from the Latin word adventus, which means "coming." Advent in the 4th and 5th century was a time of preparation for the baptism of new Christians. Christians would spend 40 days in prayer and fasting to prepare for the celebration that accompanied the baptism of new believers. Even when things feel chaotic, we can find peace in Jesus. Advent is a chance to focus our thoughts on the gift God has given us in his son Jesus who stepped down from heaven and took the form of a man so that we might believe.

Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 16th December

St Mary's on the Sea Church, Grimsby, GCI at 6.00pm

The event is followed by Mince Pies, Mulled Wine, Tea & Coffee & Christmas Cheer

for the Saviour is to be born in Bethlehem - All Welcome

Advent Confessions with Fr Robbie & Fr Michael

The season of preparation for Christmas is an ideal time to reflect on God's mercy and so prepare our hearts and souls for the celebration of the incarnation. There will be opportunities to go to confession during the Fourth Week of Advent.

Cleethorpes - Monday 21st December - 2.00-4.00pm & 6.00-8.00pm

Grimsby - Tuesday 22nd December - 2.00-4.00pm & 6.00-8.00pm

Immingham - Wednesday 23rd December - 2.00pm-4.00pm

Bishop Patrick has received a letter from the Secretariat for the Economy in Rome, signed by Maximino Caballero Ledo, thanking our Diocese for the contributions to the 2026 Peter's Pence collection, which amounted to £5,936.26. The Holy Father very much appreciates the generosity of parishioners throughout the Diocese of Nottingham, whose donations will help to fund and support the charitable activities of the Holy See.

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