



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF RUTLAND ST JOSEPH, OAKHAM & ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, EXTON



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Peter Vellacott: peter.vellacott@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Rev Deacon Raymond Keogh: raymond.keogh@dioceseofnottingham.uk Tel: 07845 773619
Retired Priest in Residence: Rev Canon Stephen Dye
Parish Office: rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Parish Office, Station Road, Oakham, LE15 6QU Tel: 01572 722308

First Sunday of Advent

29 th November	Saturday	Vigil Mass	4.30 pm	Holy Mass	Elizabeth Jones - Good Estate
30 th November	Sunday	First Sunday of Advent	10.30 am	Holy Mass	Pro Populo
1 st December	Monday	St Ralph Sherwin, Blessed Christopher Buxton, priests and Companions: The Martyrs of Derbyshire	9.00 am 11.00 am	Holy Mass Liturgy	Peter Davis RIP Funeral Liturgy for Peter Davis
2 nd December	Tuesday	Advent Feria			
3 rd December	Wednesday	Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	9.00 am – 10.00 am		
		Saint Francis Xavier, priest	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Jonathan Port RIP
			1.30 pm	Requiem Mass	Elaine Handley RIP St Thomas, Exton, LE15 8AN
4 th December	Thursday	Saint John Damascene, priest and doctor			
5 th December	Friday	Advent Feria	7.00 pm	Holy Latin Mass	St Thomas, Exton, LE15 8AN Arthur Glover RIP
6 th December	Saturday	Exposition & Benediction Vigil Mass	3.30 – 4.00 pm		
			4.30 pm	Holy Mass	Deceased members of the Hutton Family
7 th December	Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent	10.30 am	Holy Mass	Pro Populo

Sacrament of Confession TIMES: Wednesday: 9.30-10.00 am Saturday: 3.30-4.00 pm

Please note: This Church is monitored by CCTV cameras and/or live streaming cameras during Holy Mass.

Parish Websites	https://www.stjosephs-oakham.org/	https://www.catholicstamford.com/
Safeguarding Representative	Tel: 07513 725552	Maria.MarriottPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Parish Support Group HELP	Rosemarie Duncan	Tel: 01572 723873
House Faith Sharing Group	Barbara Black	Tel: 01572 724918
Chair - Parish Pastoral Council	Andreas Menzies Tel: 01572 722308	ppcchair@stjosephs-oakham.org
Parish Newsletter	Maria Marriott	rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk
English Martyrs Primary School	Head Teacher: Mrs Jo Rutledge Willow Crescent, Oakham	Tel: 01572 722400 https://www.englishmartyrs.rutland.sch.uk/ office@englishmartyrs.rutland.sch.uk

Parish Office Telephone contact:

For all Parish enquiries, please contact Maria on the office number or (via email, quickest option) or Canon Peter, via email.
In the case of an emergency, please ring the office number the end message will advise you who to contact.

<u>Last week's collection</u> Collections £126.42 Planned Giving & Donations £695.50 Total £821.92 <u>Please note</u> Next Sunday -7th December Collection for Poor & Needy Parishes As always, many thanks for all your contributions to our Church.	<u>Planned Giving Scheme - Envelope holders</u> If you wish to contribute via the parish bank account, please contact Maria at rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk Many thanks for your ongoing support.	<u>Please note:</u> Canon Peter is at St Joseph's every Monday and celebrates Holy Mass at 10.00 am. He is available after Holy Mass should you want to make an appointment. rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk	<u>Don't forget</u> to join us for light refreshments after Holy Mass on Wednesday and Sunday. All welcome 
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If you know any parishioners who are not well, in hospital or need a little support and would like a visit, please let Maria know using this email address rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk or call 01572 722308. It is very important for all our parishioners to feel part of our community if we do not know we cannot help.

Please pray for the following who are ill: Meryl Vincent, Angela Kirkup, Claire Smith, Ita Jones, Janet and Barry Chalmers-Stevens, Monique Pryke, Elisabeth Simpson, Judy Nash, John Rhodes, Amanda Messer, Elizabeth Jones and Marie Thérèse Goldberg. If you would like to add anyone to the sick list, (permission required). Please contact Maria rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Anniversaries † Annette Moss, Bernard Gandy, Michael Durkin, Frankie Freeman, Ellen Unsworth, Douglas Gordon-Boyd, Gerard Smyth, James Cockerham, Henry Day, Arthur Fullbrook, Beryl Gutteridge, Harold Bagley, Desmond Mould, Ethel Carr, Robert Johnstone, Bridget Bell, Vera Kelly, Ian Greig, Delia Jones, Baby Daniel Arnold.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen

Please pray, in your charity, for the repose of the soul of Elaine Handley who recently died. Her Requiem Mass will take place on the **3rd December at 1.30 pm at St Thomas of Canterbury, Exton Hall.** Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her, may she rest in peace. Amen

Donations in memory of Elaine will be for St Joseph's Catholic Church. If desired, you can donate using this link - [Dona](#)

It is the Lord's House, which Jesus taught was a house of prayer" (Mt 21:13) and thus should be used according to its purpose. The House of God, where dwells the Real Presence of God, must be treated with ongoing reverence.

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.

The first 24 days of December fall during the liturgical season known as of Advent and are represented by the liturgical colour purple – a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remaining days of December mark the beginning of the Christmas season. The liturgical colour changes to white or gold – a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.

Sung Mass for *The Feast of the Immaculate Conception* of our Blessed Lady Monday 8th December at 7 pm.

St Thomas of Canterbury, Exton Hall, LE15 8AN. Sung by St Michael's Chant choir. Celebrant Canon Peter Vellacott. Organist Jeremy Jepson. All Welcome. If anyone would like help with transport, please contact Maria on rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk There will be a retiring collection in aid of St Michael's Chant Choir.

Important Notice: Essential works to pathway and lighting:

Work Commencing Saturday 6th December 2025

Please note that we will be having some essential work done to the pathway leading from the carpark to the Church door.

You will be guided round to the street pathway to gain entrance to the Church.

The work will last approximately 1-2 weeks, dependant on weather conditions.

There maybe some noise during Holy Mass on the Sunday, Monday and Wednesday. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Churches Together in Oakham. The lunch time Churches Together prayer meetings are now being hosted by the **Methodist Church on Thursday lunch times from 1.00 to 1.30 pm during November** All are welcome.

Week of Prayer at Oakham Baptist Church Monday 1st - 7th December We are invited to pop in any time but especially join with others to pray at 12 noon each day. Jesus prayed "that they may be one". Please try to join in this ecumenical activity.

Pensioners Christmas tea party

You are cordially invited to join us for a Christmas tea party in the meeting room on **Wednesday 10th December** from 1.30 to 3.30 pm. Please rsvp via email saraharcher251@gmail.com or on the clipboard in the foyer. Please indicate if you require transport or have any dietary requirements. Many thanks. Sarah and Emma

MISSIO RED BOXES Please could you return your MISSIO red boxes to Maria in the office for the contents to be sent off at the end of November.

Father Michael O'Kane OFM, of the Commissariat of the Holy Land, has written to thank Bishop Patrick for the generosity of parishioners earlier this year when the Collection for the Holy Places in the Holy Land was taken on Good Friday. Across the Diocese more than £20,000 was given to support the Christian communities in this war-torn part of the world, where Jesus himself lived and ministered. The Franciscans keep our Diocese, and all the parishioners, in their thankful prayers.

The Parish of All Saints, West Nottingham is seeking to appoint a part-time Parish Administrator to support the day-to-day running of the parish. The role will be for 10 hours per week (preferably Friday, and one other weekday) at Band 4 (£14.17 per hour). The parish is looking for a candidate with proven experience in administration and finance, ideally within parish, school, or charity settings. The successful applicant will play a key role in supporting parish operations and financial processes. For an informal chat about the role, contact Canon Stanley Ofoegbu stanley.ofoegbu@dioceseofnottingham.uk and to request an application form, email office@dioceseofnottingham.uk The closing date is Monday 29th December.

School admissions to Catholic Primary Academies (Reception Year) - Children born between 01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022. The deadline for submitting an application for a school place is 15th January 2026. Application forms are available on your 'home' Local Authority website. For every Catholic school you apply for if you wish your child to be considered and ranked under a faith criterion you should also complete a supplementary information form, and return this form to the school by the deadline, (forms are available from the LA and the school). You must also include the supporting evidence* as required with this form, ie a baptism certificate (photocopies are acceptable; contact the parish of baptism if you don't have a copy); failure to supply the required supporting evidence will mean your child is ranked in a lower criterion which may affect your chance of a place.

Holy Mass Streaming Service If you use St Joseph's Holy Mass streaming service and find that it is not online, please contact Maria in the Parish Office via email. rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk or call 01572 722308

Please note: Any cheques made out to the Parish should read **St. Joseph's Oakham RCP**. Thank you.