



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

Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday

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| 13 th December | Saturday | Vigil Mass | 4.30 pm | Holy Mass | Pro Populo |
| 14 th December | Sunday | Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday | 10.30 am | Holy Mass | Michael Astill's Intention |
| 15 th December | Monday | Advent Feria | 10.00 am | Holy Mass | Holy Souls in Purgatory |
| | | | 7.00 pm | Reconciliation Liturgy at St Mary's & St Augustine's, Stamford | |
| 16 th December | Tuesday | | | | |
| 17 th December | Wednesday | Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | 9.00 am – 10.00 am | | |
| | | Advent Feria | 10.00 am | Holy Mass | Olive Winter (Well being) |
| 18 th December | Thursday | | | | |
| 19 th December | Friday | Advent Feria | 7.00 pm | Holy Latin Mass | St Thomas, Exton, LE15 8AN Pat & Joe Quinn RIP and Daniel Quinn-Marriott RIP |
| 20 th December | Saturday | Exposition & Benediction Vigil Mass | 3.30 – 4.00 pm | | |
| | | | 4.30 pm | Holy Mass | Oksana and family Intentions |
| 21 st December | Sunday | Fourth Week 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.

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| 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.

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| <p><u>Last week's collection</u></p> <p>Collections £152.31 Planned Giving & Donations £690.00 Total £842.31</p> <p>Poor Needy Parishes Collections £238.60 A Fantastic amount for CAFOD The Harvest Fast Day £812.33.</p> <p><u>Please note</u> There will be collection for Christmas Flowers this weekend. As always, many thanks for all your contributions to our Church, how ever you may contribute.</p> | <p><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.</p> | <p><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</p> | <p><u>Don't forget</u> to join us for light refreshments after Holy Mass on Wednesday and Sunday. All welcome</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> |
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| <p>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.</p> <p>It is very important for all our parishioners to feel part of our community if we do not know we cannot help.</p> | |
| <p>Please pray for the following who are ill: <i>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.</i> If you would like to add anyone to the sick list, (permission required). Please contact Maria rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk</p> | |
| <p>Anniversaries † <i>Agnes Wallace, Willott Graczyk, John Patrick O'Shea, Monica Joyce, Pauline Goater, Evelyn Bush, Margaret Seabrook, Elizabeth Fay, Helen Cooke, Charles Hobbs, Margaret Battersly, Thomas Wilson, Vivien Panter.</i></p> <p>Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen</p> | |
| <p><i>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.</i></p> <p>The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.</p> <p>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.</p> | |
| <p>The Christmas Offering traditionally goes to the Priest of the Parish and forms the major part of his income for the year, along with the Easter offering. Priests do not receive any income from any other source outside of the Parish. So, whatever you give in your Christmas Offering will express your personal and financial support. Should you wish to provide a Christmas Offering, please mark your envelope as 'Christmas Offering' or use one of the envelopes provided at the back of Church and place it in the usual bag as the Offertory Collection is taken up. You can also use the card reader in the porch or on the website under the heading Christmas Offering using this link https://donate.mydona.com/st-joseph-rc-oakham</p> | |
| <p>The meetings of Churches Together in December at 1-1.30 pm will be held each Thursday at St Joseph's.</p> | <p><u>Christmas Flower Collection</u> This weekend we will be having a collection for flowers during the Christmas Season. Thank you</p> |
| <p>A great big 'Thank you' to St Michael's Chant Choir, the Soloist and Canon Peter Vellacott who celebrated the feast of the Immaculate Conception with a beautiful Sung Mass in St Thomas of Canterbury Exton, on Monday evening— It was Heaven on earth. Our sincere thanks also to all our <i>volunteers</i> who helped in the various ways, organisers', Servers', organist, florist, and the team who directed the traffic. Many Thanks to you all. If you would like to join the chant choir, please contact Jenny on 01572770580 or email: stmichaelschantchoir@gmail.com</p> | |
| <p>Part of our preparation during Advent is making a good Confession in readiness to celebrate the Feast of Our Lord's Birth and be able to welcome Him anew into our lives. There will be a Reconciliation Liturgy at St Mary & St Augustine's with local priests available to hear confessions on Monday 15th December at 7:00 pm</p> | |
| <p>CONSULTATION NOTICE St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust consultation on the proposal to establish on-site nursery provision at: English Martyrs Catholic Voluntary Academy, Willow Crescent, Oakham LE15 6EH.</p> <p>Consultation now live - running from: Monday 8 December 2025 noon to Monday 5 January 2026 noon. This is to inform you that the above consultation is now live and can be accessed on the Trust's website via this link: Admissions - St Thomas Aquinas – Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (aquinas-cmat.org). If you have any comments on the proposed change, please forward these electronically to Emma Kealey (ekealey@aquinas-cmat.org) or by mail to St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust, Unit 5, Charnwood Edge Business Park, Cossington, LE7 4UZ</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Christmastide 2025</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday 22nd December - Holy Mass 10.00 am - St Joseph's Oakham Tuesday 23rd December - Holy Mass 10.00 am - St Mary & St Augustine Stamford</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve Vigil - Nativity of Our Lord Carols begin at 5.45 pm- St Joseph's Oakham 6.00 pm Holy Mass - St Joseph's Oakham 6:00 pm Holy Mass - St Mary & St Augustine Stamford 11:30 pm Office of Readings followed by Midnight Mass</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 25th December – Christmas Day - Nativity of Our Lord 9:00 am Dawn Mass of Christmas - St Mary & St Augustine Stamford 9.00 am - Dawn Mass of Christmas - St Thomas of Canterbury Exton 10.30 am – Day Mass of Christmas - St Joseph's Oakham 11:00 am - Day Mass of Christmas - St Mary & St Augustine Stamford</p> | |
| <p>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, i.e. a baptism certificate (photocopies are acceptable; contact the parish of baptism if you do not 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.</p> | |
| <p>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</p> | |
| <p>Please note: Any cheques made out to the Parish should read St. Joseph's Oakham RCP. Thank you.</p> | |