

# THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH

South Leicestershire

*Incorporating the churches of: Our Lady of Victories & St. Alphonsus, 28 Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth LE17 4EY  
& St. Pius X, 52 Leicester Road, Narborough LE19 2DF*

*Parish Office: St. Pius X Narborough*

*Website: <https://www.holynameofjesussouthleics.uk>*

*Email the Parish Priest: [fr.joel@outlook.com](mailto:fr.joel@outlook.com) Tel: (0116) 2863676*

## NEWSLETTER – 21 - 22 Feb 2026 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

**ONE PARISH:** One Newsletter for two churches. May we be united in supporting each other whenever we can, in the years that lie ahead and receive many blessings in uniting together in prayer and good works.

**FOR THE DECEASED:** Please pray for all those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time and for all Holy Souls who have no one to pray for them. May they rest in eternal peace.

**LECTIO DIVINA:** Study of St. John's Gospel. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 4th March at Our Lady of Victories Lutterworth at 7pm, preceded by Mass at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join.

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASSES, LUTTERWORTH:** Refreshments are served after Masses on Thursdays and Sundays. Everyone is welcome

**SCRABBLE AT LUTTERWORTH:** The Scrabble Group meet on Tuesdays, 2.00pm – 4.00pm in the Hall. Further information from Jo on 07471 032396. All are welcome.

**SVP/FOOD BANK:** Please leave the donated food at the back of the Church at St. Pius X. Thank you for your support.

**LUTTERWORTH FOODBANK:** A 'thank you' email has been received for 26kilos collected in January. The next Foodbank collection will be 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Maybe your Lenten resolution might be to bring at least one item each time you come to Mass?

**LIFE CHARITY, NARBOROUGH:** Please donate articles of clothing, bric-a-brac, toys, electrical goods and household items at the back of the church. Thank you for your support. If you have things to donate, please let us know and arrangements can be made for collection from Lutterworth.

**PARISH YOUTH CLUB:** The Parish Youth Club will be starting soon. Please help inform our young people about this development. Watch out for further details in our subsequent bulletin!

**OTHER LITURGICAL/TRADITIONAL PRAYERS:** During Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross in the Eyes of Mary on Fridays at Narborough 7.00pm and Sundays at Lutterworth 4.00pm. Angelus to be said all through the year before the Mass starts, Regina Caeli at Easter and Eastertide before the Mass starts.

**QUIZ NIGHT:** At Lutterworth on Sat 21<sup>st</sup> March 7.00pm arrival for a 7.30pm start. Nibbles and snacks available on every table for Teams of 4. Bring your own drinks! See Posters on the Noticeboards for full details. Event tickets and Raffle tickets will be on sale from this weekend in both churches. We already have lots of lovely prizes but if you would still like to donate, please bring to any of the Social Group. Adults £10, Children £3. All proceeds to the Parish of The Holy Name of Jesus.

**READERS ROTA LUTTERWORTH:** Please collect your copy from the Noticeboard for the next three months.

## MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER LEO XIV FOR LENT 2026, 13.02.2026

The following is the text of the Message of the Holy Father Leo XIV for Lent 2026, on the theme: **“Listening and Fasting: Lent as a Time of Conversion”**

Dear brothers and sisters, Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the centre of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life. Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit. There is a relationship between the word, our acceptance of it and the transformation it brings about. For this reason, the Lenten journey is a welcome opportunity to heed the voice of the Lord and renew our commitment to following Christ, accompanying him on the road to Jerusalem, where the mystery of his passion, death and resurrection will be fulfilled. **Listening This year**, I would first like to consider the importance of making room for the word through listening. The willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone. In revealing himself to Moses in the burning bush, God himself teaches us that listening is one of his defining characteristics: “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry” (Ex 3:7). Hearing the cry of the oppressed is the beginning of a story of liberation in which the Lord calls Moses, sending him to open a path of salvation for his children who have been reduced to slavery. Our God is one who seeks to involve us. Even today he shares with us what is in his heart. Because of this, listening to the word in the liturgy teaches us to listen to the truth of reality. In the midst of the many voices present in our personal lives and in society, Sacred Scripture helps us to recognize and respond to the cry of those who are anguished and suffering. In order to foster this inner openness to listening, we must allow God to teach us how to listen as he does. We must recognize that “the condition of the poor is a cry that, throughout human history, constantly challenges our lives, societies, political and economic systems, and, not least, the Church.” [1] **Fasting** If Lent is a time for listening, fasting is a concrete way to prepare ourselves to receive the word of God. Abstaining from food is an ancient ascetic practice that is essential on the path of conversion. Precisely because it involves the body, fasting makes it easier to recognize what we “hunger” for and what we deem necessary for our sustenance. Moreover, it helps us to identify and order our “appetites,” keeping our hunger and thirst for justice alive and freeing us from complacency. Thus, it teaches us to pray and act responsibly towards our neighbour. With spiritual insight, Saint Augustine helps us to understand the tension between the present moment and the future fulfilment that characterizes this custody of the heart. He observes that: “In the course of earthly life, it is incumbent upon men and women to hunger and thirst for justice, but to be satisfied belongs to the next life. Angels are satisfied with this bread, this food. The human race, on the other hand, hungers for it; we are all drawn to it in our desire. This reaching out in desire expands the soul and increases its capacity.” [2] Understood in this way, fasting not only permits us to govern our desire, purifying it and making it freer, but also to expand it, so that it is directed towards God and doing good. However, in order to practice fasting in accordance with its evangelical character and avoid the temptation that leads to pride, it must be lived in faith and humility. It must be grounded in communion with the Lord, because “those who are unable to nourish themselves with the word of God do not fast properly.” [3] As a visible sign of our inner commitment to turn away from sin and evil with the help of grace, fasting must also include other forms of self-denial aimed at helping us to acquire a more sober lifestyle, since “austerity alone makes the Christian life strong and authentic.” [4] In this regard, I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbour. Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace. **Together Finally**, Lent emphasizes the communal aspect of listening to the word and fasting. The Bible itself underlines this dimension in multiple ways. For example, the Book of Nehemiah recounts how the people gathered to listen to the public reading of the Law, preparing to profess their faith and worship through fasting, so as to renew the covenant with God (cf. 9:1-3). Likewise, our parishes, families, ecclesial groups and religious communities are called to undertake a shared journey during Lent, in which listening to the word of God, as well as to the cry of the poor and of the earth, becomes part of our community life, and fasting a foundation for sincere repentance. In this context, conversion refers not only to one’s conscience, but also to the quality of our relationships and dialogue. It means allowing ourselves to be challenged by reality and recognizing what truly guides our desires — both within our ecclesial communities and as regards humanity’s thirst for justice and reconciliation. Dear friends, let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us. Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others. Let us strive to make our communities places where the cry of those who suffer finds welcome, and listening opens paths towards liberation, making us ready and eager to contribute to building a civilization of love. I impart my heartfelt blessing upon all of you and your Lenten journey. **From the Vatican, 5 February 2026, Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr LEO PP. XIV**

Fr Joel Nwalozie, Fr. Jim Cahill & Parishioners extend a warm welcome to new Parishioners & all visitors. Deadline for items for the Newsletter to Fr. Joel: [info@holynamesofjesussouthleics.uk](mailto:info@holynamesofjesussouthleics.uk) or: [johnston.nora@gmail.com](mailto:johnston.nora@gmail.com) (Company Number 7151646. Charity No. 1124449) Diocese of Nottingham: St. Hugh’s House, 1, Castle Quay, Nottingham NG7 1FW

# ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NOTTINGHAM THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH

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**Parish Enquiries:** \*Please direct all parish enquiries to the Parish Priest via email.

**Safeguarding Representative:** Our Lady of Victories & St. Alphonsus: Heather Freeman email: [heather.freemanPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:heather.freemanPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk) Mobile: 07753 562298

**Safeguarding Representative:** St. Pius X – Mike Newton email: [michael.newtonpsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:michael.newtonpsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk) Mobile: 07513725361

Should you have concerns at any time regarding vulnerable adults or children, please contact the relevant Safeguarding Representative.

**21 - 22 Feb 2026 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**The Angelus is recited before all Masses**

**WEEKEND & WEEKDAY MASSES:**

Our Lady of Victories & St. Alphonsus, Lutterworth				Mass Intentions
Sat.	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	6.00pm	Rosary 5.30	
Sun.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	11.15am	Rosary 10.45	Katherine Boneham (RIP)
Tues	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am	Adoration 9.30	Rosary 10.05
Thurs	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am		
Sat.	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	6.00pm	Rosary 5.30	
Sun.	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	11.15am	Rosary 10.45	

**Lutterworth: Tues. 9.30 – 10.30 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & Rosary**

**WEEKLY CONFESSIONS - Sat. 5.30pm – 5.55pm before evening Mass**

St. Pius X, Narborough				Mass Intentions
Sat.	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	4.00pm	Rosary 3.30pm	Ann Kelly (RIP)
Sun	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	9.30am	Rosary 9.00am	Intention/Welfare of the Barber Family
Mon.	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	10.00am	Adoration 9.00	William Gonda (RIP)
Sat.	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	4.00pm	Rosary 3.30pm	Dvid Collopy (RIP)
Sun.	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	9.30am	Rosary 9.00am	Michael Piti (RIP)

**Narborough: Mon. 9.00 – 10.00am EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & Rosary.**

**WEEKLY CONFESSIONS Sat. 3.30pm – 3.55pm and before and after Masses**