

THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING, ALFRETON &  
SS PATRICK AND BRIDGET, CLAY CROSS

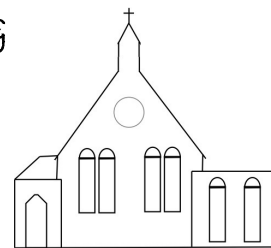
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Parish website: [christthekingalfreton.org](http://christthekingalfreton.org)

Parish Priest: Rev. Paul Nellikulam Pius



St Clare's Convent Clay Cross ☎ 01246 862621

Safeguarding Rep: Veronica Grant ☎ 07513 725538

Christ the King School ☎ 01773 832919

Parish Pastoral Council Chairman: Rob Farrell ☎ 07834 595856

**03<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Christmastide: Weekly Bulletin 06<sup>th</sup>– 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE BEFORE AND AFTER HOLY MASS ON REQUEST

**Alfreton**

**Saturday 06<sup>th</sup> December:** 6.30pm Mass: Kitty Ludden RIP

**Sunday 07<sup>th</sup> December:** 10.30am Mass: Anthony Fitzpatrick RIP

**Monday 08<sup>th</sup> January: No Mass**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January:**

9 am Adoration, 9.30am Mass: Michail Gorbachev RIP

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January:**

9 am Adoration, 9.30am Mass: Winnie Stension Ints

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January:** 6.30pm Mass:

Sean McGing RIP

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January:** 10.30am Mass:

Anne & Norman Leah RIP

**Clay Cross**

**Sunday 07<sup>th</sup> January:** 9.00am Mass: Sheila Hall Ints

**Tuesday 09<sup>th</sup> January:**

9.30 Adoration, 10am Mass: Tony Doherty RIP

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January:**

9.30am Adoration 10am Mass: Lee Carter RIP

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January:** 9am Mass:

**January 2024 Cleaners**

**Alfreton:** Bridget W

**Clay Cross:** Maggie Smith

**Sick & Housebound**

***Please pray for*** – Sara Lane, Shirley Oakes, Ian Martin, Val Kerlin, Betty Deane, Mary Pfeffer, Hazel Titon, Martin Mullally, Elsie Stewart, Brian Bradford, Peter Egan. Ted Bennett, Jim Johnson, Rob Lane, John Oliver, Karen Parker, Bridie Joyce, Rae Morton and Diane Davey. ***Please remember all in our parish who need our prayers.***

**This Week's Readers: Alfreton**

Saturday 6.30pm: Moya Mellors/Peter Babe

Sunday 10.30am: Fiona Molumby/Natasha Erskine

**This Week's Readers: Clay Cross**

Sunday 9am Wendy Tinsley/Kate Tippen

**Next Week's Readers: Alfreton**

Saturday 6.30pm: Maureen Fuller/Cecilia Fletcher

Sunday 10.30am: Natasha Erskine/John Boxall

**Next Week's Readers: Clay Cross**

Sunday 9am: Laveena/Feo

**Collection for 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

Alfreton	£266.52
Clay Cross	£196.66
Standing Order	£243.75
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>£706.93</b>

Candles	£42.28
Repository	£79.71
Hall Hire	£100.00
Mass Offerings	£415.00

*Many thanks for your generosity*

**“Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to encounter everyday epiphanies.”**

*John Milton*

**Parish Lunch, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 1.00 pm.** Please put your name on the list at the back of the Church by Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 if you would like to attend the next Parish Lunch for Pensioners. This will help us with catering. Look forward to seeing you there.

**A reflection from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer, Solemnity of the Epiphany:** Christ is the Mediator, the bridge that we cross to turn to the Father. He is the only Redeemer, He is the Mediator par excellence. Each prayer we raise to God is through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, and is fulfilled thanks to his intercession. The Holy Spirit extends Christ's mediation to every time and every place: there is no other name by which we can be saved. Jesus Christ, the only Mediator between God and humanity. To read the full reflection and find more resources at [dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](https://dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer).

**Can you solve a Mission Box Mystery?** - on or before Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 did you bring or send in to church your full APF Mill Hill Missionaries box but have not had it returned to you? If so, please be aware the label stuck on the base of your box has faded over time and is no longer legible, so we cannot identify you. If you think the box could be your's, please let your collector Bernadette know, or give your phone number to Fr Paul to pass on to her, so she can contact you to establish your details, check your Gift Aid status and arrange to return your box to you. Please do this as soon as possible, as the annual return is due shortly - thank you.

**New Readers for Clay Cross:** Additional readers are encouraged to join the 2024 Readers Rota for the Sunday morning Mass at Clay Cross. To be included in the Rota, please kindly approach Sheila or Rob after Mass.

**The gift of a few hours a year:** We're seeking dedicated cleaners to join our volunteer team. Every hand makes a difference. Please see Shiela or Rob after Mass to hear how giving just a few hours per year can help preserve the beauty of our Clay Cross Church.

**San Damiano Convent, Alfreton:** The Franciscan Minorese Sisters no longer own San Damiano Convent in Alfreton. This property now belongs to The Saint John of God Charity.

**A dynamic and evolving role 'Development and Communications Co-ordinator'** serving the young people of the diocese of Nottingham is pivotal to supporting the development and growth of NDCYS. This is an exciting and challenging opportunity for an aspiring leader. This is initially a one year fixed term contract. Details can be found at: <https://www.ndcys.com>

**Warm Welcome Space: Urgent appeal.** We need volunteers to help supervise and staff the Warm Welcome Space over the next few weeks. If you can help, even if it is only for a few hours, please sign up on the lists at the back of Christ the King Church. Many thanks. This community initiative operates from 10am to 3pm each Friday.

**The diocese is producing a monthly podcast for the Year of Prayer called Encounter Prayer.** Each month a different type of prayer will be showcased; this first episode is given by Bishop Patrick who introduces the Year of Prayer, his hopes for it, and shares insights from his own prayer life. The Podcasts can be found on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music and Audible by searching Diocese of Nottingham; they are also on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer).

**A reflection from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer, Feast of the Holy Family:** One does not only pray with the mind; the entire person prays, the person in his or her entirety, just as one does not pray only with one's feelings. The ancients used to say that the organ of prayer is the heart, and thus they explained that the whole person, starting from the centre — the heart — enters into a relationship with God. To read the full reflection and find more resources at [dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](https://dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer)

**The feast of the Epiphany**, which was kept in the East and in certain Western Churches before being observed in Rome, seems to have been originally a feast of the nativity; January 6, for those churches where it was kept, was the equivalent of Christmas (December 25) in the Roman Church. The feast was introduced at Rome in the second half of the sixth century and became the complement and, so to say, the crown of the Christmas festival. Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.

That is the meaning, too, of the wonderful prophecy from Isaias which the liturgy appoints to be read in the first nocturn at Matins and at the Epistle of the Mass. This same thought of universal redemption the Church returns to as she sings, in the antiphon to the Magnificat at 2nd Vespers, applying the words to herself, of the union with Christ typified by the wedding feast at Cana, by the baptism of her children foreshadowed by that of Christ in the waters of the Jordan. Formerly the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.

**Christ the King Alfreton & SS Patrick & Brigid church Clay Cross, Bank Details:** Cheques payable to **Christ King Alfreton RCP**  
Account No: 03155671, Sort Code:30-92-59