

Love Christmas

Love Christmas is a national programme supported by many Churches of different faiths with the intention of providing one million Christmas boxes across the country for those in real hardship and need.



When Fr. Dermott Donnelly launched the Love Christmas programme in our family of parishes at St. Joseph's, Stanley, St. Patrick's, Dipton and The Sacred Heart, Byermoor in November, he hoped that we could raise £600, so that we could distribute 15 Christmas boxes to each of our 4 primary schools.

We asked if parishioners could donate £10 to sponsor a Christmas box for one of our primary school children and we asked our primary schools to each nominate 15 children to receive one of the Christmas boxes.



However, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity and support of parishioners from across our family of parishes and beyond for the Love Christmas programme.



Together with support from Asda, as well as match funding from Love Christmas and with the many generous donations from parishioners, we were delighted to be able to announce that we raised £2,400 and were able to provide 240 Christmas boxes, which meant that we were able to distribute 60 Christmas boxes to each of our primary schools on behalf of our parishioners. Parishioners and clergy wrapped the gifts and following on from a period of quarantine for the gift boxes, they were delivered across our schools on Monday 14 December.

We would like to thank everyone who has participated, by donating, wrapping gifts or delivering the gift boxes to the schools and doing everything to ensure that this was a success. You can see more about this on our [Stanley Dipton and Byermoor Catholic Parishes Facebook page](#) by following the link to the [video](#) or go direct to JPSH Catholic Parishes [YouTube Channel](#).

