



St Mary's Presbytery
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NRCDD – Registered Charity - 1134449

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic O'Connor

Deacon Martyn Chambers, Deacon David Witherick (Ret.)

Priest to the Polish Community: Fr Stanisław Kowalski SChr,

School: St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy, Ashlawn Drive,
Boston, PE21 9PX TEL: 01205 362092

Hospital: Pilgrim Hospital, Sibsey Road, Boston PE21 9QS

Prison: HMP North Sea Camp

If you know of a parishioner who is an in-patient at the Pilgrim hospital, please contact our Eucharistic Minister John McGarel (07585774745) , or Father at the Presbytery (01205362056) or Deacon Martyn (07753531859) .

In the Parish of Saint Mary's



Our Lady of the Rosary

*In the end my Immaculate Heart will
triumph! Fiat!*

Liturgical calendar

| Day | Date | Time | | Liturgical Calendar | Mass Intention |
|------------------|------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Saturday | 26 | 4.00pm | Eng | Vigil | <i>S. Curley RIP</i> |
| Sunday | 27 | 9.30am 11.30am 1.00pm | Eng Pol Pol Lith | Eighth Sunday (970,908,644,907) | <i>For the people</i> |
| Monday | 28 | No Mass | | Feria | |
| Tuesday | 1 | 9.30am | Eng | Saint David Feast | |
| Wednesday | 2 | 10.00am 7.30pm | Eng Eng | Ash Wednesday | |
| Thursday | 3 | 7.00pm | Eng | Lenten Feria | |
| Friday | 4 | 9.30am 7.30pm | Eng Pol | Lenten Feria/ First Friday | |
| Saturday | 5 | 9.30am 4.00pm | Eng Eng | Lenten Feria/1st Sat Vigil | <i>Antony Thomas Ita Sweeny RIP</i> |
| Sunday | 6 | 9.30am 11.30am 1.00pm 4.00pm 5.30pm | Eng Pol Pol Latin Lith. | First Sunday of Lent | <i>For the people</i> |

Ash Wednesday: 10.00am Mass – the School will be attending.

Stations of the Cross for this week: Thursday 6.30pm

First Friday Adoration 5.00pm – 7.00pm (Confession available)

First Saturday Devotion: 9.00am Rosary, Meditation, Mass (Confession available)

Confessions Saturday 8.50am – 9.20am. 3.15pm – 3.50pm
 Sunday 8.50am – 9.20pm

Other Devotions: Divine Mercy Devotions: Wednesdays 2.00pm



Parish SYNOD Information



Synod 2023 - A worldwide listening process

The diocesan draft Response to the Synod is (published this weekend / available at the back of church / on the parish website). Please take some time to read it, and send any further responses or reflections, by Saturday 19th March, directly to the Diocesan Co-ordinators: Father David Cain (david.cain@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or Joe Hopkins, Adult Formation Director for Mission (joe.hopkins@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

We shall use this process to help our parish develop. Please do pray the prayer for the Church in general and our parish in particular. Many thanks for everyone's contributions and they have been noted. We have chosen two actions to focus on:

- 1) To form the parish into an evangelising parish by first catechising ourselves.
- 2) To develop local domestic church groups to help build community.

GDPR

Dear Parishioners,

We shall be distributing GDPR forms for you to sign. This is very important since it will enable us to draw up a parish register from your parish registration forms. Please do ensure that you return them. If you have not filled in a parish registration form or your details have changed, these will also be available. Much appreciated, Fr. Dominic.

DEANERY CHANGES

There is a proposal that our current deanery (Skegness, Holbeach+Spalding, Sleaford and Boston) will be expanded to form a South Lincolnshire deanery (with Oakham, Melton, Bourne+Deeping, Stamford and Grantham being added.) If you have a comment please speak to Father or Deacon Martyn. It is felt that our current deanery is too small to be effective. The clergy support the proposal. I don't think it will significantly effect the laity.



Announcements:

Website: Is being updated to include easy to access bulletin as well as posts by Father

A parishioner is now the lead dementia practitioner at the Pilgrim hospital, and we are blessed that he has offered his expertise to help any parishioner who may be an inpatient and who has been diagnosed with dementia. His offer of charity also extends to advising and helping the family of the inpatient. In the first instance should these criteria apply, please contact Hospital Chaplain Deacon Martyn.

Times for Confession If you would like confession outside of the confessional, please make an appointment with Father.

Diocesan Retreats: Sat 12th March Women (Doubleday Hilton) Dominican Sisters
Sat 19th March Men (Briars) Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

Bookings are now open for the Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage - under the leadership of Bishop Patrick, from Monday 4th until Friday 8th July. Full details are on the Tangney Tours website: or for more details contact Father Simon Gillespie (simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Shalom World's program, HeartTalk, this Sunday features a TV Interview with Bishop Patrick. The bishop speaks about his early life, his mission, his vision, and the ministries he is involved in through our diocese and the wider Church. The interview can be seen on Sunday 20th February, 7.30pm on www.shalomworld.org



Spiritual Thought for the Week...

When you come to adoration, put aside every anxiety and care of yours, and allow the Holy Spirit gently to unite you to the prayer that arises from my Eucharistic Heart to the Father. Every need of yours is contained in the prayer I offer my Father. Be at peace. You may want to pray for this thing or that and such prayer is pleasing to my Father, but there is another way, a higher way, and that is to yield to the prayer of my Sacred Heart present in the most holy Eucharist and in the glory of heaven.
In Sinu Jesu The journal of a priest at prayer.



Dates for Your Diary!

8th March 1.30pm Women's Guild Meeting Parish Hall

2nd April Parish Retreat Day. A day of preparation for Passiontide and Easter 10.00am – 10.00am- 4.00pm

Second Collections: 13th March Cafod (Lent Fast Day) 15th April Holy Places
8th May Clergy Formation 29th May World Communication

Sunday Collection: 13th Feb 2022

Envelope: £128 Loose Plate: £182 Candles: £24 If donating by cheque please make it payable to Boston Roman Catholic Parish. Thank you for your financial support and those too who pay through the bank. A refund from HMRC July-Sept £1884.05 and Gift Aid Oct-Dec 21 has been submitted £7284.01

It has been brought to my attention that it has been a while since a financial report has been reported to the parish. We shall post an end of year report. Until then I shall try to put together a brief resume. But rest assured our finances are stable thanks to your generous donations.

OF YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The sick and housebound and for those who need your prayers, Alan Potter, Liam Lane, Valerie Bianco, Graham Parkinson, Barbara Goemans, Margaret Allday, Sadie Wheate, Jenny Hunter and particularly Jack Newell who is in hospital.
- Our First Holy Communion and Confirmation Students
- Peace in the world, particularly in the Ukraine.



From the Parish Priest's Desk...Our Lenten Journey.

Dear Faithful,

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of our Lenten journey to the great Paschal Mysteries. I think the key word we should ponder is "Journey." In light of this I would strongly recommend reading the Book of Exodus; for this book narrates the journey of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to the promised land. But it is also much more; it is a spiritual journey which teaches us many things.

Firstly, although we know the destination – heaven (and in our Lenten journey we could add conversion of the heart and a second baptism on Divine Mercy Sunday) – we don't know how God will lead us and what route it will take. It is very important that we don't confine the powerful work God wants to do in our souls – we must allow him complete freedom to act as He sees fit. So often our Lenten journey becomes preoccupied with our Lenten penances that we forget the greater work God wishes to do of which our penances are symbols. We could call this work a heart transplant. If we surrender our heart to him, he will make it one with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Therefore, I suggest this Lent to be completely open to what God wants to do – not what we think he should do.

The journey of the Israelites was only meant to take fifty days but because of the hardness of their heart, it took forty years and only two completed the journey. This is why it is so important that we realise that **the major work of our spiritual journey is to submit our will and the powers of our soul (intellect and memory) to God's Will.** This is the sole purpose of the Christian journey: Obedience to the will of God.

Secondly, what the Israelites lacked was TRUST. They simply did not trust that God knew what he was doing – just like Adam and Eve – so at every step of the way they hindered his plans for them and they were always complaining. Two weeks ago we emphasised the need to start our journey empty like the great water jars at Cana. We must start from nothingness, from our very weakness – as Saint Paul gloried in his very weakness. But we must add to that complete and absolute trust. The smaller we are, the greater our sinfulness, the greater our addictions, problems etc, the more we can rely on the power of God. This as Saint Therese taught is the time for little souls.

God can accomplish anything in a soul that trusts and very little in souls that distrust. We must have on our lips, "Jesus I trust in you." He is going to do the work, not us and since he is all powerful there is nothing that he cannot do in our souls provided we do not impede his action and we trust. If we remove the small pebble of our will, his grace will do the rest little by little. Jesus told Saint Faustina, "*If souls would put themselves completely in my care, I Myself would undertake the task of sanctifying them, and I would lavish even greater graces upon them.*" (1682)

It takes courage to surrender to Jesus because it is necessary that we surrender everything – all control, all anxiety, all worry, all our burdens, all our plans – everything. This is what Jesus told his disciples in a phrase that Saint John Paul II loved "Put out into the deep."




What are going to be our aids in this journey? Firstly, a devotion to Divine Mercy for this is the grace that he wishes to give us and is the grace for our times. We have to trust completely in his merciful Sacred Heart for it was from this that the blood and water poured out on Calvary. Secondly, devotion to Mary. We receive God's graces through Mary and so we need to be devoted to her, especially in praying the rosary daily. The rosary is our great weapon in the spiritual battle of Lent. Lastly, we must seek the Face of Christ which is our Bishop's episcopal motto. Where better can we do this than in adoration? During Lent, I wish to increase the times where this is possible. Please read the spiritual thought for the week in the bulletin.

So choose your Lenten penances wisely for these dispose us to receive God's grace but remember above all this is a journey of surrender – we want to hand ourselves over to God to be remade. In Matthew 11 when Jesus says "Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened I will give you rest" the literal meaning is Come to me and I will REMAKE you. So let us prepare with complete trust that God wants (more than we want) to take our nothingness and to fill it not simply with water but with the most inebriating wine.

God bless, Fr. Dominic
Fiat!

This week contains a First Friday and a First Saturday as well as Ash Wednesday so there is on Friday a chance for adoration.

Retreat Day: Saturday 2nd April Church Hall The Heart of Jesus

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 9.00am | Rosary in church |  |
| 9.30am | Mass | |
| 10.00-10.30 | Coffee | |
| 10.30am | Talk 1 | |
| 11.30-12.15pm | Adoration with Benediction | |
| | Time for meditation/Confession | |
| 12.15pm | Lunch – shared table | |
| 1.00pm | Talk 2 – followed by meditation | |
| 2.45pm | Wrap-up and depart | |

Bring bible, pen and paper and something for the shared table. If you can only attend one part of the day that is fine.

**Parish Practices to help us:
RETREAT DAY** (see below)
Held quarterly: Lent;
Eastertide; September; Advent

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION:
Making reparation to the Sacred
Heart 5.00-7.00pm

