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NRCDT – 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,

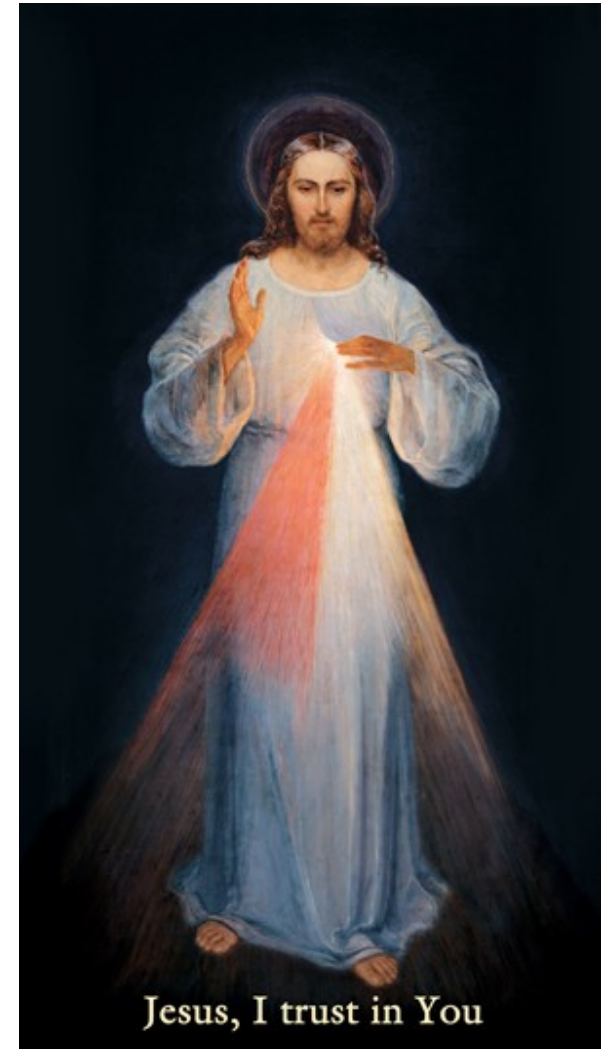
School: St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy, Ashlawn Drive,  
Boston, PE21 9PX TEL: 01205 362092

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



*Divine Mercy Sunday 2022*

## Liturgical calendar

Day	Date	Time		Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Saturday	23	4.00pm		Vigil	<i>For the people</i>
Sunday	24	9.30am 11.30am 1.00pm	Eng Pol Pol	<b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b>	<i>Theodoric Antao RIP</i>
Monday	25	12.30pm	Eng	<b>St Mark</b>	<i>M+D Chambers</i>
Tuesday	26	9.30am	Eng	<b>St George</b>	<i>Kevin Kilkenny RIP</i>
Wednesday	27	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	<b>Easter Feria</b>	
Thursday	28	7.00pm	Eng	<b>Easter Feria</b>	
Friday	29	9.30am 6.30pm	Eng Pol	<b>St Catherine of Sienna</b>	
Saturday	30	9.30am 4.00pm	Eng Eng	<b>Easter Feria Vigil</b>	
Sunday	1	9.30am 11.30am 1.00pm 4.00pm 5.30pm	Eng Pol Pol Latin Lith	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	

**DIVINE MERCY SERVICE SUNDAY 24TH APRIL 3.00PM (CONFESSIONS FROM 2.10PM)**

**Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm**

**Adoration/Holy Hour:** `Mon, Tues, Thurs 3.00pm Wed see above.

**Confessions: Saturday** After morning mass and 3.15-4.00pm **Sunday** 8.55-9.20am

## Parish Information

### DIVINE MERCY NOVENA INDULGENCE

Briefly, here are the other main differences between the "special graces" promised by Jesus for Divine Mercy Sunday, and the plenary indulgence offered by the Church for special devotions to the Divine Mercy on Mercy Sunday:

1) To receive special graces that our Lord promised for Divine Mercy Sunday, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the Vigil celebration) by making a good Confession beforehand and staying in the state of grace and trusting in His Divine Mercy. Any plenary indulgence granted by the Church, on the other hand, involves the fulfilment of a number of conditions, including prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, Confession and Holy Eucharist, and the carrying out of the special indulgenced work (in this case: participating in public devotions to the Divine Mercy on Divine Mercy Sunday itself).

2) The special graces promised by our Lord for Divine Mercy Sunday can be received by a soul in a state of grace, but with imperfect love for God, and imperfect contrition for sin-as long as the soul merely trusts in the mercy of God, and clings to Him because of His promised benefits. A plenary indulgence, however, can only be obtained through the performance of an indulgenced work as an expression of pure love for God. If the intentions of one's indulgenced work are not pure (say, the work is done in part out of fear of hell or purgatory, and loathing for oneself - or the desire to impress one's friends and relatives! - rather than purely out of love for God) then the indulgence obtained will be only partial, not plenary.

3) The special graces that our Lord promised for Mercy Sunday can only be received for oneself, through the devout reception of Holy Communion on Mercy Sunday (as stated in #1 above). A plenary indulgence, however, can be offered for oneself, or for souls suffering in purgatory.

4) The most special grace promised by our Lord for Mercy Sunday is nothing less than the equivalent of a complete renewal of baptismal grace in the soul: "complete forgiveness (remission) of sins and punishment." Such a measure of grace can only be received otherwise through baptism itself, or through making a sacramental confession as an act of perfect contrition for sin, out of pure love for God.

#### SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS

- 1) Be to the best of ones knowledge in a state of grace
- 2) Make a confession within two weeks either side. Our Lord did ask that we also go to confession on the day itself.
- 3) Receive Holy Communion worthily on the day.
- 4) Make some devotional act to Divine Mercy.



### **Announcements:**

Blessed News! Pauline Jaricot, the founder of the Association of the Propagation of the Faith [APF] is to be beatified in Lyons on 22nd May 2022. Find out about this remarkable lay woman in the spring edition of Missio's 'Mission Today' magazine [available in the Lady chapel at the back of church] or visit [missio.org.uk/pauline](http://missio.org.uk/pauline).

### **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.

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

EU Settlement Scheme: If anyone would like help with applying for this scheme please contact: EUSS team on 0800 448 0734

## **Spiritual Thought for the Week...**



Liturgy “celebrates” history, “celebrates” having a very strong sense and being equivalent to “keeps alive”, “brings to life”, “makes present.” In other words the liturgical memorial is both a memorial and a presence. Through it the event becomes contemporaneous for us and we for the event. When the liturgy is celebrated at this level of awareness, it engages and sways the mind towards the event. It makes us exclaim as the Jews actually used to exclaim at the passover supper, “we were there that night.” Ramiero Cantalamessa.

What this means is that when we attend the Sunday liturgy we are having made present to us and we are present to the sacred mysteries by which we were saved and sanctifies.

*Many thanks on behalf of all the parish to all who helped with the Easter Liturgies: sacristans, cleaners, choir, organist, servers, florists etc. It takes a lot of effort at this time of year. Many thanks.*

### **Dates for Your Diary!**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 3.00pm Divine Mercy Sunday

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 1.30pm Saint Mary's Church Hall: Coffee/Cake afternoon on the anniversary of the abortion act to raise funds for life. Bring a Cake – Buy a Cake Raffle All Welcome**

**PLEASE TRY AND SUPPORT THIS EVENT AS WE ALSO TRY TO BRING THE PARISH TOGETHER ONCE MORE IN SOCIAL EVENTS AND THE CAUSE IS SO IMPORTANT.**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May Women's Guild Meeting 1.30pm in Church Hall. Please bring a crafty activity

Red Box 2021: THANK YOU! In 2021, St Mary's Our Lady of the Rosary raised £1270.64 through the Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Many thanks for your generosity and your prayers!

**Second Collection** 8<sup>th</sup> May Clergy Formation 29<sup>th</sup> May World Communication Collection 17<sup>th</sup> April: Gift Aid £85 Gift Aid £640 Candles £57 Holy Places £289

### **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.
- Kathy Poucher's Brother, Kevin who died recently
- Louis Morrissey who died recently
- Polish Confirmation Students who will be confirmed by Bp Patrick on Friday.



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

**Why continue our “Lenten Journey” into Eastertide?** It has always been easier to identify with Lent and Holy Week than with Easter. Fasting, Lenten exercises, entering into the passion of Our Lord are more understandable to us since we know suffering, we know difficulty – we know death. This is why very few artists can tackle true joy and fulfilment – it is that much harder – tragedy is that bit easier. But the period of Easter is of hugh significance and it would be as much a mistake not to take advantage of this Liturgical season than if we had ignored Lent. Why? In a nutshell because as St. Paul said if Christ had not risen, our faith would be in vain. Over the next seven weeks we shall try to meditate upon the significance of Easter.

**How does the Church liturgically mark this season?** First and most importantly, the Easter Octave. Easter Sunday is not the last day of the week, nor the first of a new week, it is an “eighth day” which symbolises that Easter Sunday is somehow outside of time, it is mysterious – it draws our mind to the future bliss awaiting us in heaven; just as Christ’s resurrection is so intimate that we have no account of it. Moreover, the Church gives us an octave (8 days) of Easter Sundays to emphasize the point which is why Liturgically each day is celebrated as a Sunday. White is worn, the Gloria is sung, the antiphon “This is the day that the Lord has made” replaces the responsories in the office and the Paschal Sequence – although not obligatory – can/should be said during the mass. Easter Water can be blessed at the Sunday mass and sprinkled over the people. The Church also reminds us that we are celebrating baptism conferred on the catechumens at the Easter vigil – we continually in this period give thanks for this new life in the Church. There is much else that marks out this season making it so beautiful and rich, truly a time of joy. If you are able get your house blessed with the Easter water.

**What is the symbolism of the fifty days?** The period from Easter to the Ascension is forty days – that mysterious biblical time that we have noted. But from Easter to Pentecost is fifty days because fifty is the number associated with the solemn jubilee. Every fifty years the Israelites had to forgive debts, offenses, release slaves etc – it was a time of rejoicing – a clean slate. Our jubilee is greater and will be concluded with the coming of the Holy Spirit who will give us the knowledge of all the Jesus taught and the power to carry it out. We could also look at it as seven weeks of seven days – the Hebrew word for seven means oath – thus we have a solemn swearing of an oath and Pentecost like Easter is a mysterious completion – of time but out or time.

How do the readings at Mass mark this special time? During Eastertide all the readings are taken from the New Testament. During the octave we heard the confession of faith in Our Lord’s resurrection from the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel dealt with the different resurrection appearances of Our Lord. It is a rich season and the Sunday liturgies concentrate on passages that emphasise the significance of Jesus’ rising from the dead?

**Does Easter have particular practices for us as Lent did?** One of the mistakes that we can make if we are not careful is to assume that in Lent we did all the hard work, now we can relax, “kick back” and enjoy the festivity. We have “done” Lent and we can wait a while before it comes around again. Big mistake. Indeed the Church gives us a careful warning on Easter Sunday itself: we are to purge out the old leaven (sin, old way of life) since we can hardly participate in this festival with it (I Cor 5:7) Thus, our endeavours to lead a spiritual life are now redoubled because we have been redeemed. Lent was a time of preparation for our redemption and new life, Eastertide is living that life. However, I would add something very important: namely, the mode in which we live our lives is different. Lent was a time for penance due to our sins and fallen nature – hence we fasted and did penance; Easter is a time for festivity and joy since the mission has been accomplished. We really must feast for the fifty days. Therefore, our motivation to continue to improve our lives is now one of joy and gratitude. Not to feast or to appreciate the season is just as bad as not making any effort in Lent. After being given such a gift and one which cost such a price – as we saw during the Tridium – who would not feel uplifted in trying to live up to it. Lastly, we must remember that there are special graces to help us during this period – namely the grace of contact with the risen Christ.

**What is the relationship between the passion and Easter Sunday?** Often, we can make the mistake of separating these two. The best way to look at them is to see the Tridium and Easter Sunday as one event – they cannot really be separated. The passion without the resurrection would make not sense since it is the goal which Christ kept in mind during his suffering. The Paschal Mystery – and we use this term as much for Easter as for Lent – is the passion, death, resurrection and ascension of Our Lord.

**Why don’t I feel joyful during Easter – life still seems to have its difficulties and suffering?** We need to distinguish two things here: firstly, regardless of the Easter season life’s trials and difficulties continue since our life is still in the journey to the Father – we have yet to complete our Passover although it has definitively been accomplished; hence, there is bereavement, sorrow etc and thus Eastertide can be a time of sadness. However, the spiritual joy regardless of this should be there. Why? Because if we enter into the mystery of the Easter season, regardless of our life’s particular difficulties, Christ has indeed risen. He has conquered and in him, we too have risen and we too have conquered. Therefore, as St. Augustine says even the sorrow that comes our way during this season should not have an effect on this tremendous joy that is ours. This may seem strange but nevertheless it is profoundly true that our human sorrow physical, emotional or spiritual is tempered and difficult as it sounds must not distract us totally from the season. This is why the Church in her funeral rites during this season changes the readings.

This period of forty days to his Ascension, Christ taught the apostles. Let us likewise be open to his teaching, preparing for his Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

God bless, Fr. Dominic *Fiat!*

