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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,  
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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*



*Christ has risen, Alleluia!*

*He has risen indeed, Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## Liturgical calendar

Day	Date	Time		Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
<b>Saturday</b>	16			Easter Vigil	
Sunday	17	6.00am 8.00am 9.30am 11.30am 1.00pm 3.00pm 5.30pm	Pol Lith Eng Pol Pol Syro-M Latin	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<i>For the people</i>  <i>Sick and Housebound of the Parish</i>
<b>Monday</b>	18	<b>10.30am</b> Noon	Eng Pol	<b>Easter Monday</b>	<i>Jacob Matthew RIP</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	19	9.30am	Eng	<b>Easter Tuesday</b>	<i>Colin Clare RIP</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	20	<b>10.00am</b> 7.30pm	Eng Pol	<b>Easter Wednesday</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	21	7.00pm	Eng	<b>Easter Thursday</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	22	9.30am 5.30pm 8.00pm	Eng Sy-Mal Pol	<b>Easter Friday</b>	<i>James, Mary + Patrick RIP</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	23	No Mass 4.00pm	Eng Eng	<b>Easter Saturday Vigil</b>	<i>For the People</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	24	9.30am 11.30am 1.00pm	Eng Pol Pol	<b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b>	<i>Theodoric Antao RIP</i>

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

**Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm**

**Adoration/Holy Hour:**

**Confessions: Saturday 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...**



As the Father handed over his only begotten Son to a most painful and degrading death for our sake, has he not by this very act given us the confidence that he also wants to give all things to us and that nothing can now separate us from his Son and therefore, also from Him, the Father. Therefore, there is nothing that he will not do for us now. All we need is a simple act of faith to look on the one who was pierced for our sins and by us put to death, but who did it all so that we might be once again restored to the original innocence that had been lost to us.

*Wishing you and your families  
all the joys of Easter and the Risen Lord.  
May god bless you  
during this sacred time,  
Father Dominic.*

### **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

**Second Collection** 8<sup>th</sup> May Clergy Formation 29<sup>th</sup> May World Communication

### **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.



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

HOMILY FROM POPE FRANCIS 2020:

“After the Sabbath” (Mt 28:1), the women went to the tomb. This is how the Gospel of this holy Vigil began: with the Sabbath. It is the day of the Easter Triduum that we tend to neglect as we eagerly await the passage from Friday’s cross to Easter Sunday’s Alleluia. This year however, we are experiencing, more than ever, the great silence of Holy Saturday. We can imagine ourselves in the position of the women on that day.

They, like us, had before their eyes the drama of suffering, of an unexpected tragedy that happened all too suddenly. They had seen death and it weighed on their hearts. Pain was mixed with fear: would they suffer the same fate as the Master? Then too there was fear about the future and all that would need to be rebuilt. A painful memory, a hope cut short. For them, as for us, it was the darkest hour.

Yet in this situation the women did not allow themselves to be paralyzed. They did not give in to the gloom of sorrow and regret, they did not morosely close in on themselves, or flee from reality. They were doing something simple yet extraordinary: preparing at home the spices to anoint the body of Jesus. They did not stop loving; in the darkness of their hearts, they lit a flame of mercy. Our Lady spent that Saturday, the day that would be dedicated to her, in prayer and hope. She responded to sorrow with trust in the Lord. Unbeknownst to these women, they were making preparations, in the darkness of that Sabbath, for “the dawn of the first day of the week”, the day that would change history. Jesus, like a seed buried in the ground, was about to make new life blossom in the world; and these women, by prayer and love, were helping to make that hope flower. How many people, in these sad days, have done and are still doing what those women did, sowing seeds of hope! With small gestures of care, affection and prayer.

At dawn the women went to the tomb. There the angel says to them: “Do not be afraid. He is not here; for he has risen” (vv. 5-6). They hear the words of life even as they stand before a tomb... And then they meet Jesus, the giver of all hope, who confirms the message and says: “Do not be afraid” (v. 10). *Do not be afraid, do not yield to fear:* This is the *message of hope*. It is addressed to us, today. These are the words that God repeats to us today, this very night.

Tonight we acquire a fundamental right that can never be taken away from us: *the right to hope*. It is a new and living hope that comes from God. It is not mere optimism; it is not a pat on the back or an empty word of encouragement, with a passing smile. No. It is a gift from heaven, which we could not have earned on our own. Over these weeks, we have kept repeating, “All will be well”, clinging to the beauty of our humanity and allowing words of encouragement to rise up from our hearts. But as the days go by and fears grow, even the boldest hope can dissipate. Jesus’ hope is different. He plants in our hearts the conviction that God is able to make everything work unto good, because even from the grave he brings life.

The grave is the place where no one who enters ever leaves. But Jesus emerged for us; he rose for us, to bring life where there was death, to begin a new story in the very place where a stone had been placed. He, who rolled away the stone that sealed the entrance of the tomb, can also remove the stones in our hearts. So, let us not give in to resignation; let us not place a stone before hope. We can and must hope, because God is faithful. He did not abandon us; he visited us and entered into our situations of pain, anguish and death. His light dispelled the darkness of the tomb: today he wants that light to penetrate even to the darkest corners of our lives. Dear sister, dear brother, even if in your heart you have buried hope, do not give up: God is greater. Darkness and death do not have the last word. Be strong, for with God nothing is lost!

*Courage.* This is a word often spoken by Jesus in the Gospels. Only once do others say it, to encourage a person in need: “Courage; rise, [Jesus] is calling you!” (Mk 10:49). It is he, the Risen One, who raises us up from our neediness. If, on your journey, you feel weak and frail, or fall, do not be afraid, God holds out a helping hand and says to you: “Courage!”. You might say, as did Don Abbondio (in Manzoni’s novel), “Courage is not something you can give yourself” (*I Promessi Sposi*, XXV). True, you cannot give it to yourself, but you can receive it as a gift. All you have to do is open your heart in prayer and roll away, however slightly, that stone placed at the entrance to your heart so that Jesus’ light can enter. You only need to ask him: “Jesus, come to me amid my fears and tell me too: Courage!” With you, Lord, we will be tested but not shaken. And, whatever sadness may dwell in us, we will be strengthened in hope, since with you the cross leads to the resurrection, because you are with us in the darkness of our nights; you are certainty amid our uncertainties, the word that speaks in our silence, and nothing can ever rob us of the love you have for us.

This is the Easter message, a message of hope. It contains a second part, the sending forth. “Go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee” (Mt 28:10), Jesus says. “He is going before you to Galilee” (v. 7), the angel says. The Lord goes before us, he goes before us always. It is encouraging to know that he walks ahead of us in life and in death; he goes before us to Galilee, that is, to the place which for him and his disciples evoked the idea of daily life, family and work. Jesus wants us to bring hope there, to our everyday life.

For the disciples, Galilee was also the place of remembrance, for it was the place where they were first called. Returning to Galilee means remembering that we have been loved and called by God. Each one of us has our own Galilee. We need to resume the journey, reminding ourselves that we are born and reborn thanks to an invitation given gratuitously to us out of love, there, in my own Galilee. This is always the point from which we can set out anew, especially in times of crisis and trial. With the memory of my own Galilee. (EASTER HOMILY POPE FRANCIS 2020)

God bless, Fr. Dominic *Fiat!*

