



St Mary's Presbytery
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NRCDT – Registered Charity - 1134449

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic O'Connor

Deacon Martyn Chambers, Deacon David Witherick (Ret.)

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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 Father at the Presbytery (01205 362056) 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	3	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>James Poulter RIP</i>
Sunday	4	9.30am Noon 2.30pm 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Pol Lith Latin Pol	2 nd Sunday of Advent	<i>Parish</i>
Monday	5	12.30pm	Eng	Advent Feria	<i>Dec Clergy Assoc</i>
Tuesday	6	9.30am	Eng	St Nicholas	<i>Friends/ Benefactors</i>
Wednesday	7	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	St Ambrose	<i>NDL</i>
Thursday	8	10.00am 7.00pm	Eng	The Immaculate Conception	<i>Dec Clergy Assoc J.Isbecque</i>
Friday	9	9.30am 1.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol	Funeral Service	<i>P.Walsh RIP</i>
Saturday	10	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Dec Clergy Assoc</i>
Sunday	11	9.30am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Pol Pol	3 rd Sunday Advent "Gaudete"	<i>Parish</i>

Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm

Adoration/Holy Hour: 1st Friday 5.15-6.15pm

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

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8th December Mass: 10.00am & 7.00pm



“The Father chose her in Christ before the creation of the world, so that she might be holy and immaculate before him in love, preordaining her as the first fruits of filial adoption through the work of Jesus Christ (cf Eph 1, 4-5). The predestination of Mary, like that of each one of us, is linked to the predestination of the Son. Christ is that "seed" that was "to bruise the head" of the ancient serpent, according to the Book of Genesis; he is the Lamb "without blemish" (cf Es 12, 5; 1 Pet 1, 19), immolated to redeem humanity from sin.

With a view to the saving death of the Son, Mary, his Mother, was preserved free from original sin and from every other sin. The victory of the new Adam also includes that of the new Eve, Mother of the redeemed. The Immaculate Virgin is thus a sign of hope for all the living who have triumphed over Satan by the blood of the Lamb (cf Apoc 12, 11).

Today let us contemplate the humble young girl of Nazareth, holy and blameless before God in love [charity], in that "love" [charity] whose original source is God himself, one and triune. How sublime an act of the Most Holy Trinity is the Immaculate Conception of the Mother of the Redeemer! Pius IX, in the Bull *Ineffabilis Deus*, recalls that the Almighty "by one and the same decree had established the origin of Mary and the Incarnation of divine Wisdom" (*Pii IX Pontificis Maximi Acta, Pars prima, p559*).

The "yes" of the Virgin to the announcement of the Angel fits into the reality of our earthly condition, with humble respect for the divine will to save humanity not from history but in history. Indeed, ever preserved free from all taint of original sin, the "new Eve" benefited uniquely from the work of Christ as the most perfect Mediator and Redeemer. The first to be redeemed by her Son, she shares to the full in his holiness; she is already what the entire Church desires and hopes to be. She is the eschatological icon of the Church."

Pope St John Paul II 150th Anniversary.



IMPORTANCE OF ONGOING FORMATION/CATECHESIS

November Dead List : 12 Masses were celebrated in November and 14 remain which will be celebrated during the year.

There is a Adult Instruction group starting this Thursday after the evening mass. It will combine some catechesis and also some prayer. It will not last longer than an hour. It is very important that adults continue their formation in the faith. The theme will centre around the Spiritual Life and in particular the “New and Divine Holiness” to which Pope St John Paul II said we are being called.

CATECHISTS’ FORMATION & TRAINING - SEE NOTICE IN NARTHEX.

Spiritual Thought for the Week...

“Every truly new word begins in the desert, the uninhabited land where nothing is taken for granted and where nothing pretends to be what it is not. Before us we have the arid land, the sky, a thin river, a powerful voice: that is all. The usual dwellings of men have been left behind, along with all the busyness and deceit of the world. Only in this burning silence will the prophetic voice resound clearly so as to have the full impact. John’s is a voice that washes clean.

The “conversion” John calls for so insistently is not only an exterior and spiritual change of attitude; he is calling for us to “turn around” literally, because something tremendous has happened, has arrived and is here, and by looking in another direction, we may miss it altogether. “ (Leiva-Merikakis Heart of the Word Vol 1 p.109/110)

Dates for your diary!

Friday 9th December 1.00pm Funeral Service or Patrick Walsh RIP – this is not a mass therefore the 9.30am will be a requiem for him.

Thursday 8th December 10.00am Immaculate Conception the school will be attending.

Every weekend of Advent from 26th November to 18th December handmade angels will be on sale at £1 each in the narthex. Place your angels dedicated to your loved ones on the tree or take them home to place on your own tree. All angels have been made by members of the Women’s Guild. Father will say a Mass for all the intentions on the tree. Thank you for your generosity.

Adult Instruction/Prayer group weekly on Thursdays after evening mass 7.30-8.30pm

SECOND COLLECTIONS: 11th December Poor and Needy parishes

Diane Chambers on behalf of Boston Women's Refuge , wishes to extend their thanks and most sincere appreciation for the wonderful donation of £519.30 which was recently collected. Thank you so much everybody for your generosity and your support. Please remember the refuge staff and their resident families in your prayers.

Sunday Collection: 27 November 2022

Envelope: £171 Loose Plate: £347 Candles: £20 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. We have now received repayments from HMRC in respect of your Gift Aid claim for the quarter ended 30/09/22. The amount due to the parish is £1639.00

Thank you all for gift aiding your donations. Chaz Mayhew. (07778840886)

WOMEN’S REFUGE APPEAL: £519 – thank you for your great generosity.

OF YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR

- RIP Patrick Walsh. Teresa Stillwell.
- Lucy Hilton RIP. Martin Nolan RIP
- The sick and housebound and for those who need your prayers, Alan Potter, Liam Lane, Valerie Bianco, Graham Parkinson, Sadie Wheate, Fay Cowell, David Locking and Jack Newell.



Dear Faithful,

The Liturgy this weekend is very beautiful but also very arresting – it should make us stop in our tracks.

On the one hand, we see the great prophecy of Isaiah that the Messiah is going to be anointed with the Holy Spirit and is going to bring peace to the world. The evils brought about by original sin – which not only effected the human race but also the whole of creation, destroying even the unity of the natural world - are going to be healed; peace is going to return. In the second reading we see that this will apply now not only to the Jewish peoples but also to the gentiles. All is going to be restored and the promises of Abraham fulfilled.

On the other John the Baptist cries out that this necessitates a repentance – a turning back. Once we know who Jesus is and what he has come to do, we have no choice but to turn back, to throw off the old man and to put on a new. In Lent this repentance is accompanied by a deep sorrow for sin, in Advent it is more the joy of the child who is to be born that makes us rush to repent so that we shall be ready to greet him when he is born.

Repentance is a word that often has negative associations: difficulty, effort, giving up pleasures etc. But a true repentance should rather be a cause for great joy. Yes it will necessitate difficulties because we have to change but the joy is that what this will bring about in us is that we shall become our true selves, we shall have true peace which the world cannot give and which sets us free in Christ with a true freedom which once experienced is never forgotten. But this itself necessitates a true knowledge of ourselves. Often we simply don't realise how much we are in need of repentance and cleansing.

Let us pray to Mary, pregnant with Jesus, to intercede for us this Advent, that we are ready for Christmas with hearts and minds made new.

God bless, Fr. Dominic



ADVENT PRACTICES

- 1) **Although not as demanding as Lent, Advent is still a penitential season: prayer, fasting and almsgiving really help our spiritual progress. I particular encourage fasting a little especially from media.**
- 2) **Make a good confession. More on this next week.**
- 3) **Read some Scripture: the prophet Isaiah is a good Old Testament book to read.**
- 4) **Deepen our prayer life.**
- 5) **Have an Advent Wreath at home.**

Wishing you a very fruitful Advent season.

God bless, Fr. Dominic

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles

First Week All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.Amen.

Second Week God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.Amen.

Third Week Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord.Amen.

Fourth Week All-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord.Amen.

