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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,  
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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
<b>Saturday</b>	21	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Foundational Mass</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	22	9.30am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Pol Pol	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>
<b>Monday</b>	23	12.30pm	Eng	Mass for Christian Unity	<i>Tadeusz</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	24	9.30am	Eng	St Francis de Sales	<i>M.C.Sunny RIP</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	25	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Conversion of St Paul	<i>Gracy Saju GHO</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	26	7.00pm	Eng	Ss Timothy/Titus	<i>NDL</i>
<b>Friday</b>	27	9.30am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Feria	<i>FM Perp E</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	28	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	
<b>Sunday</b>	29	9.30am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Pol Pol	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>

### **PLANS TO OPEN THE CHURCH DURING THE DAY IN THE NEW YEAR**

These are nearly complete but it will mean that the door from the sanctuary to the sacristies will be kept locked. The key to access the sacristies (counters, florists, sacristans, Extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist) will be in the key safe outside the Church. Code is available from Father. I would also like to start regular periods of Adoration so please see Father if you would be willing to take a slot – we would require two people for each slot.)

**APPEAL FOR MORE CHURCH CLEANERS.** Please see Father or Reji. Monday mornings. If we get enough people we could have a rota. The burden is now falling on just a few. If you would like to clean but Monday mornings don't work, don't worry.

Excellent Podcast Available: The Catechism in a Year with Fr Mike Schmitz – good way to get to know your faith.

### **ADORATION**

Thanks to those who have expressed an interest in helping with adoration. Please could they either email or write down days/times of their availability. Many thanks.

**What to say when: an evening of pro-life apologetics training**, to be held on Wednesday 25th January at 7.00pm in Cathedral Hall, North Circus Street, NG1 5AE. This will be a practical training session on what to say when in conversation about pro-life issues (such as abortion and euthanasia) with friends, family or colleagues who do not share the pro-life perspective. Participants will have a chance to share and discuss their experiences, and by the end of the session will leave feeling more confident on how to argue the pro-life case. For more information contact [pro-life@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:pro-life@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or 07757 815625.

**Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm**

**Adoration/Holy Hour: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 4.30pm this week.**

**Confessions: Saturday 3.30pm; 8.50am** Father Stan also hears confessions before the Polish Masses.



## V. Sacred Scripture in the Life of the Church Catechism of the Catholic Church

131 "and such is the force and power of the Word of God that it can serve the Church as her support and vigour, and the children of the Church as strength for their faith, food for the soul, and a pure and lasting fount of spiritual life." Hence "access to Sacred Scripture ought to be open wide to the Christian faithful."

132 "Therefore, the study of the sacred page should be the very soul of sacred theology. the ministry of the Word, too - pastoral preaching, catechetics and all forms of Christian instruction, among which the liturgical homily should hold pride of place - is healthily nourished and thrives in holiness through the Word of Scripture."

133 The Church "forcefully and specifically exhorts all the Christian faithful... to learn the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ, by frequent reading of the divine Scriptures. Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.

134 "All Sacred Scripture is but one book, and that one book is Christ, because all divine Scripture speaks of Christ, and all divine Scripture is fulfilled in Christ" (Hugh of St. Victor, De arca Noe 2, 8: PL 176, 642).

135 "The Sacred Scriptures contain the Word of God and, because they are inspired, they are truly the Word of God" (DV 24).

136 God is the author of Sacred Scripture because he inspired its human authors; he acts in them and by means of them. He thus gives assurance that their writings teach without error his saving truth (cf DV 11).

137 Interpretation of the inspired Scripture must be attentive above all to what God wants to reveal through the sacred authors for our salvation. What comes from the Spirit is not fully "understood except by the Spirit's action" (cf. Origen, Hom. in Ex. 4, 5: PG 12, 320).

138 The Church accepts and venerates as inspired the 46 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New.

139 The four Gospels occupy a central place because Christ Jesus is their centre.

140 The unity of the two Testaments proceeds from the unity of God's plan and his Revelation. the Old Testament prepares for the New and the New Testament fulfils the Old; the two shed light on each other; both are true Word of God.

141 "The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures as she venerated the Body of the Lord" (DV 21): both nourish and govern the whole Christian life. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps 119:105; cf. Is 50:4).

## Dates for your diary!

### 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January Special Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Women's Guild:** Next Meeting Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 1pm at Prezzo Restaurant. Please let Carolyn know if you wish to attend.

On 28<sup>th</sup> January Jason Okoye will be baptised into the Catholic Church.

Second Collections: 22nd January Sick and Retired Priests; 7<sup>th</sup> April Holy Places; 30<sup>th</sup> April Clergy formation Fund.

Congratulations to Alvin and Eia who were married this past Friday.

**TODAY IS THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD WHEN WE REMIND OURSELVES OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORD OF GOD FOUND IN THE SACRED SCRIPTURES. AT MASS WE ARE FED BOTH BY THE WORD AND BY HOLY COMMUNION – SOME EXTRACTS ARE GIVEN FROM THE CATECHISM THAT ARE WORTH MEDITATING ON.**

Sunday Collection: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Envelope: £166 Loose Plate: £325 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)

Nativity Angel/Crib Donations: £272

Cards, Angels etc raised £358.50 for Care Home India The Claretian fathers are very grateful for your generosity

### **OF YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR**

- RIP Patrick Walsh. Teresa Stillwell. Lucy Hilton RIP. Patrick 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. Michael Campbell
- Patrick Marklew RIP
- RIP Pope Benedict; Cardinal Pell; Beryl Pierson



## *From the Parish Priest's Desk....*

This Sunday Pope Francis has asked that we pay particular attention to the word of God, Sacred Scripture. All I will try and do is to take a few themes we can reflect upon in this regard.

- 1) Sacred Scripture is **ALIVE** and is not a dead letter. What does this mean? That it speaks to us just as powerfully, just as wonderfully now as it did when Jesus proclaimed it in a certain place and at a certain time. We have to listen to it attentively especially during the Sacred Liturgy in which it finds its fullest expression and power. **GOD IS SPEAKING TO US – DIRECTLY AND NOW**. Hence the importance of the small phrase often used by Matthew: “At that time...”
- 2) The message of Sacred Scripture contains lessons **NECESSARY FOR OUR SALVATION**. God spoke but once through his Son, the Eternal Word. Now made flesh, Jesus spoke through the scriptures and through tradition. He spoke a message of salvation and repentance and gave to us what is needed to achieve this. Therefore, we must listen: “Let he who has ears, listen.”
- 3) We must when approaching God’s word have a sense of **WONDER AND AWE**. We must rediscover the devotion that is needed even when we simply handle the sacred text. Some saints would only pray the scriptures on their knees.
- 4) It is not enough to have an intellectual assent to faith and Jesus; that is, simply to acknowledge the truth of the matter. We need to **TOUCH** the Lord as Jesus invited Thomas to do; as Saint John says in his first letter: we have handled and touched the Word. Scriptures are a primary means together with the liturgy to do this.
- 5) The scriptures have the power to touch our minds and our hearts so as to bring about in them the very meaning they are conveying: provided we listen with an open heart, **ready to be transformed**. The prologue of the Rule of Saint Benedict tells us to listen with **“THE EAR OF OUR HEART.”** What a powerful image.
- 6) Jesus was born in the middle of the night when everything was enveloped in a profound silence. **SILENCE** has to invade and capture our souls, our very being if the word is to speak to us.

Saint Jerome in his study: Antonello da Messina C15th



Saint Jerome said that ignorance of the scriptures was ignorance of Christ. Hear we see him praying the scriptures. Notice:

- The cathedral-like environment and the chair that denotes authority.
- The colour red which denotes his service to the Church by giving his life to the study of the scriptures. St Jerome produced the only approved version of the scriptures: the Latin Vulgate.
- The lion on the right aisle. St Jerome removed a thorn from a lion – this shows us the humanity of Jerome and the time he spent in the desert
- The necessary things to aid his study.
- The skull and hour glass reminds him of his mortality and the need for humility.
- The partridge represents the truth of Christ and the peacock the church through whom we receive the word.
- The picture breathes: silence, sacredness, humanity, study.

