



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.)

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 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	28	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>NDL</i>
Sunday	29	9.30am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Pol Pol	4th Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>
Monday	30	12.30pm	Eng	Feria	<i>Tadeusz</i>
Tuesday	31	9.30am	Eng	St John Bosco	<i>NDL</i>
Wednesday	1	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Feria	<i>Monthly Requiem</i>
Thursday	2	9.30am 7.00pm	Eng Eng	The Presentation of OLJC	<i>Friends/ Benefactors/Intns</i>
Friday	3	9.30am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	St Blaise	<i>NDL</i>
Saturday	4	4.00pm	Eng	St Gilbert of Semp. Vigil	<i>NDL</i>
Sunday	5	9.30am Noon 2.30pm 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Pol Lith Latin Pol	5 th Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>

Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm

Adoration/Holy Hour: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 4.30pm this week. First Friday 5.00pm – 6.30pm

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



ORGANISATION OF THE PARISH

We need to bring the parish together and improve our organisation.

- We are gradually improving our **parish data base** but please will new parishioners fill in a form in the narthex (entrance).
- Also, we would like to improve **email communication**. Alas, a fair few entered came back. We will send out this week send an email to those whose information we have. If you don't receive one and would like to be on the list please email us at the parish email address on the front cover giving also your full name. Thanks.
- Lastly, more details will be forthcoming of this – we should like to organise the parish into local groups which will aid greatly our parish unity, power and mission. We could call these **parish cells** in the sense that they contain the living dna of the parish.
- The plan that seems to have found widespread acceptance is to **unify the parish** under one umbrella rather than the danger of Saint Mary's becoming simply a physical church for different communities.

This organisation is vital but we need your help and involvement. The organisation though is not an end but a means to becoming a holy, unified parish of one heart and mind. See Act 2

Father will be working at how best to make available the means of salvation.

As always Deacon Martyn and Fr. Dominic are open to your comments, advice etc.

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (Acts 2: 42-47)



A reminder of the importance of Scripture from last week:

- 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.

Dates for your diary!

Feast of the Presentation of OLJC: Thursday 2nd February. This is an ancient and beautiful feast and marks the end of the Christmas season. It is also the feast of Our Lady’s purification. Two masses 9.30am and 7.00pm It is the day also on which we bless candles. 9.30am Mass will have a procession from the hall with the blessing of candles.



Second Collections: 7th April Holy Places; 30th April Clergy formation Fund.

Sunday Collection: 22nd January 2023

Envelope: £128 Loose Plate: £419 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)

Second Collection: Sick and Retired Priests: £273

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....

“Dear children! Pray with me for peace, because Satan wants war and hatred in hearts and peoples. Therefore, pray and sacrifice your days by fasting and penance, that God may give you peace. The future is at a crossroads, because modern man does not want God. That is why mankind is heading to perdition. You, little children, are my hope. Pray with me, that what I began in Fatima and here may be realised. Be prayer and witness peace in your surroundings, and be people of peace. Thank you for having responded to my call. ”
(Medjugorje 25.1.2023)

Our Lady's message from Medjugorje points us to some very important issues. The Church has not definitively ruled on Medjugorje but one is permitted to visit as a pilgrimage site. Also, Our Lady's message is only affirming what Scripture, other approved apparitions and the popes have been telling us. One should be most aware of the apparition of Our Lady at Fatima and also her apparition at Akita. See also the post on what the popes say which is filed under the section: “Interesting Posts.”

The world has rejected God. This is the error Our Lady warned about at Fatima when she said that if men did not repent Russia would spread her errors throughout the world; the greatest error of communism was to do without God. This is man's greatest curse to be without God for from that flows all mankind's troubles: the unhappiness of the individual, of the nation and of the world. Both wars and natural disasters are a result of this. Before sin creation was in perfect harmony and all disharmony is a result of sin. One has only to look carefully to see the great unhappiness and evil in the world. As Our Lady points out – Satan is the greatest architect of disharmony; he is the enemy of peace and his power is great at the present time: abortion, war, hatred, divorce, pornography, contraception, pushing “living unreal lives” and the collapse of the family, gender and sex outside of marriage.

If man continues to do without God, it will have to suffer the chastisements of God. The Second World War is an example of such a chastisement but what might come if we do not repent will be far worse. Remember God's plans like at Nineveh are always conditional on our repentance. But we must remember even when God chastises the world He does so to the better save souls. For at times of crisis man remembers God and often repents. God is always merciful and is always seeking the salvation of souls. As Saint Faustina tells us now is the time of mercy so we must enter through this gate before we have to enter through the gate of divine justice.

But in all this we should not be afraid for God is pouring out his greatest graces for us right now. It has never been so easy to become a great saint than now. Moreover, those who live upright lives at peace with God and neighbour have nothing to fear. So what must we do?

- 1) Make sure we have repented ourselves – if we are to be peace bearers and makers, we must first be cleansed ourselves. In essence to surrender ourselves to God's Divine Will in all things and at all times. Make use of prayer, the sacraments – especially confession and mass – and learn our faith so as to increase our desire. This unfortunately is greatly lacking for whatever reason. For example, the decline in confession, the decline in the knowledge of the faith, unholy communions.
- 2) Our Lady – as always in our times – excites us to prayer and sacrifice; in particular fasting. We have to become detached from the world and inordinate attachments so as to live for God alone.
- 3) We have to make reparation if souls are to be saved and catastrophe avoided. In other words, we to whom much has been given need to make good to God for the sins of others. This is a duty given to us by Christ himself and is the greatest way of showing mercy. There is no other way that peace will be restored in the world.
- 4) This should not make us afraid. We need just to surrender to God through Mary and allow him to act in our lives. He will never ask of us things we cannot bear; He will only ask of us things that will bring us rest, peace and joy. Only in the grace of the cross which is the greatest can we truly become transformed and then the true peace and freedom that we experience will overwhelm us to the extent that we shall anticipate the joys of heaven.

But let us remember that this is URGENT. We are at the crossroads which means things can go one of two ways. God through Mary is offering us either peace or destruction. So it is URGENT but it is also a RESPONSIBILITY. We have been called to the battle. We maybe hobbits and the ring (symbol of evil) may bear down upon us but through the grace of God at the hands of Mary we can succeed. So let us repent and believe the good news and let us fine in poverty, meekness, mourning, peace and purity our reward of heaven in the life to come and a blessed anticipation even now as we walk through this vale of tears. God bless, Fr. Dominic.

