



St Mary's Presbytery
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NRCDDT – 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	25	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Bernadette Ward RIP</i>
Sunday	26	9.30am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Pol Pol	First Sunday of Lent	<i>Parish</i>
Monday	27	12.30pm	Eng	Lenten Feria	
Tuesday	28	7.00am	Eng	Lenten Feria	
Wednesday	1	No Mass 7.30pm	Pol	Saint David	
Thursday	2	11.30am 7.00pm	Eng Eng	Requiem Mass Lenten Feria	<i>Kevin Mackey RIP M.Nethu's Ints</i>
Friday	3	9.30am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Lenten Feria	
Saturday	4	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Foundational Mass</i>
Sunday	5	9.30am Noon 2.30pm 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Pol Lith Latin Pol	2 nd Sunday of Lent	<i>Parish</i>

Please note change of mass times/adoration this week.

Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm

Adoration/Holy Hour: Monday, Friday 4.00-5.00pm

Confessions: Saturday 3.30pm; Sunday 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)



Spiritual Thought for the Week...

“Christ does not seek comfort; he goes only to places where divine battles are fought – the heart of man, the depths of Jordan’s waters where demonic monsters were though to lurk, and the desert, where only the saint or demon can survive.....The desert offers two diametrically opposed solutions to the plight of man: either capitulation to the comforts of the satanic attitude – food, power, possession – or surrender to the mercy of God’s providence. The desert is the place of utter poverty and therefore, potentially, of heroic trust in God.....When man experiences his own bareness, when he is most in need then is the time of the decisive crises. Will he accept easy, immediate remedies and compromise his vocation as child of God, or will he wait in silence and privation, fasting from all the world has to offer for the perfect length of God’s pleasure – represented by the forty days and nights.” (E.L.Merikis Commentary on St Matthew vol 1)



ADORATION

*When you come to adoration, put aside every anxiety and care of yours, and allow the Holy Spirit gently to unite you to the prayer that arises from my Eucharistic Heart to the Father. Every need of yours is contained in the prayer I offer my Father. Be at peace. You may want to pray for this thing or that and such prayer is pleasing to my Father, but there is another way, a higher way, and that is to yield to the prayer of my Sacred Heart present in the most holy Eucharist and in the glory of heaven.
(In Simu Jesu The journal of a priest at prayer.)*



Dates for your diary!

TEA AND COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY MASS: It is quite important that we restore this now but we will need volunteers to be on a rota so that it is not too onerous. Please see Father, Deacon Martyn, or Tony Coates if you would be willing to be on this rota.

Weekend 25/26th Fr Simon Gillespie is kindly covering the weekend masses.

Stations of the Cross in Lent: English Thursday 6.00pm Keralan Friday 6.00pm

AFTERNOON TEA An afternoon tea in aid of Centrepoint Boston will be held on Friday 24th March at 2pm in St Mary's Church Hall Tickets £10 each. Raffle and entertainment. Please support this worthwhile charity as part of our Lenten appeal. All welcome.

Abel ,Akhil and Reece would like to say a massive 'thank you' to you all , for your wonderful generosity and charity . You have contributed £800.00 which is a great help in enabling them to go on the Dioceses Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the Sick and disabled ,when they will be busy as part of the caring team. Thank you so much.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The following meeting is on Tuesday 14th March .All welcome. Thank you.

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

Sunday Collection: February 2023

Envelope: £ Loose Plate: £ Candles: £ 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. The Gift Aid return for December has been submitted for £6756.80.

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

- 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

PLEASE NOTE THIS LIST WILL BE UPDATED IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS SO IF YOU WISH THE UNDERLINED/ITALICS INTENTION TO CONTINUE PLEASE SEE FATHER. THANKS.



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



Let us remember that Jesus took on himself all our temptations and conquered them. St Augustine says that this is the great motive for trust and confidence. We have already conquered in Christ. Therefore, the secret in our battles is to have the greatest trust in the power of Christ working within us, and therefore, to surrender ourselves totally to him.

Temptations mostly arise and gain their power when we have already separated ourselves from Christ. Like Saint Peter who fell by denying Christ because he walked AT A DISTANCE from him.

Stay close to Christ, enveloped beneath the wings of the Most High (psalm 90) and wrapped in the mantle of Mary, these are the means for conquering.

1. Lent is a time of Grace, a vital time given each year to help us become true children of God with our baptismal innocence restored.

2. The main battle in Lent is against sin—to battle our own demons and to make a thorough conversion of heart: The antiphon for day time prayer: Now is the time for redeeming sin and for saving souls.

3. It is a time of saving souls and therefore we must look outwards in works of Charity and proclaiming the gospel. The Liturgy emphasises almsgiving in particular.

4. It is a time for greater diligence in prayer particularly attending the Liturgy during this time.

5. Although we may choose to give up things or do things extra, fasting is the primary means the Church puts forward in this season. This is not only because it works symbolically—we fast from food, as we fast from sin and are fed by the word of God; but also because fasting has a salutary effect on our health; our minds become clearer and certain temptations (e.g. against purity) are lessened. I would strongly urge that unless medical conditions determine otherwise fasting plays some role in our Lent. Very simple: one main meal, two lesser meals. which combined do not exceed the main meal; no snacking in between. This is great wisdom: not too onerous but very productive.

6. Whatever we choose to do should not be so onerous that it detracts from prayer and our spiritual battle, or so light that there is no aid given in this battle. The Liturgical prayers assume that we are doing penance and that we realise we are in a battle.

7. Lent is a time for preparation—it makes no sense unless seen in the light of the Easter Vigil when we celebrate new birth with the baptism of the Catechumens and ourselves are made full of grace. The First Lenten preface is beautifully constructed in this respect:

“Each year You give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed. You give us a spirit of loving reverence for You, our Father, and of willing service to our neighbour. As we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ, You bring the image of Your Son to perfection within us.”

8. Lent is a time of Joy because our minds are being made pure.

God bless, Fr. Dominic

Fiat!

