



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	4	4.00pm	Eng		<i>NDL</i>
Sunday	5	9.30am Noon 2.30pm 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Pol Lith Latin Pol	5th Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>
Monday	6	7.00am	Eng	SS Paul Miki and comp.	<i>NDL</i>
Tuesday	7	9.30am	Eng	Feria	<i>NDL</i>
Wednesday	8	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	St J. Bakhita	<i>NDL</i>
Thursday	9	10.30am	Eng	Requiem	<i>Patrick Marklew RIP</i>
Friday	10	9.30am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	St Scholastica	<i>NDL</i>
Saturday	11	4.00pm	Eng	Our Lady- Lourdes Vigil	<i>Roger Ward RIP</i>
Sunday	12	9.30am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Pol Pol	6th Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>

Please note change of mass times/adoration this week.

Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm

Adoration/Holy Hour:

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)



SELLING FAST!

**Unbound: 'Freedom in Christ' Conference
in Lincoln, UK: 12th-14th May 2023**

**WEEKEND: Friday 12th May, 6:00pm start to Sunday
14th May, 5.00pm finish**

**@ Our Lady of Lincoln Roman Catholic Church,
Laughton Way, Lincoln LN2 2HE**

Teaching Conference to learn about the 5 Keys of Unbound Prayer ministry. Find out how to close the doors on sin and evil influences and live an abundant life in Jesus!

For more details see website for unbound Lincoln:
unboundprayer.com

This ministry is of vital importance in today's society and one which I have been involved with for a number of years; I also happen to be the spiritual director of this group. It is supported by Bishop Patrick. The parish would financially support people who would like to go so please talk to Father if you are interested. In a nutshell the ministry – the vast majority of whom are lay people – helps set people free from things that are binding them in their lives but most importantly helps to discover their true identity as children of the Father. It was founded in America by the Lozano family – Neil Lozano's book "Unbound" is the key text but is expanding all over the world. Best thing for more information is to access the local website: unboundprayer.com

Retreats in the Diocese of Nottingham this Lent – After the great success last year, The Diocese of Nottingham is again offering day retreats to help you grow closer to God this Lent. There is a FREE Young Adults (18-35) retreat in Derby on Saturday 11th a Men's Retreat on Saturday 18th March and a Women's Retreat on Saturday 25th March. The Men's and Women's Retreat will be held at the Rosmini House of Prayer (LE7 4SJ) and cost £20 which will include lunch and a light breakfast. To book your place or for more information visit: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events, email adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham or call 0115 953 9841.

Dates for your diary!

Funeral mass for Patrick Marklew: Thursday 10.30am

11th February Our Lady of Lourdes – Special day of prayer for the sick.

22nd February Ash Wednesday. Good to be already thinking, planning for Lent. Asking God what he wants of us this Lent.

Later this year three young people from here in our parish have volunteered to join the support team who look after the sick who are traveling to Lourdes with the Diocesan Pilgrimage for the Sick. By volunteering they are helping to enable sick and elderly members of our Diocese to go on pilgrimage to be with Our Lady of Lourdes praying for her healing intercession. They will be busy. They are trying to raise money to be able to pay their own way and over the next couple of weekends you will hear and see them appealing for your charity. Please, they will so very much appreciate your support both with money and with your prayers. Thank you.

Second hand books for sale in the narthex – make a donation as you see fit.

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

Sunday Collection: 29th January 2023

Envelope: £ 225 Loose Plate: £335 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 Enrique RIP
- RIP Pope Benedict; Cardinal Pell; Beryl Pierson



From the Parish Priest's Desk....

Dear Faithful,

Last week we looked at the plan of Divine Providence and that although we live in times of unparalleled difficulty, God wishes to pour great graces over us. Jesus wants us to completely identify with him in everything – in all we do, in all we think, in all we are.

We are in the midst of the great teaching of Our Lord known as the sermon on the mount. Here he is laying out for those that wish to follow him a new life. But we need to make sure that we understand what Jesus is doing here. He is most definitely not laying out a series of new laws that are simply to be added to the hundreds of the old law. Man could not keep those, so how can he possibly be expected to simply observe these. No we need to be made into new wineskins for the new wine. What Jesus is doing is creating his disciples into these new skins by a personal relationship with him. We live this new life and are able to live it because of this relationship with him – heart speaks unto heart.

Living a life of virtue will both be impossible and unproductive because we will simply be trying to imitate – trying to keep these new commandments in the same way the Jews tried to keep the old. No! We are meant to be set free so that we can live the beatitudes with simplicity and therefore, truly be the salt and light of the world. But this can only happen when our heart and Christ's heart are united – then and only then will this life become truly ours because it will be a life in common – because we and Jesus will share the same life that comes from the heavenly Father. Jesus was Jesus because he was completely identified with the Father – just as the Eternal Son shares everything in common with the Father.

Therefore, we have to undergo this TRANSFORMATION in Christ – which is what repentance means – to turn from our own lives to Christ's. "Jesus is inviting the disciples to know and experience the very happiness and bliss that God himself enjoys in his divinity, inviting them to be happy in the same way God is happy, by loving." (E.Leiva Merikakis: St Matthew)

So the million dollar question is: How? In a simple answer: By BEING with him. If we spend time with him, He will transform us. The first chapter of Saint John: Jesus asked Andrew and John: what do you want and this led them to seeing where he lived and spending the day with him.

Do we spend our day with Christ? What we do, is it done with Jesus? Do we read his words, observe his life – particularly his life that found his pinnacle on the cross. The cross will be the book in which we learn this transformation and our deepest identity with Christ which then leads to our resurrection.

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 in this world. 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.

