



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	11	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Roger Ward RIP</i>
Sunday	12	9.30am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Pol Pol	6th Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>
Monday	13	9.30am	Eng	Feria	<i>NDL</i>
Tuesday	14	9.30am	Eng	SS Cyril and Methodius	
Wednesday	15	No Mass 7.30pm	- Pol	Feria	
Thursday	16	7.00pm	Eng	Feria	
Friday	17	9.30am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Feria	
Saturday	18	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Mary Ward RIP</i>
Sunday	19	9.30am Noon 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Pol Latin Pol	7th Sunday of the Year	<i>Parish</i>

Please note change of mass times/adoration this week.

Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm

Adoration/Holy Hour: Monday, Thursday, 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)



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.

Spiritual thought: "My daughter thinking about yourself blinds your mind; it forms a sort of human enchantment in you and this enchantment forms a net around you. This net is composed of weaknesses, oppressions, melancholies, fears and all the evil composed in human nature. The more you think about yourself even under the aspect of good, the thicker the net becomes and the more blind your soul. However, thinking only of Me and only of loving Me in everything forms light for the mind which forms a divine enchantment. A net is also formed but this net is mad of light, fortitude, joy and trust; in sum – of all the goods that I possess."
(Jesus to Luisa Piccarreta 16th August 1912)

Dates for your diary!

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

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

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.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Thanks to everyone who came to the meal at Prezzo's. A good time was had by all. The next meeting is on Tuesday 21st February in the church hall at 1;30pm. We will focus on Lent and the contribution we can make to charities. The following meeting is on Tuesday 14th March. All welcome. 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: £ 128 Loose Plate: £329 Candles: £42 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

- 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
- Fr James Hannigan (Priest of the diocese)



From the Parish Priest's Desk....

Dear Faithful,

One of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit that we need to rediscover is "the Fear of the Lord.

(Wonder and Awe): With the gift of fear of the Lord we are aware of the glory and majesty of God. A person with wonder and awe knows that God is the perfection of all we desire: perfect knowledge, perfect goodness, perfect power, and perfect love. This gift is described by Aquinas as a fear of separating oneself from God. He describes the gift as a "filial fear," like a child's fear of offending his father, rather than a "servile fear," that is, a fear of punishment. Also known as knowing God is all powerful. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Prov 1:7) because it puts our mindset in its correct location with respect to God: we are the finite, dependent creatures, and He is the infinite, all-powerful Creator. (Univ.of Arizona 7 gifts)

The Lord created the world out of nothing and he created us. He is all powerful, all knowing, all good, all merciful. He created us out of the overflowing abundance of his love. We were thus created to know, love and serve God and our happiness is totally dependant upon these three commands. Once we realise – not just in our intellect but throughout our whole being – the greatness of God we start to rediscover a proper perspective on things. We start to look at things as God sees them (the Gift of Wisdom) rather than always seeing everything from our perspective. Through meditation and prayer we begin to develop an awe and wonder concerning God and upon realising his greatness and goodness and merciful love, we desire above all things never to offend him.

Jesus in today's gospel shows us that he comes to bring to perfection the law. He also tells us quite clearly that every aspect of the law matters – no matter how seemingly small and unimportant. If this applied to the Mosaic Law, how much more then does it apply to the New Law and the teaching contained in the Sermon of the Mount. To break a law knowingly and with full consent (even the smallest venial sin) is a great evil than all the natural disasters in the world.

Jesus makes this clear in graphic terms: better to be blind or maimed than to go to hell. There seems today to be an assumed feeling that everyone is going to go to heaven regardless of our behaviour and that it is up to the individual to choose which things he will follow and which things he will not. This has become so prevalent as to endanger the Church itself (cf Our Lady's apparition at Akita). The result of which is that we are in danger of dividing up the law of God. Those laws that seem outdated or irrelevant or go against human love can be consigned to the past.

NO! We need to regain a proper perspective on things. We obey the laws of God and the laws of the Church (which are also laws of God) first and foremost because they are of God and therefore, supremely good and completely and totally orientated to our good. They are the expression of his love for us and they are safety nets to stop us from losing eternal life. Nearly all of us – because the power and influence of the world is so great – need to do a serious work in regaining our perspective on things. St Francis de Sales in his Introduction to the Devout Life tells us to examine:

- What is the attitude of your heart towards mortal sin? Have you a firm purpose never to commit it no matter what might happen. This resolution is the foundation of the spiritual life.
- What is the attitude of your heart towards the commandments of God? Do you find them good, sweet, agreeable?

We can also ponder these immutable laws of God:

- How many Catholics routinely miss Sunday mass without any real concern or knowledge that this is a grave sin? Moreover, they consider mass online a valid substitution.
- How many Catholics practice birth control which is intrinsically evil?
- How many Catholics put the kingdom of God first above all other things?
- How many Catholics still believe that the only place for sex is within a marriage between a man and a woman?
- How many having committed these sins fail to go to confession before receiving Holy Communion?

Saint Benedict tells us to always remember the merciful love of God and now is the time of mercy. But once we have asked for God's mercy and obtained his forgiveness and love, His Mercy requires a change on our part and to resolve with all our might and strength to follow his law carefully. Obedience and Humility. Humility and Obedience. Prayer. Prayer. Prayer.

God bless, Fr. Dominic.

