



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



**CHANGES TO MASS TIMES
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY MASS TIMES
8.30AM AND 10.00AM
(VIGIL STILL 4.00PM)**

Our Lady of the Rosary

*In the end my Immaculate Heart will
triumph! Fiat!*

Liturgical calendar

| Day | Date | Time | | Liturgical Calendar | Mass Intention |
|------------------|------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Saturday | 18 | 4.00pm | Eng | Vigil | <i>Nov Dead List</i> |
| Sunday | 19 | 9.30am Noon 7.30pm | Eng Pol Pol | 33rd Sunday | <i>Parish</i> |
| Monday | 20 | No Mass | Eng | Feria | <i>NDL</i> |
| Tuesday | 21 | 9.30am | Eng | The Presentation | <i>NDL</i> |
| Wednesday | 22 | 7.00am 7.30pm | Eng Pol | St Cecilia | <i>NDL</i> |
| Thursday | 23 | 7.00pm | Eng | Feria | <i>NDL</i> |
| Friday | 24 | 9.30am 7.30pm | Pol | St Andrew Dung-Lac and comp. | <i>NDL</i> |
| Saturday | 25 | 4.00pm | Eng | Vigil | <i>Alvarez Thanks.</i> |
| Sunday | 26 | 9.30am Noon 4.00pm 7.30pm | Eng Pol Latin Pol | <i>Christ the King Solemnity</i> | <i>Parish</i> |

Blessing of Graves Sunday 26th @ 2.00pm meet at the Cemetery.

Adoration: Thursday 6.00pm – special emphasis on prayer for vocations.

Divine Mercy: 2.00pm Wednesdays

Confessions: Saturday 3.20pm-3.50pm Sunday 8.50am-9.20pm – available before and after daily mass.

Various

- We shall shortly be publishing a job description for a parish administrator. This will relieve Father of many onerous tasks that distract him from essential priestly duties. It will mean of course an increase in expenditure but it is now essential.
- Plans for the organ have changed and there are various possibilities and perhaps the best is at the back of Church near the confessional. Plans will be distributed and made available when we have some concrete proposals.
- Continue to fast and pray for peace. The situation in the Middle East and Ukraine could easily now lead to a serious escalation. God's plans can be altered or mitigated by our intervention.
- Prepare well for the Feast of Christ the King which marks the end of the liturgical year and also give some thought to Advent penitential practices.
- Some things people might want to get involved with:
 - It would be nice to have a book of the dead on display so each month we can see the deceased of the parish.
 - When the hall is complete we should finally restart tea and coffee. I have still the name of those who volunteered originally but would be good to have a couple more.



Friday Devotions in Advent December: 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd

- 1) Adoration and Confession 8.00-9.20am Fr Dominic
- 2) English Mass 9.30am
- 3) 10.15-12.00 Adoration and Confession Fr Stan
- 4) 5.00-6.30pm Adoration and Confession Fr Dominic
- 5) 6.30-7.25pm Adoration and Confession Fr Stan
- 6) 7.30pm Polish mass
- 7) 8.15-9.30pm Adoration and Confession Fr. Stan

Spiritual Prayer:

“I am poor and empty, to the point that I do not any longer feel Your absence. Fill me, without my even asking You for it. Bring it about that I will at least not place any obstacle to Your coming and that now and then I may have the agreeable surprise of finding You sitting by my hearth, like a friend with enough familiar affection to take the place of the host, almost like a servant who tends the fire and rekindles it, awaiting the return of the master who is journeying far from his home. You came to serve, to enkindle, to consume souls. It has been so long since I have spoken to You without effort, with the natural flow of a conversation that is never interrupted.” (Maurice Blondel Carnets Intimes)

Dates for the diary:

- Guild Meeting Tuesday 21st November Presbytery 1.30pm
- BLESSING OF GRAVES 2.00pm 26th November
- Gwenneth and Eamon Lynch RIP - Mass will be said for them on Friday 1st December 9.30am followed by the interment of Gwynneth's ashes at the plot. Mike Lynch invites you to attend both events and if there is someone who might like to come too please to let them know.

ADVENT ANGELS

Angels will be on sale on December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th and 17th. The angels have been handmade by members of the Women's Guild. Please dedicate your angel to loved ones, living or deceased. You may hang them on the tree or send them as a gift. Angels are £1 each. All the money will be given to Care Home India.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

Sunday Collection: 12th November 2023

Envelope: £112 Loose Plate: £ 316

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 Parish has received £1,425.82 refund for the June quarter.

Thank you all for gift aiding your donations. Chaz Mayhew. (07778840886)

CARE HOME INDIA raised £958.90 Blessings for your generosity.

Second Collections: 10th Dec Poor/Needy Parishes
17th Collection for Christmas Flowers.

OF YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR

- The sick and housebound and for those who need your prayers, Sadie Wheate, Rosalyn, Mary, Fay Cowell, David Locking and Jack Newell. Michael Campbell; Kathleen Bedford
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From the Parish Priest's Desk...Our Lenten Journey.

Dear Faithful,

Next week we shall celebrate the feast of Christ the King and the end of the Church's Liturgical Year. The Church uses this time of the year, therefore, to remind us of the last things: the end of history with the coming of Christ in Glory and also, the end of our own mortal life. Last week we were reminded of the need for being vigilant in order to be prepared for Jesus when he comes – again both in salvation history and at the end of our lives. We must watch and pray. St Paul tells us too that we must pray always.

This weekend we have the parable of the talents where Our Lord is telling us that when He comes if we have made good use of our gifts, we shall enter into the fulness of the Kingdom; whereas, if we have not, we shall be excluded from it.

The use of our talents on a constant basis is in our lives a continuous "crisis" of dying to our own will and rising in God's Divine Will. It is a tremendous vocation; tremendous both in the awe that God trusts us absolutely to be his "other self" but also, that it brings with it a tremendous responsibility. This would be crushing but for the fact that God trust us and depends upon us but also, he has given us all the necessary means to live this out; also, he has tailored what he asks of us exactly to how he created us and endowed us:

"Even I God could not have done more for you than I have already done. *But will you trust my trust in you?* Will you finally agree to derive hope and strength – not directly from yourself as if you could be the source of anything reliable – but from me working in you, from my own indefectible fidelity to you, from the beauty and goodness that my gaze of love has already stamped into your being? By accepting my love, do allow me to infuse into you a thrust of my omnipotence. *To love me truly, you must first trust my love for you.*" (E.Leiva-Merikakis Vol 3 St Matthew comm.p.811)

We can see then that to distrust God is a kind of blasphemy whereby we constitute ourselves "god" and think that our own ideas and strengths will achieve the end. We must ponder the wicked servant – he has given into fear of God, doubting God's goodness and looking at what suits him best.

I believe that deep within us we have all imbibed at some stage of our lives and to some a fear of God and believed the "original" lie that God is not to be trusted. A psychologist listed 5 essential factors to develop a strong spiritual life and to develop into a saint:

- 1)Feeling seen and known by God – at heart level.
- 2)Feeling safe and secure with God – rarer than we might think.
- 3)Having sense of being comforted and being reassured by God.
- 4)That God cherishes you, rejoices in you, delights in you. Really foreign concepts to many. Deep deep sense fortified by faith but not just in the intellect.
- 5)God wills what is best for us – crosses etc are for our growth. But if we disconnect then He draws back. Suffering misunderstood. (Dr Malinoski)

We need to ponder these and pray about them and ask God to develop them within us. We have to see if there are wounds that are stopping us developing in our relationship with God. There can be many and often good reasons that have led us to the point where we are tempted to distrust God. But it requires our participation when we decide to buy into the lie.

TRUST – TRUST – TRUST. We must trust in the love God has for us. Only with that secure foundation and with the knowledge that God not only wants us to do his will but rather he wants his will to operate in us; then our power and use of our talents will be unstoppable because then we shall have emptied ourselves to such an extent that God's power works through us.

It is given to us then to accomplish miracles and works beyond anything we can think of or imagine.

Pray often Maurice Blondel's beautiful prayer. (See section "Spiritual Prayer.")

God bless, Fr. Dominic *Fiat!*

