



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 | 2 | 4.00pm | Eng | Vigil | <i>Jim Poulter RIP</i> |
| Sunday | 3 | 8.30am 10.00am Noon 4.00pm 7.30pm | Eng Eng Pol Latin Pol | 1st Sunday Advent | <i>Parish NDL</i> |
| Monday | 4 | 12.30am | Eng | Advent Feria | <i>NDL</i> |
| Tuesday | 5 | 9.30am | Eng | Advent Feria | <i>NDL</i> |
| Wednesday | 6 | 7.00am 7.30pm | Eng Pol | Advent Feria St Nicholas | <i>NDL</i> |
| Thursday | 7 | 7.00pm | Eng | St Ambrose | <i>Vocations</i> |
| Friday | 8 | 10.00am 7.30pm | Eng Pol | Immaculate Conception | <i>NDL</i> |
| Saturday | 9 | 4.00pm | Eng | Vigil | <i>NDL</i> |
| Sunday | 10 | 8.30am 10.00am Noon 7.30pm | Eng Eng Pol Pol | 2nd Sunday of Advent | <i>Parish</i> |

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

Adoration: Tuesday 8.00am Thursday 6.00pm – special emphasis on prayer for vocations. Friday see separate page PLEASE SUPPORT FRIDAYS ADORATION IN ADVENT

Divine Mercy: 2.00pm Wednesdays

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

Various

First Sunday of Advent will start a Year of Prayer to prepare us for the universal Jubilee Year 2025. Bishop Patrick wishes us to particularly focus on prayer as encounter with Jesus.

Saturday 16th December – I will be running a retreat for those I guide in Living in the Divine Will – people will be attending from various parishes. If you might like to attend, please see Father.

- 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.
- 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.

Gift Aid Note:

If you are a Gift Aid Declaration Holder please advise your parish office, or the Diocesan Gift Aid Department (parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk) of any change in your circumstances, such as name change / address change / no longer a taxpayer. If your spouse has died and the GA Declaration was in his / her name, and you wish to continue to contribute because you are a taxpayer, then a new GA Declaration Form will need to be completed. Please also advise of the date of your spouse's death. Your continued support of both parish and Diocese is always very much appreciated – thank you! If you do not gift aid your contributions, and you are a taxpayer, and wish to do so, please speak with your parish priest, or contact the parish office for a Gift Aid Declaration Form.



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:

“We must be awake, alert, vigilant. Jesus warns us: there is the danger of not realizing His coming and being unprepared for His visit. I have recalled on other occasions what Saint Augustine said: ‘I fear the Lord who passes by’... that is, I fear that He will pass by and I will not recognize Him!” Pope Francis

Dates for the diary:

- *English Christmas Masses: (NOTE due to number of mass no 8.30am on 24th + 25th)
Sunday 24th 10.00am (NO 8.30am) 5.00pm Vigil Mass 11.30pm Midnight
Christmas Day 6.45am Latin 10.00am (Afternoon mass in Prison)*

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: 26th November 2023

Envelope: £103 Loose Plate: £340

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.

14th Jan Sick/Retired Priests 29th March Holy Places 21st April Clergy Formation

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
- First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates.



Dear Faithful,

This beautiful season of Advent which ushers in the new Liturgical Year brings us once more to this time of preparation. What are we preparing for? The liturgy this Sunday reminds us that there are three comings of Jesus?

- The Coming of Christ at Christmas
- The Coming of Christ at the end of time.
- And between the two.....the Coming of Christ to the individual soul.

We need to be looking forward to and yearning for these. Pope Emeritus Benedict - in our Spiritual Thought this bulletin - puts before us the question: "What am I waiting for? What is my heart longing for? This is a good meditation to do: to ask ourselves these questions and to ask for the grace of a continuing conversion of our heart so that our greatest longing is Christ.

The Liturgy lays before us the urgent advice:

STAY AWAKE – WATCH – PERSEVERE TO THE END.

How do we accomplish this? How do we make sure that when Jesus comes for us – either at our death or if we are present at the final events of the world – that we are ready; ready to go into the wedding feast. A great scripture commentator answers it in this way:

“Perseverance to the end, rooted in fidelity to Christ, means constantly keeping alive the memory of the words and person of the Lord Jesus, of everything he has taught me, everything that he has done for me, everything his presence has meant in my life. It means abiding in the conviction that I cannot have my deepest identity apart from him and his action in my life. It means not compromising the truths I have come to know since putting on the mind of Christ and beginning to see the world and all reality through his eyes. It means actively choosing, against all the odds, not to stop living the life of grace given to me at baptism.....it means not valuing mere physical and psychological comfort or survival or reputation or property – all of which are ephemeral realities – above the truth that the image of God lives in each man.”



ADVENT PRACTICES

- 1) Although not as demanding as Lent, Advent is still a penitential season: prayer, fasting and almsgiving really help our spiritual progress. I particularly encourage fasting a little especially from media.
- 2) Make a good confession. More on this next week.
- 3) Read some Scripture: the prophet Isaiah is a good Old Testament book to read.
- 4) Deepen our prayer life.
- 5) Have an Advent Wreath at home.

Wishing you a very fruitful Advent season.

God bless, Fr. Dominic

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles

First Week All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.Amen.

Second Week God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.Amen.

Third Week Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord.Amen.

Fourth Week All-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord.Amen.

