



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,
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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	9	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>NDL</i>
Sunday	10	8.30am 10.00am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Pol	2nd Sunday Advent	<i>Parish</i>
Monday	11	12.30am	Eng	Advent Feria	<i>NDL</i>
Tuesday	12	9.30am	Eng	Advent Feria	<i>NDL</i>
Wednesday	13	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	St Lucy	
Thursday	14	7.00pm	Eng	St John of the Cross	<i>Vocations</i>
Friday	15	10.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Advent Feria	<i>NDL</i>
Saturday	16	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	
Sunday	17	8.30am 10.00am Noon 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Latin Pol	3rd Sunday of Advent "Gaudete"	<i>Parish</i>

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.

RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER

Back of church two resources to help with the year of prayer:

- 1) Short morning and evening prayer.
- 2) Catechesis of Pope Francis on prayer.



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

A prayer for use during Advent, to coincide with the Reflection theme:
Enlarge your tent:

Coming Lord, every Advent we enter into this time of hopeful expectation. We prepare our hearts to welcome You once again at Christmas. We praise and thank You for seeking us, for leaving the glory of heaven and choosing to come to us. Help us to see that You continue to come to us in the most Blessed Sacrament and in the hearts of all our parishioners and visitors. Fill us with the Holy Spirit, so that we may have the courage and creativity to welcome and invite others into our parish family. Help us see how we can better work together to be a welcoming community that makes You present in word, action, sacrament and deed. So that all who enter our churches this Christmas and Advent season encounter Your love and invitation of friendship. May this begin with ourselves, that we feel renewed and joy filled by being a member of our parish community, so that we can be a beacon of hope in a broken world. We ask this in Your powerful name. Amen.

The diocese is producing a monthly podcast for the Year of Prayer called Encounter Prayer. Each month a different type of prayer will be showcased; this first episode is given by Bishop Patrick who introduces the Year of Prayer, his hopes for it, and shares insights from his own prayer life. The Podcasts can be found on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music and Audible by searching Diocese of Nottingham; they are also on the diocesan website: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer.

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: December 2023

Envelope: £ Loose Plate: £

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,

The Liturgy this weekend is very beautiful but also very arresting – it should make us stop in our tracks.

On the one hand, we see the great prophecy of Isaiah that the Messiah is going to be anointed with the Holy Spirit and is going to bring peace to the world. The evils brought about by original sin – which not only effected the human race but also the whole of creation, destroying even the unity of the natural world - are going to be healed; peace is going to return. In the second reading we see that this will apply now not only to the Jewish peoples but also to the gentiles. All is going to be restored and the promises of Abraham fulfilled.

On the other John the Baptist cries out that this necessitates a repentance – a turning back. Once we know who Jesus is and what he has come to do, we have no choice but to turn back, to throw off the old man and to put on a new. In Lent this repentance is accompanied by a deep sorrow for sin, in Advent it is more the joy of the child who is to be born that makes us rush to repent so that we shall be ready to greet him when he is born.

Repentance is a word that often has negative associations: difficulty, effort, giving up pleasures etc. But a true repentance should rather be a cause for great joy. Yes it will necessitate difficulties because we have to change but the joy is that what this will bring about in us is that we shall become our true selves, we shall have true peace which the world cannot give and which sets us free in Christ with a true freedom which once experienced is never forgotten. But this itself necessitates a true knowledge of ourselves. Often we simply don't realise how much we are in need of repentance and cleansing.

Let us pray to Mary, pregnant with Jesus, to intercede for us this Advent, that we are ready for Christmas with hearts and minds made new.

God bless, Fr. Dominic



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.

