



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!

2024 YEAR OF PRAYER



Liturgical calendar

Day	Date	Time		Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Saturday	9	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Roger Ward RIP</i>
Sunday	10	8.30am 10.00am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Pol	Fourth Sunday of Lent	<i>Debra+Donald Griffin RIP Fr Bultler RIP Parish</i>
Monday	11	12.30pm	Eng	Lenten Feria	<i>NDL</i>
Tuesday	12	9.30am	Eng	Lenten Feria	<i>S.Kula RIP</i>
Wednesday	13	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Lenten Feria	<i>D Darling</i>
Thursday	14	7.00pm	Eng	Lenten Feria	<i>A+L Kutty RIP</i>
Friday	15	9.30am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Lenten Feria	<i>Matthew Jacob RIP</i>
Saturday	16	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>M+J Quinn</i>
Sunday	17	8.30am 10.00am Noon 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Latin Pol	Fifth Sunday of Lent 1st Passion Sunday	<i>Tadros Family Parish Fr McKean RIP</i>

Adoration: Tuesday and Friday 8.15am

Confessions: Saturday 3.20pm-3.50pm Sunday 7.55am-8.20am and 9.20am – 9.50am available before daily mass. After daily mass upon request.

NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH 11-19TH MARCH

Novenas are powerful forms of intercessory prayer whereby we invoke a particular feast or saint to aid us in achieving a particular intention. They are nine continuous days of prayer. The first and only official novena in the Church was that from the Ascension to Pentecost. Prayers for the novena are sometimes suggested but often can be left up to the particular person's choice. A very powerful novena that I have mentioned before is to Mary, Untier of Knots.

Saint Joseph is a very powerful intercessor – the most powerful after Mary of course. He is also patron and protector of the universal Church. The church is in a fair degree of turmoil at the moment so I am asking as many people as possible to pray a novena to Saint Joseph for the intentions of holy Mother Church. The Litany to Saint Joseph is a very powerful way to pray the novena as is the prayer below:

O St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires. O St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers. O St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him close in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

DIOCESAN TIMETABLE – PREPARATION FOR AND FOLLOW UP FROM THE UNIVERSAL JUBILEE YEAR IN 2025

2024 – ENCOUNTER : PRAYER

From Advent 2023 there will be a whole year of Encounter, to tie-in with the Year of Preparation focusing on Prayer in its many forms. Each month there will be a different prayer theme considered across the Diocese, with a scriptural quotation and a focus for prayer. See the resources section to download and use these bespoke materials. Scroll down to access our Year of Prayer resources. Dates: First Sunday of Advent (3rd December 2023) – Christmas Eve morning (24th December 2024)

2025 - DISCIPLESHIP

The Jubilee Year 2025 will be a whole year of Discipleship, looking at some of the themes of the Year including care for creation, food poverty, modern slavery, cancelling debt, forgiveness, and rest and worship. Dates: Year of Jubilee 2025 – Discipleship – Christmas Eve evening (24th December 2024) – Epiphany (6th January 2026)

2026 – MISSION

The following year will look at Mission, as a thanksgiving for the Jubilee, and a response-in-action to the blessing and graces received during the Jubilee: we will be encouraged afresh to be those Missionary Disciples which is God's gift to us at our baptism. Dates: Post-Epiphany (7th January 2026) – end of ordinary time (28th November 2026)

IN ADDITION WE ARE PREPARING FOR OUR TWO HUNDRED ANNIVERSARY IN 2027



THEME FOR LENT

TURN TO FACE CHRIST – LET US REORIENTATE OURSELVES TO CHRIST AS THE CENTRE OF OUR LIVES

What can we do for Christ this Lent?

This Lent we want what Jesus wants

- Christ wants to live his life in us and to share the whole mystery of his life with us – joys and sorrows.
- He is looking for souls to take a little sip of the bitter chalice that he had to drink.
- See everything that happens in our lives (apart from sin) as Jesus living in us, sharing with us.
- He is looking for souls this Lent to keep him company when he was deserted by his closest friends.
- Meditate on the Passion. Jesus revealed to Saint Faustina that an hour meditating on his passion was more than a year of rosaries. Meditate particularly on the Garden of Gethsemane
- Keep Silence – Listen – Remove the little world that surrounds us – thoughts of creatures, imagination, the voices that inundate us (worry, anxiety, control, fear) so that we can hear the voice of Jesus and so that he can enter freely into our hearts.
- Make good and regular confessions. Confession is saying I chose this creature, this pleasure etc rather than choosing Christ.

Pray for courage and put into the deep. We can truly come to the Paschal mysteries having undergone a profound conversion if we allow the Holy Spirit to purify us.

Dates for the diary:

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

*Saturday 9th March 7pm Kirton Brass Band Concert Thomas Middlecote Academy
Tickets £12.50 from Carolyn. Proceeds to Boston Food Bank and Centrepoint.*

March 16th/17th Daughters of Divine Love will make our annual mission appeal.

Sunday Collection: 3 March 2024

Envelope: £123 Loose Plate: £679

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)

Second Collection: White Flower Appeal £224.15

Second Collections:

25 Feb White Flower Appeal 16/17th March: Mission Appeal 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 Lockingl. Michael Campbell; Kathleen Bedford Tony Bass. Teresa Turpin
- Trevor Vandervord RIP Jack Newall RIP
- First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates.



Dear Faithful,

Blessings to you all on this beautiful Sunday of Lent when we "Rejoice" because the mysteries of our redemption are drawing near. However, I would like to bring you up to date with some parish news and also an appeal.

We recently had a Fire Safety Inspection which revealed that a lot of work needs doing on the Church to bring in line with safety requirements. Most importantly is the construction of a new church door which will serve as an additional fire exit. Luckily we can incorporate this into the refurbishment of the Church. I am pleased to announce that Gabriel Gillick has been appointed to produce plans and designs for this refurbishment and renovation.

The Fire Inspection together with work in the quinquennial, health and safety, First Aid etc means that there is a great burden of work if we are to fulfil our statutory requirements. It is too much for the Parish Priest to handle any longer nor should it be his task with expertise available in the laity.

As you know we as a parish now have a integration committee who have hosted the first annual integration event last month. Now, the parish committee is asking for help from each and every one of you and certain members to help shoulder the burden.

There are three roles we are looking at on a volunteering basis and which would only consist of 2-3 hours work per week.

- **Health and safety officers** to help our current parish representative. Their duty would be to make sure that our buildings are safe and that procedures and risk assessments are in place and up to date. This information would then be uploaded to the diocesan website.
- **First aiders** – ideally 5 or 6 who would keep our first aid boxes up to date and would be available during the service if needed.
- **A fire officer** - This will be a new post, separate from health and safety and will be quite straight forward. Doing the mandatory checks on the equipment and making sure that the fire emergency procedures are in place and being followed.

The finance committee is also looking to grow and progress therefore the parish is looking for 2-3 members who have experience in dealing with finance or has a passion for finance, the aim of this committee is to get together to discuss finances (probably initially on a 4-6 week basis) and come up with ways to make finance for the church and the upcoming 200 year anniversary. Our present committee which has served the parish faithfully is in need of additional members.

As you all know our church is in need of much refurbishment and this won't be possible without support from all the communities. Therefore, as previously mentioned the parish committee is asking for volunteers out there. if you feel like you are the one for job, please don't hesitate to contact me (Father Dominic) or reach out to Deacon Martin.

The Bostonians have managed this church beautifully and for many years but many are elderly now and have also, demands on their time. So it will need the other communities to help pick up the baton.

TWO FINAL POINTS

Firstly, we must remember that helping the Church is a precept of the Church – one of the five obligations: "to provide for the needs of the Church. " This is not purely financial but also with time and skills. In other words to achieve our salvation we must fulfil this precept.

Secondly, Deacon Martyn and myself are already over-stretched and so this is no longer simply a question of hoping people come forward. If there is no movement then either the capacity of the Church will be severely reduced or we shall fail our mandatory duties. The main result would be that should there be a major problem, we would not be insured. It is as serious as that. I have to emphasise we are in a difficult situation.

But I know we have a generous and talented community and I am sure that we will manage to get things in place.

God bless, Fr. Dominic

Fiat!