



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!

2024 YEAR OF PRAYER



Liturgical calendar

Day	Date	Time		Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
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	Fourth Sunday of Lent	<i>Tadros Family Parish</i> <i>Fr McKean RIP</i>
Monday	18	12.30pm	Eng	Lenten Feria	<i>ndl</i>
Tuesday	19	9.30am 7.00pm	Eng	Saint Joseph	<i>Darwin Darlin</i>
Wednesday	20	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Lenten Feria	
Thursday	21	7.00pm	Eng	Lenten Feria	<i>Perp B</i>
Friday	22	9.30am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Lenten Feria	<i>S.Kula RIP</i>
Saturday	23	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Mary Ward RIP</i>
Sunday	24	8.30am 10.00am Noon 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Pol	Palm Sunday	<i>Remy, Menino, Blasie RIP Parish</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.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY 7.30 PM (WITH WATCHING UNTIL 11.30PM)

**GOOD FRIDAY OFFICE OF READINGS 9.00AM
WALK OF WITNESS 11.00AM
SOLEMN SERVICE 3.00PM**

**HOLY SATURDAY OFFICE OF READINGS 9.00AM
EASTER VIGIL 8.30PM**

EASTER SUNDAY 10.00AM (NO 8.30AM)

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:

March 16th/17th Daughters of Divine Love will make our annual mission appeal. We welcome Sr Maria Goretti to our parish this weekend.

READERS PLEASE SIGN UP FOR HOLY WEEK SERVICES – THANKS.

VOLUNTEERS TO HELP CARRY THE CROSS AND FOR A READER AT THE WALK OF WITNESS ON GOOD FRIDAY 11.00AM

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

March 23/24th Flower Collection

Women's Guild – There will be no meeting until after Easter. Wishing everyone a blessed and peaceful paschaltide.

Sunday Collection: 10 March 2024

Envelope: £254 Loose Plate: £333

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
- Dennis Dent old parishioner – end of life.
- First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates.



Dear Faithful,

We enter now into Passiontide symbolised by the veiling of the statues. All is to be focused on Jesus' suffering and death. The veiling also signifies the gospel of Saint John when we are told that Jesus hid himself because they sort to kill him. We are now looking to the great mysteries of our redemption when all will be made new. It is a time when through the grace of the Liturgy we are to put to death definitively the old man and all its false preoccupations in order to be born anew to life in Christ.

The centre of this rebirth lies in our conforming our will to God's. The second reading tells us that Jesus himself in his human nature learnt to obey through suffering. His obedience to the Will of the Father was total from the moment of his incarnation. Jesus thus restores what was lost through Adam's disobedience and makes all things new. Therefore, he has opened up for us the way to heaven. How? By obeying Jesus. We could put it this way – by conforming our will to Jesus and entering into it, our will through his is taken up into the Father's.

How is this to be accomplished? The Cross. Jesus place in the cross all blessings, graces, all strengths, all greatness and above all – all love. He left us the cross so that it could be for us our life, our strength, our safeguard, our glory. Jesus' whole life was orientated to the cross – this is what Jesus refers to in the Gospel of Saint John as "His Hour." This hour was also to be the hour of his glory. We must always remember what we pray in the Angelus three times a day that it is only through the passion and the cross that we can come to the glory of the Resurrection.

So important is the grace of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross that he left us this grace in the Sacrifice of the Mass. In the mass we can access all the graces of Jesus' life but in particular as the Roman Canon mentions his passion, death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. The daily mass thus becomes the source of renewal not only in our own lives but in the whole world.

He also left us this grace of the cross by the shedding of his blood for the forgiveness of our sins. This is readily available in the sacrament of Confession. In Confession the merits of Jesus' blood are applied to us – not only in the forgiveness of our sins but in the increase also of grace in our souls. We should use this sacrament regularly.

These mysteries have at their heart firstly, the Glory of God and secondly, the salvation of souls. What we see upon the cross is the Glory of God made manifest in the Son incarnated. Truly it is God who suffered, God who died; thereby, he shows the greatness of the Divine Will and the greatness of His love.

We could say that the glory of the cross once we join our crosses to Jesus' provides light to our souls and the grace to carry out God's will for us in our lives. Therefore, everything in our lives must be marked by the glory of God - that is our primary motive. If our actions are not done for His glory, then however great they may appear to be, they are in fact shrouded in darkness.

All darkness, anxieties, worries, come from when we are not conforming ourselves to the Will of God. However, to be able to do this which is difficult requires a purification by fire. We cannot of our own wills manage this. This is the fire (the Holy Spirit) which was burning in the Sacred Heart from the moment of his conception but reaching its climax upon the cross. This is why he thirsted upon the cross. This is why his greatest suffering was finding souls that would not accept this love. This is why when we go to confession and receive his loving mercy that we are actually helping Jesus at the moment of his agony.

God bless, Fr. Dominic
Fiat!