



St Mary's Presbytery  
24 Horncastle Road  
Boston PE21 9BU  
Tel:01205 362056

Email: [saintmarysboston@gmail.com](mailto:saintmarysboston@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stmaryschurchboston.org.uk](http://www.stmaryschurchboston.org.uk)

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*



*The Lord is risen, Alleluia!  
He has risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Our Lady of the Rosary  
In the end my Immaculate Heart will  
triumph! Fiat!*

## Liturgical calendar

Day	Date	Time		Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Saturday	4	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Sig+Cath Gawlowski</i>
Sunday	5	8.30am 10.00am Noon 2.30pm 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Lith Pol	<b>6th Sunday of Easter</b>	<i>S.Kula RIP Parish</i>
Monday	6	12.30pm	Eng	Easter Feria	<i>S.Kula RIP</i>
Tuesday	7	9.30am	Eng	Easter Feria	<i>D.Darling</i>
Wednesday	8	7.00am 7.30pm	Eng Pol	Easter Feria	<i>Abel</i>
Thursday	9	10.00am 7.00pm	Eng	<b>THE ASCENSION</b>	<i>Anna</i>
Friday	10	7.30pm	Pol	Easter Feria	
Saturday	11	4.00pm	- Eng	<b>Vigil</b>	
Sunday	12	8.30am 10.00am 12.00 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Pol	<b>7th Sunday of Easter</b>	<i>Parish</i>

**Divine Mercy: 2.00pm**

**Adoration/Holy Hour:** Tuesday 8.15am Thursday 6.00pm

**Confessions:** Saturday 3.20pm-3.50pm Sunday 8.50am-9.20pm and before weekday masses and on request.



**With a UK general election** due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. *A Year of Encounter* is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see [cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) for more information, including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more

### **GIFT AID GIVING 2024/5**

For those of you who continue to support the Parish Gift Aid giving, we would like to thank for your continued generous support. **PLEASE ENSURE THAT IF YOUR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED TO CONTACT US.** For those who have continued to use envelopes the new box of envelopes will be available for collection from within the church entrance from Saturday 23 rd March to use from Saturday 6th April. **ALL PREVIOUSLY ISSUED ENVELOPES SHOULD BE RECYCLED.**

For parishioners who pay income tax on their earnings and are not Gift Aid giving, could I ask you to consider doing so? There is a brochure in the entrance to the church together with the relevant declaration should you wish to start giving. Each £1 you give will generate a further 25p for the parish at no extra cost to you. If you have a question or query, please do not hesitate to contact me either via email [chaz.mayhew@btinternet.com](mailto:chaz.mayhew@btinternet.com) or 07778840886 and I will get back to you. Many thanks. Chaz Mayhew on behalf of Fr. Dominic and the finance committee.

**Bishop Patrick invites you to a free online webinar, on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 6.00 – 8.00pm,** led by best-selling author and eminent speaker Sherry Weddell. Sherry has developed numerous unique formation resources that are used around the world, and she will share her inspirational ideas on how Catholics can explore their Mission to bring all people closer to Christ. The seminar will be particularly relevant to parish catechists, teachers, pastoral ministers, religious, priest and deacons, and parishioners who wish to know more about evangelisation. This seminar will help re-energise Catholics to be strong Missionary Disciples. Don't miss this opportunity to attend this free event: register at [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/sw](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/sw)

Sherry Weddell is co-founder and co-Director of the Catherine of Siena Institute. Sherry is the author of 'Forming Intentional Disciples'; 'Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples'; and 'Fruitful Discipleship: Living the Mission of Jesus in the Church and in the World'.

### **The Regina Coeli Lyrics in Latin**

V. Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia. Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia. Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia. R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.



Why we celebrate. Because with the Ascension, something new and beautiful happened: Jesus brought our humanity, our flesh, into heaven — this is the first time — that is, he brought it in God. That humanity that he had assumed on earth did not remain here. The risen Jesus was not a spirit, no. He had his human body, flesh and bones, everything. He will be there in God forever. We could say that from the day of the Ascension on, God himself “changed” — from then on, he is not only spirit, but such is his love for us that he bears our own flesh in himself, our humanity! The place awaiting us is thus indicated; that is our destiny. Thus wrote an ancient Father in the faith: “What splendid news! He who became man for us [...] to make us his brothers, presents himself as man before the Father to bear with himself all those who are joined with him” (cf. St. Gregory of Nyssa, Discourse on the Resurrection of Christ, 1). Today, we celebrate “heaven’s conquest” — Jesus, who returns to the Father, but with our humanity. And so, heaven is already a little bit ours. Jesus opened the door and his body is there.

The second question: So, what does Jesus do in heaven? He is there for us before the Father, continually showing our humanity to him — showing him his wounds. I like to think that Jesus, prays like this in front of the Father — showing him his wounds. “This is what I suffered for humanity: Do something!” He shows him the price of redemption and the Father is moved. This is something I like to think about. This is how Jesus prays. He did not leave us alone. In fact, before ascending, he told us, as the Gospel says today, “I am with you always, to the close of the age” (Mt 28:20). He is always with us, he looks at us, and “he always lives to make intercession” (Heb 7:25) for us. To show the Father his wounds, for us. In a word, Jesus intercedes. He is in the best “place”, before his Father and ours, to intercede on our behalf.

Intercession is fundamental. This faith helps us too: it helps us not to lose hope, not to be discouraged. Before the Father, there is someone who shows him the wounds and intercedes. May the Queen of heaven help us to intercede with the power of prayer.

Pope Francis Ascension Day 2023



Dates for the diary:

ASCENSION DAY 9<sup>th</sup> May is a Holy day of Obligation.

Weekend of 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> May We welcome back Fr. Alex who is kindly supplying for me

Women’s Guild - 14<sup>th</sup> May 1.30pm meet at the hall. All Welcome

Corpus Christi BBQ - 2<sup>nd</sup> June 3.00pm (after procession) to bring all our various communities together to celebrate this great feast. The large car park won’t be available on this Sunday.

Ems Renewal Day - 15<sup>th</sup> June Here at Saint Mary’s 15<sup>th</sup> June

Afternoon Tea in Hall - 21<sup>st</sup> June to support Centrepoint organised by St Mary’s Women’s guild and the Rotary Club. Tickets £10. Raffle etc.

Walsingham Trip - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July

Sunday Collection: 28 April 2024 Envelope: £114.5 Loose Plate: £268.65  
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 £1,764.89 refund for the December quarter. Thank you all for gift aiding your donations. Chaz Mayhew. (07778840886)

CORRECTION: 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for the Sudan raised £288.56

**Second Collections:** 12<sup>th</sup> May World Communications; 16<sup>th</sup> June Day for Life; 30<sup>th</sup> June Peter’s Pence; 14<sup>th</sup> July Sea Sunday

#### **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. Michael Campbell; Kathleen Bedford Sally Walington; Teresa Turpin
- Dennis Dent old parishioner – end of life.
- First Holy Communion 5<sup>th</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June and Confirmation candidates 24<sup>th</sup> May.



## *From the Parish Priest's Desk...Our Lenten Journey.*

Dear Faithful

We continue reading the great chapters of Saint John which narrate the discourse at the last supper. In this passage Jesus is telling us that love and obedience are two sides of the same coin. Indeed to love God means to keep his commandments. Likewise if we don't keep his commandments, we cannot love God. Sin is therefore an act in which love is denied and set aside: love of our Creator is replaced by love of self which is exactly the sin of Adam and Eve. In order to keep Jesus' commandments we shall need the power of the Holy Spirit within us so that transforming us into the likeness of Jesus who then lives within us and through his power operating in us, we shall be able not only to keep the commandments but embrace them in love so that far from limiting us they shall actually set us free.

We often think that commandments only refer to the ten commandments; but they refer to all that Jesus commanded us to do and all that the Church commands us to do, since the commands of the Church are the commandments of Jesus. In the original language the word commandment derives from the word for end or goal. Hence a commandment is something which enable us to attain our end – heaven. We should ponder this because often people think of commandments as something restrictive. Non-Christians often see Catholics as people that have to keep a whole series of rules. Whilst there is a truth to this, it leaves out the whole beauty – we could say as Catholics we are enwrapped by the love of God which manifests itself in Him guiding us to heaven. Likewise, not to keep the commandments of God is to give oneself over to darkness, and all manner of evils. Hence when today people are breaking even the natural law which is enshrined in everyone, there is great darkness over the whole world.

The word commandment goes even further since it includes also everything that is God's will for us – not just the great things but also the menial. Jesus constantly tells us that he came to do the will of the Father. This means through out his whole life he constantly carried out what his heavenly father wished him to do, to say, to think. Every action of Jesus including his very breathing was animated by his father's will. So when we live in union with Jesus the same thing applies to us – all our acts are taken up into the heavenly Father and we then attain the union that Jesus constantly prayed for – especially at the last supper – that we be one just as the Father and Jesus are one: *"I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me."* (John 17:21)

This is the goal that we are living through right now. The coming of the Kingdom in glory when this unity will be achieved. To bring this era about, God needs souls that are prepared to surrender their lives to him.

Now this may appear to be an outrageous statement that appears to be totally unachievable. But if we surrender to the Holy Spirit and trust in the power of God to transform us, not only can this be achieved but it must be achieved (either in this world or in purgatory).

Such is the case when we look at this with purely human eyes. But this is where the example of Mary is so important. She shows us that by believing in the power of God's promises and living in constant union with her spouse, the Holy Spirit, she always not only carried out the will of God but lived in its kingdom.

Mary teaches us the way to live out fully our obedience to God. It is worth pondering her response to the angel. She didn't start questioning what it would look like, how she would manage, how she would cope or what help she would get – she simply said "Fiat – Let it be." In other words she said yes to God and left everything up to him.

So often in life we feel tension and troubles because we are simply not surrendering totally to God. The Surrender Novena by Fr. Ruotolo is a great help:

*"I perform miracles in proportion to your full surrender to me and to your not thinking of yourselves. I sow treasure troves of graces when you are in the deepest poverty. No person of reason, no thinker, has ever performed miracles, not even among the saints. He does divine works whosoever surrenders to God. So don't think about it any more, because your mind is acute and for you it is very hard to see evil and to trust in me and to not think of yourself. Do this for all your needs, do this all of you and you will see great continual silent miracles. I will take care of things, I promise this to you." (Day 7)*

Let us follow Mary's example and surrender everything to God – let us just say to him, I give everything to you and you will take care of everything.

Fr. Dominic Fiat!

