



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*



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

## Liturgical calendar

Day	Date	Time		Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Saturday	1	4.00pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Coco</i>
Sunday	2	8.30am 10.00am Noon 2.30pm 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Latin Pol	<b>Corpus Christi (9th Sunday)</b>	<i>M.Gray GHO Parish</i>  <i>G Fox Intn</i>
Monday	3			Uganda Martyrs	
Tuesday	4			Feria	
Wednesday	5	7.30pm	Pol	St Boniface	
Thursday	6			St Norbert	
Friday	7	9.30am 7.30pm	Pol	<b>SACRED HEART</b>	<i>M.M.Tivoy RIP</i>
Saturday	8	4.00pm	Eng	<b>Vigil</b>	<i>Martin Cayte RIP</i>
Sunday	9	8.30am 10.00am 12.00 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Pol	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	<i>Holy Souls Parish</i>

**Divine Mercy: 2.00pm**

**Adoration/Holy Hour:** Friday 8.15am

**Confessions:** Saturday 3.20pm-3.50pm Sunday 7.50am-8.20pm and 9.30am-9.50am and before weekday masses and on request.



**This is our annual opportunity to give public witness to the real presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. It also brings much grace to the town and ensures protection for it.**

### CORPUS CHRISTI

**PROCESSION** DEPARTS ABOUT 1.15PM FINISHES ABOUT 2.30PM

After which there will be a **free B-B-Q** in the grounds of the Polish Mission. Please bring food to supplement: coleslaw, potato salad etc. If you are vegan or vegetarian please bring your own burgers as we have been donated meat but not vegetarian. The car park will be closed at 11.00am I strongly encourage you to support the procession and b-b-q to celebrate this great mystery.

#### **Project Development Lead, Project St. Thomas (Spalding)**

This vacancy is an exciting pastoral initiative led by the Catholic community in South Holland, supported by the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham, for the people of South Holland.

To work collaboratively with the Executive Committee to provide new community facilities to benefit the wider community of South Holland: The job holder will be responsible for the effective development and successful delivery of this new pastoral initiative. Whilst there is no requirement for the job holder to be a person of any religious affiliation, the delivery and management of the project must be underpinned by respecting the teachings of the Catholic Church, particularly within the area of its Christian ethos and moral and social teaching.

The successful applicant will need to have access to a vehicle as there will be some travel involved in this position.

**Hours:** Full time position 37.5hrs with part-time/flexible working considered

**Salary:** £28 to £32k p.a

For more information and for application form send your current CV to Mrs. Debbie Higgs, Parish Administrator: Email: [admin.snht@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:admin.snht@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Closing date for applications: Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at 12.00 noon.



THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MASS – An extract from Fr Walter Cizsek's Book "He Leadeth Me."

"When I reached the prison camps of Siberia, I learned to my great joy that it was possible to say Mass daily once again. In every camp, the priests and prisoners would go to great lengths, run risks willingly, just to have the consolation of this sacrament. For those who could not get to Mass, we daily consecrated hosts and arranged for the distribution of Communion to those who wished to receive. Our risk of discovery, of course, was greater in the barracks, because of the lack of privacy and the presence of informers. Most often, therefore, we said our daily Mass somewhere at the work site during the noon break. Despite this added hardship, everyone observed a strict Eucharistic fast from the night before, passing up a chance for breakfast and working all morning on an empty stomach. Yet no one complained. In small groups the prisoners would shuffle into the assigned place, and there the priest would say Mass in his working clothes, unwashed, disheveled, bundled up against the cold. We said Mass in drafty storage shacks, or huddled in mud and slush in the corner of a building site foundation of an underground. The intensity of devotion of both priests and prisoners made up for everything; there were no altars, candles, bells, flowers, music, snow-white linens, stained glass or the warmth that even the simplest parish church could offer. Yet in these primitive conditions, the Mass brought you closer to God than anyone might conceivably imagine. The realization of what was happening on the board, box, or stone used in the place of an altar penetrated deep into the soul.

Distractions caused by the fear of discovery, which accompanied each saying of the Mass under such conditions, took nothing away from the effect that the tiny bit of bread and few drops of consecrated wine produced upon the soul. Many a time, as I folded up the handkerchief on which the body of our Lord had lain, and dried the glass or tin cup used as a chalice, the feeling of having performed something tremendously valuable for the people of this Godless country was overpowering. Just the thought of having celebrated Mass here, in this spot, made my journey to the Soviet Union and the sufferings I endured seem totally worthwhile and necessary. No other inspiration could have deepened my faith more, could have given me spiritual courage in greater abundance, than the privilege of saying Mass for these poorest and most deprived members of Christ the Good Shepherd's flock. " (Image Catholic Books)

Dates for the diary:

2<sup>nd</sup> June Corpus Christi BBQ - 2.30pm (after procession) to bring all our various communities together to celebrate this great feast. See back page for details.

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

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

25<sup>th</sup> July Walsingham Trip - Sign up sheet back of Church - times tbc but probably leave about 9.00am and back by 7.00pm

Sunday Collection: May Envelopes £89 Loose £415  
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 March quarter Gift Aid return has been submitted to HMRC.  
Total 6229:00. Thanks to all those who gift aid their donations.

**Second Collections:** 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 1<sup>st</sup> June .



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

Dear Faithful,

We celebrate this weekend the beautiful feast of Corpus Christi which puts before us this great mystery of the faith – the Most Holy Eucharist and the mass. The Catechism tells us that the Sacraments are God's masterpieces and that the Eucharist is the sacrament of sacraments. All other sacraments flow from this. It contains within it the mystery of Christ's passion, death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. It also contains within it all the mysteries of Christ's life.

What is its purpose? CCC1091 tells us that the Holy Spirit desires and wants to transform us so that both us and the Church lives from the life of the risen Christ. In the earthly liturgy which we attend we already share and have a taste of the heavenly liturgy which is constantly being celebrated. The power of the Eucharist is such that it can transform the most sinful man into a great saint because it is the power of Christ working within us.

But as Fr Mike Schmitz points out in his podcast the sacraments are not magic – they always work but their effect depends upon our reception and co-operation with grace. We need to prepare ourselves for this encounter with the Lord. How do we prepare? Firstly, we prepare our hearts and ask the Holy Spirit to awaken faith within us. Secondly, we need to prepare by the conversion of our hearts and thirdly, we need to decide henceforth to always conform to the will of the Father. (see ccc1098)

### **Dispositions to receive Holy Communion**

1. We must be in a state of grace; that is not aware that we have committed any serious sin. (e.g. Have we missed mass for no good reason?) If we have, we should go to Confession first.
2. We must be thoughtful and prayerful about what is happening. If we have been misbehaving or purposefully not concentrating, it would be better not to receive Jesus.
3. We must not have eaten or drunk anything within the hour before communion. The exceptions are water and medicine. Coffee, tea, juice are not allowed.
4. We must have appropriate bodily gestures and dress in respect for Christ. This means we are dignified in how we act and how we dress.

PLEASE REMEMBER NOT TO ATTEND MASS WITHOUT A SERIOUS REASON IS GRAVE SIN AND REQUIRES CONFESSION BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION. This is not being over-critical it is the law of the church so as to protect us because to receive communion unworthily brings death to the soul (St Paul)

“Our culture has filled our heads but emptied our hearts, stuffed our wallets but starved our wonder. It has fed our thirst for facts, but not for meaning or mystery. It produces 'nice' people, not heroes.” --Peter Kreeft

Fr John Hardon S.J. taught that the greatest need in the Church today was to understand the Eucharist and that the great crisis of our time has as its root belief in the real presence. There can be no doubt about this when one simply reflects on the decline in mass attendance and the decline in attendance at Adoration. As Richard Weaver wrote, “Ideas have consequences.” As human beings what we think should govern our actions. If something is true, then we must act upon it; it must govern our lives. If we don't, eventually how we act will change the way we think.

We should all examine ourselves on this. What priority does mass have in our lives? Do we make any preparation or thanksgiving? Do we respect the real presence in Church by refraining from unnecessary talk? Do we receive Holy Communion with reverence and awareness?

The Blessed Sacrament requires thought and meditation; we have to reflect upon this mystery if it is going to play a role in our lives. Moreover, we should only receive Holy Communion if we are in a state of grace and are committed to living a full catholic life. We need also to be able to pass this on to others— what a gift we have to offer to others that God is truly present amongst us and we can be in his presence. This requires courage, the sort of courage of a Margaret Clitherow who sacrificed everything for the sake of the mass and the priests who celebrated it; we need heroes.

This is clear when we consider belief in the Eucharist: either it is what the Church teaches—the most profound sacrifice, grace, act of love, the real presence of God amongst us, the greatest gift we have, OR it is not. Yet so often we do not put this clearly at the front of our minds and think about what consequence this should have in our lives. I firmly believe that the crisis in today's society is not about disbelief in God or materialism but a philosophy called relativism that seeks to deny an absolute truth and that this absolute truth must govern our lives. It is not that people don't believe in God but that people don't want to ask themselves the important questions because of where this might lead them in their lives—the necessity to repent and to deny the self.

God bless, Fr. Dominic *Fiat!*

