

Parish News

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

27 Jermyn Street, Sleaford, NG34 7RU.
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www.our-lady-of-good-counsel.org.uk

Parish priest: Father Michael J. Bell,
Deacon: Rev. Tony Weldon

School: Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Primary School
The Drove, Sleaford, NG34 7AT.
Tel. 01529 304373
Head Teacher:
Mrs. Michelle Parker
www.our-lady.lincs.sch.uk

24th/25th April, 2016
Fifth Sunday of Easter

We all long for a beautiful home and a pleasant neighbourhood where people help one another, respect one another and have time for one another. We long for a group of people where we need not be afraid of others, but can trust everyone. We long for a different country where different nations treat one another as equals and respect one another.

It is not only you and I who want such good relationships between people. God wants it. In the gospel today Christ says: "I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must love one another."

We pray for the souls of all those who have died about this time, including:

Diocesan priests:

Fathers Matthew O'Meara and Charles Adams

Members of our parish family:

Patrick Summers and Eileen Mallett

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Responsorial psalm

I will bless your name for ever, O God, my king.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "I give you a new commandment; love one another, just as I have loved you."

Alleluia!

Sunday and weekday services

Saturday for the Fifth Sunday of Easter **Mass: 6.00 pm**
(Louise Smallwood [J. Morrissey])

Fifth Sunday of Easter **Mass: 10.00 am**
(our parish family)
3.00 pm: Service of prayer and reflection for the Year of Mercy, concluding with Benediction

Monday **Mass: 10.15 am**
St. Mark the Evangelist (Tony Trollope [Trish Brocklebank])

Tuesday **Eucharistic service:**
Easter Feria **10.15 am**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
8.00 am to 5.00 pm

Wednesday **Mass: 10.15 am**
Easter Feria Special intention

Thursday **Mass: 10.15 am**
St. Peter Chanel (R. Woodward)

Friday **Mass: 11.30 am**
St. Catherine of Sienna (our parish family)

Saturday **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**
St. Pius V, pope **11.00 to 11.30 am**

Saturday for the Sixth Sunday of Easter **Mass: 6.00 pm**
(Cath Callow [Bill Martindale])

Sixth Sunday of Easter **Mass: 10.00 am**
(Susan and Marcello Calcagno)

Prayer to be said during the Year of Mercy at the end of the bidding prayers:

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy.
Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and, after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

V Pray for us, O holy Mother of God

R That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Week ending 23rd/24th April

Car park	Tom Martin Jane McGovern
Welcoming	Barbara Browning Nick Spolton
Altar linen	Marjorie Fitzgibbons
Church cleaning Group 2	Mike & Barbara Swaby
Flowers	Liz Peto
Little Church	Amanda/Sheena
Offertory collection	Ben Hanwell Nick Spolton
Offertory procession	Michael Browning/ Ben Hanwell Little Church
Readers: Saturday for Sunday	Marion Smith David Stodart
Sunday	Ivan Rossiter Jane McGovern

Week ending 30th April/1st May

Car park	Philip Hunt Nick Spolton
Welcoming	Michael Browning Jim Ryan
Altar linen	Maureen Mawditt
Church cleaning Group 3	Roy and Mary Canvin Marjorie Fitzgibbons
Flowers	Kay Hockmeyer
Little Church	Judy/Melissa
Offertory collection	Colin Faria Jane McGovern
Offertory procession	Bill Martindale/ Maureen Mawditt Little Church
Readers:	
Saturday for Sunday	Denice Middlebrook Ben Hanwell
Sunday	Barbara Swaby Nick Spolton

The piety shop is open
after the 6 pm Mass on Saturdays
and after the 10 am Mass on Sundays.

The Year of Mercy

Spiritual and corporal works of mercy

To enter into the spirit of this special year of grace, monthly meditation and reflection sessions will be held to think about one of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, using them as the basis for prayer. The next session will be on Monday, 9th May. If you can't make it this day, the following sessions will be on Mondays, 13th June and 11th July, from 2.30 to 3.30 pm at 52 Foxley Court, Bourne, PE10 9TY. You will be most welcome.

Celia Bermingham, 01778426310,

celiabermingham@talktalk.net

Year of Mercy prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the Heavenly Father, and have told us that, whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.

You are the visible face of the invisible Father. Let the Church be the visible face of forgiveness and mercy in the world. You willed that your ministers would feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel loved and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

Amoris Laetitia

The Bishops' Conference has prepared a summary of Pope Francis' exhortation on the family.

It runs to four pages, so to keep expense down I have decided to make it available to order. If you would like a copy, please sign the sheet which is on the notice board in the church porch.

Please pray for the sick of the parish:

Theresa Abram, Tony Armstrong, Eric Blakeman, Christopher and Catherine Brown, Tony Brown, Mark Bush, Marcello Calcagno, Paul Croker. David and Kate Davies, Mark Eddington, Vivienne Field, Christopher Fordham, Patricia Gainey, Veronica and John Garratt, Michael Griffith, Mimi Gunn, Peggy and Stan Hart, Jennifer Holdsworth, Eric Keating, Dianne Keaton, Sheila Morse, Eileen Mulrooney, Richard Neill, Roger Peto, Winifred

Phillips, Gladys Powell, Maureen Renfrew, Mrs. Slattery, Delia Teszkowska, Teresa Todd, Bill Tupholme, Jane Walker, and Anne and Ken Woods. Please inform Father Michael if there are any other names to be added, or, indeed, if someone has recovered.

Year of Mercy

This afternoon at 3.00 there will be our monthly service of prayer and reflection for the Year of Mercy. We shall conclude with benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Come and spend some time with the Lord; he is there waiting to welcome us!

First Communion

Our First Communion children will be with us at 10.00 am today. Please continue to pray for them and their families. It is only a few weeks now until they will be receiving Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist.

Monday coffee mornings

Shopping on a Monday? Pop into our church hall for a cup of tea or coffee and have a chat with friends before going home. *June Ellis*.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

This is on Tuesday in the sacristy from 8.00 am till 5.00 pm. Come and spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Know more about the Church

If you would like to know more about the teachings of the Church, come and join us in the presbytery at 7.00 pm on a Tuesday. Our next meeting is on 26th April.

Parish bingo

Come and join us on a Tuesday evening at 8.00 for a couple of games of bingo. You won't win a fortune, but you will have a pleasant social evening. *Kath Duthie*

Fashion show plus fund raising

We are having a fashion show at M. & Co. in Southgate, on **Wednesday, 27th April**; starting at 7.00 pm.. Models still required - all ages, shapes and sizes welcome - **men, too! Don't be shy!** Contact me on 01529 488976, or on line janemcgovern@outlook.com. Tickets £5 each, from me, Jane, or M. & Co.

The Balm of Mercy ...

... is a musical for the Year of Mercy: words and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, choreography by Riverdance. It is due to be staged on 15th and 16th October, 2016, at St. Peter's church, Hinckley. **Singers and dancers are needed for auditions on 8th May, at St. Peter's, at 2.30 pm.** Please contact Father Frank Daly on 01455 634443. or on line: hinkleypriory@gmail.com. **Sponsors and advertisers are also needed.**

Christian Aid week

This year the house-to-house collection runs from 15th to 21st May. As part of our participation in the **Year of Mercy**, we aim to collect from our usual streets. in Sleaford. **See the list in the church porch.** If you want to help, please show which street(s) you wish to collect in by **adding your name** to the list on the notice board in the church porch. Play an active part in this **Year of Mercy** by taking part in collecting for Christian Aid to help those in need in Africa and Asia. Phone Marion Smith on 01529 415095 for more information.

"Sing a new song ..."

...A workshop on 21st May for parish musicians and all lovers of music - with Tony Wheat at The Holy Trinity Centre, Boundary Road, Newark, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Cost: £10.00. Bring your own food for lunch. Refreshments provided.

National Day with Mary

You are invited to a day with Mary at Walsingham on 22nd May. It begins with Mass in the basilica at noon, followed by a lunch break. At 2.30 pm there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, an outdoor procession, sermon, prayer, reflection and finally Benediction.; then at 5.05 pm, the procession to Friday Market.

One Hundred Club

The winners for April are: £75 - Mary Guy.; £50 - Mary Paul; £25a - Mary Canvin. Congratulations to the three Marys. Don't despair, it could be *your* turn to win next month!

Faith in families boxes - contents

Please return your Faith in Families boxes to me at the presbytery office for counting the contents. Thank you. *Kath Duthie*

Missio boxes

Will you please return your red Missio boxes as soon as possible to the presbytery for the contents to be counted.

Margaret Taylor

Offertory giving - March, 2016

Gift Aided standing orders	£2,352.50
Gift Aided envelopes	£213.50
Gift Aided other	£575.00
Total Gift Aided	£3,141.00
Non-Gift Aided	£221.00
Loose plate	£1,364.42
Total non-Gift Aided	£1,585.42
Total offertory giving	£4,726.42

Community Larder

Six large supermarket trays of groceries were collected by Rod for the Community Larder last Tuesday morning. Thank you again for your fantastic generosity: it will certainly be blessed by God. Rod said that the need is still as great as ever.