

Parish News

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

27 Jermyn Street, Sleaford, NG34 7RU.
Tel. 01529 302529
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

30th April/1st May, 2016
Sixth Sunday of Easter

One of the most beautiful names by which Christians can be called is "peacemakers". It is a wonderful name, but we are afraid of it, because we live surrounded by so many different conflicts. There is a lack of peace between nations, between workers and employers, between rich and poor. There is also a lack of peace in our homes, between husband and wife, and between parents and children. The name "peacemakers" seems too demanding.

But the lighted Easter candle reminds us that Christ stands in our midst and says: "My peace I give you."

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

Diocesan clergy:
Rev. Deacon Anthony Brown



Responsorial psalm

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him." Alleluia!

Second collection (see also page 2)

The second collection for the Catholic Communications Network, which was to have been taken at next weekend's Masses will take place on **14th/15th May**.

Sunday and weekday services

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)

Monday St. Athanasius **Mass: 10.15 am**
(Holy Souls [Margaret Crawford])

Tuesday SS Philip and James, Apostles **Mass: 10.15 am**
(The souls mentioned in our November list)

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today

Wednesday The English martyrs **Mass: 10.15 am**
(Sean Copeland)

Thursday Easter Feria **Mass: 10.15 am**
(Pat Robinson and family)

Friday Easter Feria **Mass: 11.30 am**
(Michael Joseph Brown [Tony Brown])

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

Saturday for the Feast of the Ascension **Mass: 6.00 pm**
(Sean McAndrew [Jennifer and Tom Doherty])

The Feast of the Ascension **Mass: 10.00 am**
(our parish family)

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 30th April/1st May

Car park	Philip Hunt Nick Spolton
Welcoming	Michael Browning Jim Ryan
Altar linen	Maureen Mawditt Roy and Mary Canvin, Marjorie Fitzgibbons
Church cleaning Group 2	Kay Hockmeyer
Flowers	Judy/Melissa
Little Church	Colin Faria Jane McGovern
Offertory collection	Bill Martindale/ Maureen Mawditt Little Church
Offertory procession	Denice Middlebrook Ben Hanwell
Readers: Saturday for Sunday	Barbara Swaby Nick Spolton
Sunday	

Week ending 7th/8th May

Car park	Eamonn Greene Richard Hannah June Ellis Bill Bush
Welcoming	Pat Blakeman
Altar linen	Fred Cork Michael and Maureen Griffith
Church cleaning Group 4	Charlita O'Neill
Flowers	Lesley/Rose
Little Church	Ben Hanwell Bill Bush
Offertory collection	Bill and Pauline Hanley
Offertory procession	Bill and June Bush
Readers: Saturday for Sunday	Liz Peto Tom Martin
Sunday	Pat Blakeman Ivan Rossiter

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 His 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 haven't already asked for a copy, please sign the sheet which is on the notice board in the church porch. Otherwise, check for your copy on the table at the back of the church.

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

Month of May

As you know, the month of May is dedicated to Mary, our heavenly mother. Let us make a point of praying a Marian prayer each day during this month. Wouldn't it please her if each member of our parish family was to pray an extra decade of the rosary in her honour each day!

Thank you

After a very long spiritual journey, I truly feel as if I have finally "come home". My thanks to Father Michael, Deacon Tony and every one of you in this parish for all the love shown to me. Thank you also for the many good wishes and cards received.
Robert Vink

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

Since this a holiday weekend, there will be no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, but we shall resume on 10th May.

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 6.30 pm on a Tuesday. Our next meeting is on 10th May.

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

First Holy Communion Sunday

Our parish children make their First Holy Communion on **Sunday, 29th May** at the 10.00 am Mass.

Please could we have some volunteers to serve refreshments to them and their families after the Mass. If you are able to help, please ring either Jackie Griffiths on 01526 833492, or Lesley Weldon on 01529 305759.

Second collection

Next weekend, the first weekend of the month, we shall have the collection for the diocesan levy. We are in a new financial year and our figure has been increased to £1,087 per month. This is because all diocesan property is to be inspected over the next 12 months, it was thought that the fairest way of dealing with the cost was to increase the levy on each parish by 25% for this year only.

The Catholic Communications Network collection: See page 1.

Christian Aid Week: 15th-21st May

As part of our participation in the **Year of Mercy**, we aim to collect from people in as many houses as possible in 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. Phone Marion Smith on 01529 415095 for more information. The usual collection bags and envelopes will be handed out **next weekend** to those who will take part.

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.**

"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!

Missio boxes

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

Margaret Taylor

Pope Francis' request

Pope Francis has asked that a collection be taken in all churches in Europe for humanitarian aid in Ukraine to show support and compassion to the victims of this all but forgotten war in the east of the country. Some 1.7 million people have been displaced, over half of whom have fled to neighbouring countries. Some 500,000 people do not have basic food and many more do not have access to safe drinking water. As the parish has had so many second collections recently, and in the near future, I have decided to send a donation of £260. I hope you will approve.

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