

# 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](http://www.our-lady-of-good-counsel.org.uk)

**Parish priest:** Father Michael J. Bell,  
**Deacon:** Rev. Tony Weldon  
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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](http://www.our-lady.lincs.sch.uk)

7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> May, 2016  
**Ascension Sunday**

There are great celebrations when the leader of a nation is installed. A king is led to his throne, a president has to swear an oath, and other leaders are led solemnly into their new office. Sometimes the whole nation takes part by listening to the radio or by watching the celebration on TV.

Today we celebrate the installation of Christ as the great Lord of all nations; Christ has ascended into heaven and takes his seat at the right hand of God. All honour and power are given to him.

On this day of Ascension we rejoice with all people in heaven and all nations on earth. We acclaim Jesus as our Lord.



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

### Diocesan priests:

Father Augustine White

### Members of our parish family:

Pascaol Fernandes, Patrick Doherty  
and Iona Nicholson Leggate

### Responsorial psalm

God goes up with shouts of joy, the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Alleluia!

**Second Collections: This weekend: for the diocesan levy (see page 2 .**

**Next weekend: for the Catholic Communications Network**

## Sunday and weekday services

**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  
(Susan Gilhooly [Molly Sweet])

**Monday Easter Feria** Mass: 10.15 am  
(our parish family)

**Tuesday Easter Feria** Mass: 10.15 am  
(Sally O'Halloran)  
Exposition in the sacristy of the Blessed Sacrament: 8.00 am to 5.00 pm

**Wednesday St. John Houghton and the Blessed Martyrs of Derbyshire** Mass: 10.15 am  
(Robin Taylor [Margaret])

**Thursday SS Neureus and Achilleus** Mass: 10.15 am  
(Monsignor Edward Walker)

**Friday Our Lady of Fatima** Mass: 11.30 am  
(Holy Souls [Margaret Crawford])

**Saturday St. Matthias, Apostle** Sacrament of Reconciliation: 11.00 to 11.30 am

**Saturday for Pentecost Sunday** Mass: 6.00 pm  
(for all those who have been forced to leave their homes to seek a better life in a new country)

**Pentecost Sunday** Mass: 10.00 am  
3.00 pm A service of prayer and reflection in honour of our Heavenly Mother, Mary

**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 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> May

**Car park** Eamonn Greene  
Amanda Hemmant

**Welcoming** June Ellis  
Bill Bush

**Altar linen** Pat Blakeman

**Church cleaning Group 4** Fred Cork  
Michael and Maureen Griffith

**Flowers** Charlita O'Neill

**Little Church** Lesley/Rose

**Offertory collection** Ben Hanwell  
Bill Bush

**Offertory procession** Anne Mear/  
Michael Browning  
Bill and June Bush

**Readers: Saturday for Sunday** Liz Peto  
Tom Martin

**Sunday** Pat Blakeman  
Ivan Rossiter

## Week ending 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> May

**Car park** Tom Doherty  
Mary McAleavy

**Welcoming** Philip Hunt  
Roy Canvin

**Altar linen** Trish Brocklebank

**Church cleaning Group 5** Charlita O'Neill  
Maria Burrows

**Flowers** Alice Rossiter

**Little Church** Anne/Lisa

**Offertory collection** Colin Faria  
Jane McGovern

**Offertory procession** Anne Mear/Michael Browning  
Little Church

**Readers: Saturday for Sunday** Bill Martindale  
Maureen Mawditt

**Sunday** Nick Spolton  
Pat Hudson

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, 9<sup>th</sup> May. If you can't make it this day, the following sessions will be on Mondays, 13<sup>th</sup> June and 11<sup>th</sup> July, from 2.30 to 3.30 pm at 52 Foxley Court, Bourne, PE10 9TY. You will be most welcome.

Celia Bermingham, 01778 426310,

[celiabermingham@talktalk.net](mailto: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.

### Works of Mercy

The works of mercy for May are: house the homeless and comfort the afflicted. Please see the leaflet that is provided for you. The next day of prayer and reflection is on **Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, at 3.00 pm**. All are welcome.

### 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. If you have recently asked for a copy, please check 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, Richard Hannah, 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, Victor Spiteri, 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!

And **next Sunday at 3.00 pm** there will be a service of prayer and reflection in honour of Mary, our heavenly mother. We shall conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

### 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 everyone in this parish for all the love shown to me. Thank you also for the many good wishes and cards received.

*Robert Vink*

### Diocesan levy collection

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

### 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. The next **Wednesday** lunch is on **11<sup>th</sup> May** at 12 for 12.30 pm. *June Ellis.*

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

This week exposition of the Blessed Sacrament resumes on Tuesday in the sacristy from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm. Please try to come and spend some time in prayer and adoration with Jesus. We are so blessed to have this opportunity.

### 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 **10<sup>th</sup> 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*

### "Sing a new song ..."

...A workshop on **21<sup>st</sup> 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.

### Christian Aid week: 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May

As part of our participation in the **Year of Mercy**, we aim to collect donations from our usual streets in Sleaford. See the list in the church porch for the area we cover. There are still a few days to take part, if only by putting the Christian Aid envelopes in letterboxes in those streets. Please contact **Marion Smith on 01529 415095** if you want to take part. This weekend the distinctive C.A. bags will be handed out to those who have volunteered to collect for the charity. Many thanks to those volunteers. Envelopes will be available on the weekend 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> May for a second collection in our church for those who wish to donate to Christian Aid. Donors who pay income tax should fill in the reply slip on the special envelopes to boost their donation by 25%.

### National Day with Mary

You are invited to a day with Mary at Walsingham on **22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### First Holy Communion Sunday

Our parish children make their First Holy Communion on **Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

### One Hundred Club

The winners for April are: £75 – Mary Guy; £50 – Mary Paul; £25 – 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 for the contents to be counted. Thank you.

*Margaret Taylor*

### Offertory giving – March, 2016

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

05.05.2016