

Parish News

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

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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

18th/19th June
Twelfth Sunday of the Year

It is a joy to be a Christian, and this morning we have come together to give thanks for being called to Christ.

Yet what are we to do when our faith does not bring us joy, but brings us suffering instead? How shall we react when our belief in Christ brings us disadvantages, or rejection, or even persecution? Christ has said: "Who follows me must be ready to carry the cross." We want to think about this word today.

We pray for the souls of all those who have died about this time including
Dorothy Boyce

Responsorial psalm

For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Light of the World, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

At the Masses next weekend

There will be a collection for Peter's Pence. This is taken worldwide and provides the means the Vatican needs to finance missions and to contribute to charities which deal with needs in the Third World.

Sunday and weekday services

Saturday for Sunday **Mass: 6.00 pm**
(our parish family)

Twelfth Sunday of the Year **Mass: 10.00 am**
(Susan Calcagno [Jane, Sue and Val])

Monday St. Alban, martyr **Eucharistic service: 10.15 am**

Tuesday St. Aloysius Gonzaga **Mass: 10.15 am**
(R. Woodward)
3.00 pm Service at Grantham Crematorium, for Cyril Perry, prior to his cremation

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the sacristy:
8.00 am to 5.00 pm

Wednesday SS John Fisher and Thomas More, martyrs **Mass: 10.15 am**
(Holy Souls [Margaret Crawford])

Thursday St. Efheldreda **Mass: 10.15 am**
(John Higgins [Val])

Friday Nativity of St. John the Baptist **Mass 11.30 am**
(for Trish Brocklebank's intentions [Kath Duthie])

Saturday Feria **Sacrament of Reconciliation: 11.00 – 11.30 am**

Saturday for Sunday **Mass: 6.00 pm**
(our parish family)

Thirteenth Sunday of the Year **Mass: 10.00 am**
(Father Mark Hartley)
3.00 pm Service of prayer and reflection, followed by Benediction

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 18th/19th June

Car park	Marion Smith (To be arranged)
Welcoming	June Ellis Alice Rossiter
Altar linen	Trish Brocklebank
Church cleaning Group 4	Fred Cork Michael & Maureen Griffith
Flowers	Charlita O'Neill
Little Church	Lesley/Rose
Offertory collection	Denice Middlebrook Robert Vink
Offertory procession	Ben Hanwell Little Church
Readers: Saturday for Sunday	Ben Hanwell Liz Peto
13 th Sunday of the Year	Mary & Brendan McAleavy

Week ending 25th/26th June

Car park	Eamonn Greene Amanda Hemmant
Welcoming	Philip Hunt Jim Ryan
Altar linen	Kath Cole
Church cleaning Group 5	Charlita O'Neill Mario Burrows
Flowers	Alice Rossiter
Little Church	Merla/Lisa
Offertory collection	Colin Faria Richard Hannah
Offertory procession	Bill Martindale Little Church
Readers: Saturday for Sunday	David Stodart Denice Middlebrook
14 th Sunday of the Year	Barbara Swaby Ivan Rossiter

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

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 final session will be on Monday, 11th July, from 2.30 to 3.30 pm at 52 Foxley Court, Bourne, PE10 9TY. You will be most welcome.

Celia Bermingham, 014778 426310,
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.

Year of Mercy

The monthly prayer service and benediction will be on **Sunday, 26th June at 3.00 pm**. All welcome!

Pilgrimage to the Cathedral

There will be a pilgrimage to St. Barnabas Cathedral on **Thursday, 14th July**, during the course of which there will be an opportunity to go through the Year of Mercy door and receive the indulgences attached to this, a conducted tour of the cathedral, a visit to the crypt, where several of the bishops of the diocese are buried, visit the Mother Mary Potter centre in Regent Street – a five-minute walk from the Cathedral, and an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

I suggest that we time our arrival for the 1.00 pm Mass; this will give time to enjoy a picnic lunch in the Cathedral Hall afterwards. It would be really lovely to have a shared table.

The tour will begin at 2.00 pm and last about two hours. The mode of transport will be determined by the demand, so please put your name on the list in the porch as soon as you can if you would like to go. For those at work that day it is hoped to arrange another pilgrimage there for the early autumn. No charges will be involved.

Please pray..... for the happy repose of the soul of Cyril Berry, who died on 7th June. Please remember his loved ones as they grieve his loss, that God will comfort them at this sad time.

Please pray also for the sick of the

parish: Theresa Abram, Eric Blakeman, Christopher and Catherine Brown, Tony Brown, Marcello Calcagno, Paul Croker. David and Kate Davies, Mark Eddington, Vivienne Field, Christopher Fordham, Patricia Gainey, 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, 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.**

Walsingham pilgrimage

The coach will leave from outside Yorkshire Trading at **9.00 am** and I expect it will arrive back here around **7.00 pm**. The day includes the procession in honour of Our Lady, and Mass in the basilica in the afternoon. The fare is £12.

Pilgrimage to Rome – Year of Mercy

Lesley and I will be travelling to Rome on Monday for a Year of Mercy pilgrimage. On Wednesday we hope to have an audience with Pope Francis. We shall be delighted to take the prayers and instructions of the parish with us and offer them to Almighty God in St. Peter's. God Bless. **Deacon Tony**

Monday coffee mornings

In town on Monday mornings? Stop off for a cup of tea or coffee in our church hall; we're open from 10.00 am till 12 noon. **June Ellis.**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Please try to come and spend some time in prayer and adoration with Jesus on Tuesdays in the sacristy from 8.00 am till 5.00 pm. We are so blessed to have this opportunity.

Parish Bingo

Come and join us in the hall 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**

Mass for Refugees

Bishop Patrick and CAFOD invite you to a Mass for refugees on **Thursday, 23rd June at 6.15 pm in St. Barnabas Cathedral.**

Churches Together in Sleaford & District

The CTSD annual general meeting will be held on **Thursday, 23rd June, at 7.30 pm** in St. Lucia's parish church, Dembleby; the speaker will be the Revd. Nicholas Munday. All Welcome!

Sacrament of Confirmation: advance notice

I hope that Bishop Patrick will come to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation early in 2017. To be eligible to receive this sacrament you must be 15 years old or nearly so, and be willing to attend the preparatory sessions beforehand. It is not too soon to be giving some thought to this now. To decide whether or not to receive this sacrament involves serious thought, prayer and preparations.

Evergreen Sleaford ...

... has been running for nearly four years and has supported 80 lonely and isolated people in Sleaford and district. If you, or someone you know, has an hour or two to spare to befriend someone, please contact Friends of Evergreen on 07707 260822 or info@evergreensleaford.org.uk.

Evergreen Sleaford is supported financially by local businesses and individuals through our "Friends of Evergreen Sleaford" scheme. A donation of as little as £12 a year could really make a difference to an elderly person.

Mark Bush

We thank everyone who took part in the funeral Mass for Mark: Father Michael, Deacon Tony, the altar servers, the reader, the organist, the flower arranger and the members of the parish who attended. This was a great comfort to our family. God bless you all. **June and Bill Bush**

Volunteers needed to help our parish

There are some activities that need new volunteers to help our parish run smoothly. Please look at the table on the right as you come into church for lists for volunteers. If you are new to the parish, this is a good way to get to make new friends.. Sign up now, taking note of whether the list is for a Saturday or Sunday. **Also can those who already take part in these activities please add their names to the appropriate list(s).**

Offertory giving – May, 2016

Gift Aided standing orders	£2,302.50
Gift Aided envelopes	£242.50
Gift Aided other	£15.00
Total Gift Aided	£2,560.00
Non-Gift Aided standing orders	£141.00
Loose plate	£960.80
Total non-Gift Aided	£1,101.00
Total offertory giving	£3,661.0