

# 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)

**13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> August**

### The Assumption of Our Lady (Twentieth Sunday of the Year)

Pope Benedict wrote "Precisely because Mary is with God and in God, she is very close to each one of us. While she lived on this earth she could only be close to a few people

"Being in God, who is actually "within" all of us, Mary shares in this closeness of God. Mary knows our hearts, can hear our prayers, can help us with her motherly kindness.

"She always listens to us, being the Mother of God the Son. She participates in the power of her Son, and in His goodness. We can always entrust the whole of our lives to this Mother."

"The Blessed Mother's birth into heaven generates in us "an ever new capacity to await God's future." *St. John Paul II*

"Mary lifted herself up to such lofty heights of heaven that the Word reached down from the highest pinnacle of heaven and took her in."

*Ambrose Autpert*



### Responsorial psalm

On your right stands the queen in garments of gold.

### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary has been taken up into heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing.

Alleluia

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

**Diocesan priest:** Father Anthony O'Dowd

**Members of our parish family:**

Janice McGran and Elizabeth Twydell

## Sunday and weekday services

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

**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven** **Mass: 10.00 am**  
(Michael and Gerald Walker [Tom McLaughlin])

**Monday Feria** **Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Rosa Harrington [Harrington])

**Tuesday St. Stephen of Hungary** **Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Pat O'Connor)  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the sacristy:**  
**This week from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm**

**Wednesday Feria** **Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Maeve Kelly)

**Thursday Feria** **Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Those souls named on our November list)

**Friday St. John Eudes** **Mass 11.30 am**  
(our parish family)

**Saturday St. Bernard** **No Sacrament of Reconciliation this morning**

**Saturday for Sunday St. Monica** **Mass: 6.00 pm**  
(Robert Braddick)

**Twenty-first Sunday of the Year** **Mass: 10.00 am**  
(Angela Murphy {Morley})

### 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.

**The piety shop is open after the 6 pm Mass on Saturday and the 10 am Mass on Sunday.**

**Week ending 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> August**

**Car park** Marion Smith  
Richard Hannah

**Welcoming** Doreen Noble  
Alice Rossiter

**Altar linen** Maureen Mawditt

**Church cleaning Group 6** Jane Szokalo

**Flowers** Trish Brocklebank

**Offertory collection** Ben Hanwell  
Bill Bush

**Offertory procession** Michael Browning  
Ben Hanwell  
Veronica Dilcock  
(to be arranged)

**Readers:**

**Saturday for Sunday** Marion Smith  
David Stodart

**Nineteenth Sunday of the Year** Ivan Rossiter  
Nick Spolton

**Week ending 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> August**

**Car park** Eugene Krajewski  
Amanda Hemmant

**Welcoming** Barbara Browning  
Jim Ryan

**Altar linen** Pat Hudson

**Church cleaning group 1** Anne Hobbs  
Jane McGrath  
Jane McGovern

**Flowers** Imelda Elkington

**Offertory collection** Denice Middlebrook  
Richard Hannah

**Offertory procession** Bill Martindale  
Maureen Mawditt  
Mary and Brendan McAleavy

**Readers:**

**Saturday for Sunday** Barbara Browning  
Ben Hanwell

**Twenty-first Sunday of the Year** Jane and Krys Szokalo

## The Year of Mercy

### 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.

**The next prayer service for the Year of Mercy will be on Sunday, 21st August, at 3.00 pm. Deacon Tony**

### Please pray also for the sick of the parish:

Theresa Abram, Martin Bell, Eric Blakeman, Christopher and Catherine Brown, Tony Brown, Marcello Calcagno, Paul Croker. David and Kate Davies, Mark Eddington, Vivienne Field, Christopher Fordham, Patricia Gaine, John Garratt, Michael Griffith, Mimi Gunn, Alan Hanley, Peggy and Stan Hart, Jennifer Holdsworth., Eric Keating, Dianne Keaton, Tom and Brenda McLaughlin, Sheila Morse, Eileen Mulrooney, Richard Neill, Roger Peto, Winifred Phillips, Gladys Powell, Maureen Renfrew, Mrs. Slatery, Jacob Taylor, 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.

### 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. Our next Wednesday lunch is on 14th September..

*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. We are so blessed to have this opportunity. **This week exposition is from 8.00 am till 4.00 pm.**

### Instructions in the Faith

Please note that instruction in the Catholic faith begins again on **13th September at 6.30 pm** in the presbytery. All are welcome, especially

those thinking of becoming a Catholic. Those who are Catholic, but would like to know more about the faith are also welcome to attend.

### Penitential service

As you know, Pope Francis has urged us to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation more frequently, especially during this Year of Mercy. Therefore there will be a penitential service on **Wednesday, 31st August, at 7.00 pm.** Make a note in your diary now! I hope to have Father Jim Burke from Spalding coming to help.

### Coming events in the autumn

During August, there is little social activity in the parish. But our social programme starts up again in September with something for everybody to take part in:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| ★ Tea dance   | 18th<br>September       |
| ★ Harvest festival weekend and harvest festival lunch | 1st and 2nd<br>October  |
| ★ Race night  | 29th<br>October         |
| ★ Remembrance Day concert                             | 11th<br>November        |
| ★ Parish winter fair                                  | 19th – 21st<br>November |
| ★ Christmas draw and social evening                   | 10th<br>December        |

Get all these dates in your diary now!

### First Communion, 2017

If your child is in Year Three, or above, and you would like him/her to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Eucharist, please apply in writing to Father Michael **as soon as possible.**

### Bric-a-brac sale

July's bric-a-brac sale raised £160; Now we need quality items to replace what was sold. We need games, jewellery, 'smaller' household items, etc.

A big "thank you" to the gang who helped us, those who brought things, and all those who help us each month. Our next sale will be on **30th September.**

God bless, and many thanks. **Sue and Barbara**

### Holidays

The schools have now closed. If you are fortunate enough to be going away for a holiday, I wish you a great time.

If you could bring back a newsletter from the church where you attend Mass, it would be much appreciated. It is always interesting to see what is happening in other parishes.

### From Cafod: Ethiopia food crisis appeal

"Thank you for your parish's donation of £770 towards our work in Ethiopia, parts of which have been devastated by drought, leaving more

than ten million people, many of them children, in desperate need of food and clean water. Thanks to your gift, our partners are able to distribute emergency cash to the most vulnerable families, so that they can buy seeds to plant, and food for themselves and their animals. Able bodied men and women are also being paid to work on community projects which give families an income to buy food.

Abba Solomon, parish priest in Sebeya, in the north of the country, says: "The collaboration we have with Cafod is a lifeline. We are getting aid to where it is needed, but we are doing it in such a way that gives the person dignity."

### Petition: 'Not in Our Name'

The Royal College of Midwives (RCM) is being forced by its leader, Cathy Warwick, to support a campaign to allow abortions up until birth for any reason whatsoever. She did not consult her members on their views before implementing this new policy and wants to limit midwives' ability to conscientiously object to being involved with abortion procedures. 900 midwives have signed an open letter called "Not in Our Name" opposing the RCM's new policy, and to express their anger and disappointment at the way this policy was imposed on them without their consent. Over 40,000 people have signed the petition opposing the new policy. Catholic MP Robert Ffello has now tabled an Early Day Motion 123 which opposes this policy, and calls for Cathy Warwick's resignation. Please write to our MP, asking him to add his signature to EDM 123. For information, visit webpage <https://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/123>.

### If you are sick at home ...

... and are not able to get out to Mass, or if you need some help with shopping, collecting a prescription, etc., please let me know. A visit from a Eucharistic minister can be arranged so that you can have Holy Communion, or you can contact one of the Eucharistic ministers yourself.

### Pope Francis: reflections on the "Our Father"

He is a Father who listens to us in secret, just like Jesus advised us to pray in secret. It's through this Father that we receive our identity as children. And when I say "Father" this goes right to the roots of my Christian identity is to be his child, and this is a grace of the Holy Spirit. Nobody can say "Father" without the grace of the Spirit. "Father" is the word that Jesus used in the most important moments: when he was full of joy or emotion: "Father I bless you for revealing these things to little children"; or weeping in front of the tomb of his friend, Lazarus: "'Father I thank you for hearing my prayer"; or else at the end, in the final moments of his life.