

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

27th/28th August

Twenty-second Sunday of the Year

When we come to church on Saturday or Sunday, we dress well. We put on our best clothes. This is a good custom, but it is not important in the eyes of God. God does not look at our clothes. In fact God is not pleased if we try to appear higher or greater than others. On the contrary, he loves the humble.

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Responsorial psalm

In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.

Alleluia!

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

Sunday and weekday services

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

Twenty-second Sunday of the Year Mass: 10.00 am (Susan Calcagno)

Monday Mass: 10.15 am (Jim Finnucane)
The Passion of St. John the Baptist

Tuesday Mass: 9.00 am (Dolores Glynn)
The dedication of St. Barnabas' Cathedral Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the sacristy: 8.00 am–5.00 pm

Wednesday Mass: 10.15 am (Jennifer Holdsworth)
St. Aidan, bishop, and the saints of Lindisfarne.

Thursday Mass: 10.15 am (Holy Souls)
Feria

Friday Mass: 7.00 pm (Holy Souls)
Feria

Saturday No Sacrament of Reconciliation this morning
St. Gregory the Great

Saturday for Sunday Mass: 6.00 pm (Sean Daly [Fred Cork])

Twenty-third Sunday of the Year 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 27th/28th August

Car park Fred Cork
Isobel Carrington

Welcoming Michael Browning
Nick Spolton

Altar linen Kath Cole

Church cleaning group 2 Barbara and Mike Swaby

Flowers Kay Hockmeyer

Offertory collection Colin Faria
Jane McGovern

Offertory procession Michael Browning
Richard Hannah
Jim Ryan

Readers

Saturday for Sunday Denice Middlebrook
Bill Martindale

Twenty-second Sunday of the Year Mary and Brendan McAleavy

Week ending 3rd/4th September

Car park Tom Doherty
Richard Hannah

Welcoming Sue Donegan
Roy Canvin

Altar linen Pat Blakeman

Church cleaning group 3 Roy and Mary Canvin
Marjorie Fitzgibbons

Flowers Charlita O'Neill

Offertory collection Ben Hanwell
Jim Ryan

Offertory procession Marion Smith and A. N. Other
Bill and June Bush

Readers:

Saturday for Sunday Liz Peto
Marion Smith

Twenty-third Sunday of the Year Pat Blakeman
Ivan Rossiter

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.

Episcopal celebrations led by Bishop Patrick: a Mass for chaplains and volunteers in this Year of Mercy on Saturday, 3rd September, at 11.00 am in St. Barnabas Cathedral.

The next prayer service for the Year of Mercy will be on Sunday, 25th September, at 3.00 pm. followed by Benediction.. Deacon Tony

A service for the end of the Year of Mercy will be held in SS Peter and Paul's church, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln, on **Sunday, 23rd October**, from 2.30 to 4.30 pm.. All parishes in Lincolnshire are invited. Bishop Patrick hopes to be present for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The service will be led by the Lincolnshire spirituality group, with the Bishop's blessing and encouragement.

Please pray ...

...for the happy repose of the soul of Thomas Farrelly, who died in Lincoln County Hospital on 13th August. May he rest in peace! Please remember as well the members of his family, and friends, who are mourning his passing, that God will comfort them as they grieve his loss. His funeral was on Friday morning.

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, Peter Doyle, Mark Eddington, Vivienne Field, Christopher Fordham, Patricia Gainey, 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. Slattery, 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.**

Garage sale – this bank holiday weekend...

... at 67 Westcliffe Road, Ruskington, NG34 9AX. Indoors if wet. Contact: Michael Eddington, on 01526 834269.

We welcome ...

... into the Church Zoey Rose Perkins, sister of Sky Perkins, who was baptised on 20th August. Congratulations to Zoey and her family!

Monday coffee mornings

Sorry, no coffee on Bank Holiday Monday. But tea or coffee will be available in our church hall; from 10.00 am till 12 noon from Monday, 5th September. 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 from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm. in the sacristy. We are so blessed to have this opportunity. .

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 **Thursday, 1st September, at 7.00 pm.** Make a note in your diary now! I hope to have Father Peter Wade from Skegness coming to help.

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.

Harvest festival lunch

Looking ahead a bit, there will be a harvest festival lunch on **2nd October at 12 for 12.30 pm.** Tickets are now available after the Masses - £5 for adults. children free.

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	18 th September
Harvest festival weekend and harvest festival lunch	1 st & 2 nd October
Race night	29 th October
Remembrance Day concert	11 th November
Parish winter fair	19 th -21 st November
Christmas draw and social evening	10 th 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.**

Christmas Day dinner

I don't know how many shopping days it is till Christmas, but I have been asked by several people over the past couple of weeks if we shall be providing our usual Christmas Day dinner in the parish hall. I am happy to say that we shall be!

Parish newsletters

My thanks to those of you have brought parish newsletters from churches where you have been at Mass while you were on holiday. They are most interesting, with ideas we might try here. So far we have had newsletters from Australia, the United States, Ireland and various parishes in this country. Keep them coming, please.

If you go to hospital

...when you are admitted, or as soon as possible after that, make sure that the fact that you are a Catholic is entered in your notes. Make sure the ward sister knows that, should you become very ill, the hospital chaplain should be called to give you the Sacrament of the Sick. If you are in hospital for more than 2 or 3 days, ask the ward sister to ask the chaplain to bring you Holy Communion. If you can let me know when you are going into hospital, I can let the hospital chaplain know that you are there and I can give you the Sacrament of the Sick before you go.

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.

Offertory giving – July 2016

Gift Aided standing orders	£2,227.50
Gift Aided envelopes	£236.00
Gift Aided other	£107.00
Total Gift Aided	£2,570.50
Non-Gift Aided standing orders	£106.00
Loose plate	£844.76
Total non-Gift Aided	£950.76
Total offertory giving	£3,521.26

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.