

Parish News

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

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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

Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year 17th/18th September, 2016

In the world today one can only live if one has money. As we stand here to begin our Sunday service, we look at ourselves and see that almost all we have is bought with money: the clothes we wear are bought with money, the building is built with money, as are the books we use, the candles, the vestments. We even have a collection of money during our service.

This makes it even more important for us to listen to Christ's warning to be careful how we deal with money. We cannot be the slaves of both God and money.

We pray for all those who have died about this time, including

Father Joseph Carty and Deacon Peter Allen (diocesan clergy) and members of our parish family: Ken Cole, Cath McDermid and Noel Livingstone Brown.

Responsorial psalm

Praise the Lord who raises the poor.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son..

Alleluia"

18th September – Peacemaking Sunday

Come and stand for peace in Sleaford's Market Place
4.30 – 5.00 pm.

(See also poster in our church porch.)

All welcome!

Sunday and weekday services

Saturday for Sunday Mass: 6.00 pm
(celebrant's intention)

Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year Mass: 10.00 am
(celebrant's intention)

Monday St. Januarius Mass: 10.15 am
(celebrant's intention)

Tuesday SS Andrew Kim Tae-Gon and Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions, martyrs Eucharistic service: 10.15 am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the sacristy: 8.00 am–5.00 pm

Wednesday St. Matthew Eucharistic service: 10.15 am

Thursday Feria Eucharistic service: 10.15 am

Friday St. Pius of Pietrelcina, priest Eucharistic service: 11.30 pm

Saturday Our Lady of Walsingham Sacrament of Reconciliation 11.00 – 11.30 am

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

Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year Mass: 10.00 am
(Mary Feeney)

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.

From 17th/18th September

Car park Philip Hunt
Mary McAleavy

Welcoming Marion Smith
Richard Hannah

Altar linen Kath Cole

Church cleaning group 5 Fred Cork
Maureen and Michael Griffith

Flowers Alice Rossiter

Offertory collection Colin Faria
Robert Vink

Offertory procession Maureen Mawditt
Michael Browning
Little Church

Little Church Amanda/Sheena

Readers:

Saturday for Sunday Ben Hanwell
Denice Middlebrook

Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year Nick Spolton
Barbara Swaby

From 24th/25th September

Car park Eugene Krajewski
Jane McGovern

Welcoming Veronica Hay
Alice Rossiter

Altar linen Marjorie Fitzgibbons

Church cleaning group 6 Jane Szokalo

Flowers Trish Brocklebank

Offertory collection Ben Hanwell
Jim Ryan

Offertory procession Ben Hanwell
Jim Ryan
Little Church

Little Church Judy/Melissa

Readers:

Saturday for Sunday Maureen Mawditt
Liz Peto/
David Stodart

Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year Jane and Kryz 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, 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 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.**

Visiting priests

While I am on holiday, Father Jude Eze, will be looking after you this weekend. I am really grateful to him, as coming here involves him in quite a long journey. We all wish Father McGovern a speedy recovery. For any urgent matters while I am away, please contact Deacon Tony, phone number 305759.

Day of prayer for peace: 20th September

Pope Francis would like a day of prayer for peace to be held in all dioceses, parishes and schools on this day, when he will lead an inter-religious gathering in Assisi.

First Holy Communion – parents' meeting

On **21st September at 7.00 pm** there will be a meeting in the sacristy, for parents of children in the parish school who are at an age to make their first Holy Communion in 2017. Children should celebrate their 8th birthday during 2016/17, or be older, and have received the sacrament of baptism.

Monday coffee mornings ...

...are held in our church hall, 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 from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm. in the sacristy .

Instruction in the Faith

Meetings are on **Tuesdays 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.

Parish bingo

Our weekly bingo session in the parish hall is on Tuesday at 8.00 pm. You won't win a fortune, but you will have an enjoyable evening **Kath Duthie**

End trafficking ...

... a diocesan awareness-raising event, to be held at St. Norbert's, Spalding, on Wednesday, 28th September, 6.00 -8.30 pm, hosted by Bishop Patrick McKinney. For speakers, see the notice in the church porch. Refreshments and drinks will be provided, no charge. **Transport also provided. Add your name to the list in the church porch.**

Little Church ...We meet every Sunday during term time and welcome all children. Below-school age children needing supervision should be accompanied by an adult. We leave the main church together at the beginning of the service and rejoin the congregation before communion. Each meeting - in the church hall - has a DBS-checked leader and helper. If you feel able to volunteer to join our rota as either a helper or leader, we should be absolutely delighted.

Tea and coffee: Many thanks to all those who support us. Now the tea urn is fixed, we look forward to starting tea and coffee on Sundays, again! I have had the privilege of sending a cheque for £320 to Mary's Meals on your behalf. Mary's Meals is a fantastic charity that works in Africa providing breakfast for children before the school day starts. This encourages attendance at school and is often the only meal these children get all day.. **Merla**

Altar servers' Mass: Saturday 1st October

This annual Mass for all altar servers will be

celebrated in St. Barnabas' cathedral at 11.30 am. All servers welcome.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Patrick is coming here to give the Sacrament of Confirmation on **31st March, 2017**. If you would like to receive this sacrament and will be 15 years old or over on 31st March, please write a letter to me, giving your reasons why, and a promise that you will participate wholeheartedly in the spiritual journey to the sacrament. Beginning early in October, this journey will involve you in an evening meeting every two weeks, and various other activities. Please ensure that I receive your letter by the end of September, 2016.

Parish Harvest Mass: 1st/2nd October

Please bring food for our Harvest display - either on Friday or Saturday morning and before the 6.0 pm Mass on Saturday. Gifts of food for the New Life food bank will also be gratefully received that weekend and sent on to the New Life centre.

Coming events

Harvest festival lunch	Sunday, 2nd October, at 12 for 12.30. - Tickets now on sale - £5. Children free
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!

Bric-a-brac sale

Our next monthly sale in the parish hall will be on **Saturday, 30th October**, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. There are always great bargains to be had.

Barbara and Sue

Faith in Families boxes

Will all those who have Faith in Families collection boxes please return them to the presbytery as soon as possible for the contents to be counted. Many thanks.

Kath Duthie

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.