

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

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

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year 23rd October, 2016

When congregation we look at our congregation, we sometimes feel proud of it, sometimes sad about it. We feel proud of it when the church is full, when people are well dressed, when the singing is lively, when the whole service is beautiful.

God looks at us in a very different way. He is not deceived by appearances. He looks for different things. He looks at the inner spirit of our community, at the real, innermost aim we have when coming to him.

Responsorial psalm

This poor man called; the Lord heard him.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

Alleluia"

Parish Advent retreat day

There will be an Advent retreat day on Saturday, 10th December, beginning with Mass at 10.30 am The theme of the day is "Jesus the Son of God". All are welcome to attend.

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)

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year **Mass: 10.00 am**
(Father Harold Hamill)

Monday St. Anthony Mary Claret **Mass: 10.15 am**
(our parish family)

Tuesday Feria **Mass: 10.15 am**
(Peggy Spriggs)
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, **8.00 am–4.30 pm** in the sacristy

Wednesday SS Chad and Cedd **Eucharistic service: 10.15 am**

Thursday Feria **Eucharistic service: 10.15 am**

Friday SS Simon and Jude, apostles **Mass: 11.30 am**
(for those named on our November list)

Saturday Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary **Sacrament of Reconciliation 11.00 to 11.30 am**

Saturday for Sunday **Mass: 6.00 pm**
(Tommy Doherty' intentions)

Thirty-first Sunday of the Year **Mass: 10.00 am**
(Susan Calcagno and Mariucca Ferrari)

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.

From 22nd/23rd October

Car park Tom Doherty
Amanda Hemmant

Welcoming June Ellis
Veronica Dilcock

Altar linen Pat Blakeman

Church cleaning group 4 Maria Burrows
Charlita O'Neill

Flowers Charlita O'Neill

Offertory collection Colin Faria
Jim Ryan

Offertory procession Maureen Mawditt/
Denice Middlebrook
Kath Duthie/Veronica Dilcock

Little Church No Little Church
(half-term)

Readers:

Saturday for Sunday Marion Smith
Liz Peto

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year Krys and Jane Szokalo

From 29/30th October

Car park Eamonn Greene
Mary McAleavy

Welcoming Philip Hunt
Richard Hannah

Altar linen Trish Brocklebank

Church cleaning group 5 Fred Cork
Maureen and Michael Griffith

Flowers Liz Peto

Offertory collection Ben Hanwell
Nick Spolton

Offertory procession Ben Hanwell and Mrs. Hanwell
Little Church

Little Church Amanda/Sheena

Readers:

Saturday for Sunday Denice Middlebrook
Ben Hanwell

Thirty-first Sunday of the Year Pat Blakeman
Ivan Rossiter

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.

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, Peter Doyle, Mark Eddington, Vivienne Field, Christopher Fordham, Patricia Gainey, John Garratt, Muriel Gourlay, 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, Della Teszkowska, Teresa Todd, Jane Walker, and Anne and Ken Woods.

First Holy Communion class

Please welcome this morning the families of the First Holy Communion class for 2016/17 and pray for the children over the next few months as they prepare to meet Jesus in Holy Communion on **18th June, 2017**, at the 10 am Mass.

A service for the end of the Year of Mercy

will be held in SS Peter and Paul's church, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln, on **this afternoon** 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.

Monday coffee mornings ...are held in our church hall from 10 am till 12 noon. Our next light lunch is on 31st October at 12 for 12.30 pm,

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 4.30 pm**. in the sacristy. We are so blessed to have this opportunity.

Instruction in the Faith

Please note that instruction in the Catholic faith is held 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*

Race night - Saturday

Tickets are on sale for the race night on Saturday, 29th October, at 7.30 pm in our parish hall. This promises to be a really fun evening and I hope that you will be able to join us.

The cost is just £5 for the whole evening, including a delicious supper. *For catering purposes, we'd like firm numbers.* You can sponsor horses for the event, where your name will appear in the programme, and you can place bets on the evening from as little as 50p.

If you have any questions, then please contact Nick Spolton on 07899 666072 nick.spolton@sky.com, or you can speak with Nick after Mass on Saturday or Jane McGovern on Sunday this weekend.

Mission appeal

Each year members of as different missionary congregation visit the parishes of the diocese to make an appeal, not just for their own congregation but for others involved in missionary work in different parts of the world.

Next weekend Father Oliver Leavy of the St. Patrick's Missionary Society will be making an appeal at the Masses and he will be promoting the magazine *Africa*. Father Oliver has ministered in Grenada, Nigeria, Scotland and several other countries.

We shall look forward to welcoming him.

Remembrance Day concert

There will be a concert by the Bassingham Choir in our church on 11th November, starting at 7.00 pm. This event will help to bring before our minds over Remembrance Weekend the heroes of the two world wars to whom we all owe a great debt of gratitude. The theme of the music will be "Lost Voices". You won't go home hungry because, included in the evening, is a supper.

There will also be a display of wartime memorabilia. If you have any suitable items you would be willing to bring along for the evening, please let Father Michael or me know. [Sue Stodart 01529 302194] There will be no tickets or entrance fees, but there will be a basket for donations to help offset the expenses of the evening. Please keep this date free; tell your friends about it, and encourage them to come. It is sure to be a lovely evening. *Sue Stodart*

Winter fair

The winter fair will be taking place in our church hall on 25th, 26th and 27th November. If you didn't get a carrier bag to fill with good saleable items for the fair, you can pick one up after Mass today. You will have found five books of Christmas draw tickets inside the bag to start you off. Please sell these and come back for more! The draw will take place during a social evening in the parish hall on 10th December.

All the profits from the draw will be going to the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund, so let us hope we can show great generosity to those wonderful priests who have served us all so well over very many years – many of them have ministered to

us for well over half a century, and have more than earned a few years' comfortable retirement without money worries. *Sue Stodart*

Our Lady of Good Counsel school

Could you support the education of the adults of tomorrow? Some of our foundation governors are coming to the end of their term of office in the next year, so we are looking for new governors to replace them. We are a group of people who, with the school staff, are responsible for ensuring the quality of education in our school. Our governing body needs people who can bring their Catholic faith and professional knowledge and skills to ensure the children who attend our school are given the best education within the love of God. If you are interested or want to find out more, please speak to any of the current foundation governors: Judy Saunders, Margaret Whitton, Jamie Shaw, Bill Martindale, Mike Swaby, Krys Szokalo and Amanda Hemmant.

Or contact us via the school: *Amanda Hemmant*

Help for the homeless

Being homeless as winter is coming on just doesn't bear thinking about, but there are many people of all ages and backgrounds who are homeless. Probably, between the Sleaford and Grantham areas, they will number in the region of 100. Let us do all we can to help them. We can begin by donating scarves, headgear, socks, shirts, gloves, pants and vests, shoes, coats, etc.

For the next few weeks there will be a box in the church porch for you to leave your gifts. They will be distributed at The Passage in Grantham. Thank you in anticipation for your help.

Mary Donnelly

Readers at Mass

Please raise your voices slightly when reading either the scripture passages or the bidding prayers. Some parishioners, especially those in the middle or rear of the church, have trouble hearing because some readers' voices are not projected enough.

Please also remember that the conclusion to the first and second readings is "**The word of the Lord**", *not* "This is the word of the Lord".

Deacon Tony

Offertory giving, September 2016

Gift Aided standing orders	£2,261.50
Gift Aided envelopes	£189.50
Gift Aided other	£500.00
Total Gift Aided	£2,951.00
Non-Gift Aided standing orders	£232.00
Loose plate	£827.70
Total non-Gift Aided	£1,059.70
Total offertory giving	£4,010.70

Grantham Hospital A & E department

A limited number of leaflets about the temporary change to A & E opening hours, now 9 am – 6.30 pm, Sunday to Saturday, are available in English and a range of Eastern European languages and may be obtained from the parish office.

Plus our monthly bric-a-brac sale in the parish hall from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm