

# 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

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)

## Thirty-first Sunday of the Year 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2016

**T**his morning, as we are gathered here, we are like the family of Zacchaeus. Jesus passes the door of our community and says: "Today, I want to be your guest. I want to stay with you, to sit down with you at table, and to eat with you. I know, of course, that you have quite a few faults, and I know what people say about you. Yet I want to help you and to be with you."

Like Zacchaeus we are pleased to hear that Jesus wants to stay with us. We tell Jesus: "Come to us, we welcome you with joy", But then we add quickly, as Zacchaeus did: "Lord, whatever we did wrong, we shall put right again."

### Responsorial psalm

I will bless your name for ever, O God, my King.

### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia"

### Parish Advent retreat day

There will be an Advent retreat day on **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December**,\* beginning with Mass at 10.30 am The theme of the day is "Jesus the Son of God". All are welcome to attend. \*Please note date change. See also page 2 overleaf.

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**  
(Tommy Doherty's intentions)

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

**Monday Feria** **Mass: 7.00 pm**  
**(First Mass of All Saints)**  
(Dianne Nixon)

See Tuesday below

**Tuesday All Saints (Holiday of Obligation)** **Mass: 10.15 am**  
(our parish family)  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, **8.00 am–4.30 pm** in the sacristy

**Wednesday Commemoration of all the faithful departed.** **Mass: 9.30 am**  
(for all the saints in Purgatory)

**7.00 pm**  
(for all those named on our November list)

**Thursday St. Martin de Porres** **Eucharistic service: 10.15 am**

**Friday St. Charles Borromeo** **Mass: 11.30 am**  
(Phyllis O'Brien)

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

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

**Thirty-second Sunday of the Year** **Mass: 10.00 am**  
(for refugees, wherever they may be)

### 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.

## 29/30<sup>th</sup> 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** Amanda/Sheena

**Readers: Saturday for Sunday** Denice Middlebrook  
Ben Hanwell

**Thirtieth Sunday of the Year** Pat Blakeman  
Ivan Rossiter

## 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> November

**Car park** Marion Smith  
Anna Rogalska

**Welcoming** Philip Hunt  
Nick Spolton

**Altar linen** Kath Cole

**Church cleaning group 6** Jane Szokalo

**Flowers** Alice Rossiter

**Offertory collection** Ben Hanwell  
Bill Bush

**Offertory procession** Anne Mear and Marion Smith

Bill and June Bush

**Little Church** Judy/Melissa

**Readers: Saturday for Sunday** Marion Smith  
Ben Hanwell

**Thirty-first Sunday of the Year** Jane McGovern  
Barbara Swaby

### 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.

### Congratulations!

Congratulations and prayerful good wishes to Deacon Tony: he will be celebrating the second anniversary of his ordination to the diaconate. We thank him for all he has done for us; we are grateful.

**Deacon Tony** ... will be flying to Israel on Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, to begin a seven-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He will remember in his prayers everyone in the parish, especially when he visits the sacred sites where Jesus once walked and lived.

**The Month of November** is here again; it is traditionally dedicated to the remembrance of the Holy Souls in purgatory. To help the Holy Souls we concentrate on good works, acts of self-denial, prayer, but most importantly, we offer Masses for them.

Please hand in your Holy Souls envelope as soon as you can; if you haven't got one, they are at the back of the church. Make a list of those you wish to be remembered, place the list in the envelope and put it through the presbytery letter box, or in the collection bag at Mass. All those mentioned in your list will be included in every Mass offered here during November, and mentioned specifically at Mass on the date shown on the top right-hand corner of the front of the envelope.

The Mass for the happy repose of the souls of all those buried in Sleaford Cemetery will be on **6<sup>th</sup> November at 2.00 pm.**

### Prayer before Mass

Before each of the Masses during the month of November we shall pray the *De Profundis* for all the souls in purgatory.

### Missionary appeal

We welcome Father Oliver Leavy, who is going to make an appeal at the Masses on behalf of the congregations who are engaged in missionary work in various parts of the world. He is an experienced member of St. Patrick's Missionary Society. He is also going to promote their magazine, *The Far East*.

### Baptism

Please pray for Alexandra Lauren Butcher who has been baptised into the Church. May she grow in faith and come to know the Lord in her life. **Deacon Tony**

**Monday coffee mornings** ...are held in our church hall from 10 am till 12 noon. Our next light lunch is on 31<sup>st</sup> 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. However there will be no instruction on **Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November.** Instruction resumes on **Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30 pm.**

### 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**

### Parish pastoral council

There will be a meeting of the parish pastoral council on 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.00 pm in the presbytery.

### First Holy Communion class

The next First Holy Communion instruction for the children will be on **Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> November,** in the presbytery. There will be a meeting with parents in the church hall on **Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November,** at 7.30 pm

### Remembrance Day concert

There will be a concert by the Bassingham Choir in our church on **11<sup>th</sup> November,** starting at 7.00 pm. This event will help to bring to 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**

### Year of Mercy

To mark the end of the Year of Mercy, we shall have a "spiritual few hours" on the afternoon and evening of **Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> November** and the morning of **Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> November.** The detailed programme will be published in next week's newsletter.

### Winter fair

The winter fair will be taking place in our church hall on 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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**

### 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**

### Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic primary school

... is holding open day events for new Reception children on **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> November, 9.30-10.30 am and 6-7 pm.** If you have a child due to start school in September 2017, please come along to meet myself and the staff. No appointment is necessary. If you cannot come on 9<sup>th</sup> November but would like to visit the school, please contact Mrs. Michelle Parker (01529 304373) to arrange a convenient appointment.

If you are new to the area and are looking for a school place for your child/children, we would be very pleased to show you around the school. We currently have a number of places available.

*Michelle Parker, Head Teacher*

### CAFOD

Thank you so much for your generous response to the Fast Day collection. We raised £700; a further £00 will be added through the Gift Aid scheme. **Barbara Swaby**

### Offertory giving, September 2016

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