

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

The Second Week of Christmas 1st January, 2017

Prayer of St. John Paul II for vocations

Lord Jesus, as you once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound: "Come follow Me!" Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to your voice. Support our bishops, priests, deacons and consecrated people in their apostolic labour. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the idea of a life totally consecrated to your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel. Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.

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Responsorial psalm

The Word was made flesh and lived among us.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans.

Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world.

Alleluia!

Sunday and weekday services

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

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Sunday **Mass: 10.00 am**
(Charles Grant [Pauline])

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Monday **Mass: 11.00 am**
SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
(Private intention)

Tuesday **Mass: 10.15 am**
The Most Holy Name of Jesus
(for those souls named in our November list)

No exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today

Wednesday **Mass: 10.15 am**
Before the Epiphany
(Tony Trollope [Veronica])

Thursday **Mass: 10.15 am**
Before the Epiphany
(Father Lieber)

Friday **Mass: 11.30 am**
Before the Epiphany
(R. Woodward)

Saturday **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
St. Raymond of Penyafort, priest
11.00 to 11.30 am

Saturday for Sunday **Mass: 10.00 am**
The Epiphany of the Lord
(for the intentions of Father Michael, Deacon Tony and the parish for 2017)

Sunday **Mass: 10.00 am**
The Epiphany of the Lord
(that there may be peace in our world)

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died about this time, including

Diocesan priest:

Father Philip O'Dowd

and parishioners:

Daniel Slattery and Neville Fellows

The piety shop will be open after the 6.00 pm Mass on Saturday and the 10 am Mass on Sunday.

1st January, 2017

Car park Philip Hunt
Jane McGovern

Welcoming Barbara Browning
Jim Ryan

Altar linen Marjorie Fitzgibbons

Church cleaning group 2 Barbara and Michael Swaby

Flowers Liz Peto

Offertory collection Ben Hanwell
Jane McGovern

Offertory procession Ann Mear
Marion Smith

Kath Duthie and
Veronica Dilcock

Little Church To be arranged

Readers
Saturday for Sunday Denice Middlebrook
Liz Peto

Sunday Jane McGovern
Nick Spolton

8th January,

Car park Charmaine Jones
Anna Rogalska

Welcoming Michael Browning
Nick Spolton

Altar linen Pat Hudson

Church cleaning group 3 Mary and Roy
Canvin

Flowers Alice Rossiter

Offertory collection Denice Middlebrook

Offertory procession Ann Mear and
Marion Smith

Offertory procession Bill and June Bush

Readers
Saturday for Sunday David Stodart
Marion Smith

Sunday Nick Spolton
Barbara Swaby

Please pray also for the sick of

the parish: Theresa Abram, Martin Bell, Eric Blakeman, Christopher and Catherine Brown, Tony Brown, Marcello Calcagno, Pat Clement, 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, Bob Hill, Jennifer Holdsworth, 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, Heniek Waszczuk and Anne and Ken Woods.

New Year 2017

Every blessing and everything good to each and every one of you for the coming year.

Events this week

i. The **parish pastoral council** meeting will be on Wednesday (4th January) in the presbytery at 7.00 pm.

ii. Members of the Secular Franciscan Order will be holding their Epiphany party in the front room of the house on Friday, after the morning Mass. Past members will also be welcome.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on 10th January, from 8.00 am till 4.30 pm.

Instruction in the Faith

Please note that instruction in the Catholic faith will resume on **Tuesday, 10th January, at 6.30 pm in the sacristy.**

Looking back

A year ago tomorrow the reordering of our church began. This work is one of the many wonderful things which have happened in the life of

our parish over the last twelve months.

Let us thank God for all of these, and I should like to thank you all for all your support and your work. I know that you will be greatly blessed by God.

Let us go into this new year, determined, with God's help, to continue in a practical way the spirit of the Year of Mercy, and do all we can to spread the Good News of Jesus, first and foremost by the way we live our lives. May we be shining lights in our community.

Community Larder

Thank you for all your gifts for the Community Larder which you made, both on the Sunday before Christmas and at the Masses on Christmas Day itself.

They were very much appreciated by the organisers of the Community Larder at the New Life church.

Christmas Day Lunch

This was a lovely occasion and it went off very well; Several of the regulars said it was the best yet!

I am grateful to all the helpers and the providers of transport who gave up their time to help. We had several new helpers this year: long may they continue!

If you go to hospital

If, when you are admitted, or, if that is not possible, as soon after as you can, make sure that it is entered on your notes that you are a Catholic.

Make sure that the ward sister knows that, should you become very ill, the hospital chaplain is to be called immediately to give you the Sacrament of the Sick.

Should you be in hospital for more than two or three days, ask the ward sister to ask the chaplain to bring you Holy Communion.

If you can let me know that 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

If you are ill at home and 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 directly yourself.

Future events

Week of prayer for Christian unity: 18th to 25th January

i. Please try to come to Mass during this week, and pray for unity and harmonious working among the Christian denominations in our town and in the world.

ii. As in previous years, we shall have guest speakers at our Masses: on Saturday, 21st January, Father Ruben Angelici from St. Denys',

and on Sunday, 22nd January, Gordon Lovie from the Salvation Army, Sleaford. If you were a helper at our Christmas Day lunch, then you will recognize Gordon as he and his wife were there, helping out.

iii. There will also be a united service at St. Denys' on Sunday, 22nd January, starting at 6.00 pm.

Please do your best to attend this service.

Offertory giving – November 2016

Gift Aided standing orders	£1,873.50
Gift Aided envelopes	£166.50
Gift Aided other	£0.00
Total Gift Aided	£2,040.00
Non-Gift Aided standing orders	£152.00
Loose plate	£619.90
Total non-Gift Aided	£771.90
Total offertory giving	£2,811.90