

# 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)

5<sup>th</sup> February, 2017

Fifth week in Ordinary Time

### 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.

### Responsorial psalm

The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died about this time including members of our parish family:

Rona Keogh, Catherine Thompson  
and Hilda Webster

**Saturday for  
Sunday**

**Mass: 6.00 pm**  
For Father Jude's loved ones who have died, that God will comfort him and his family as they mourn their loss.

The blessing of throats will take place after Mass this evening.

**Sunday  
The Fifth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**

**Mass: 10.00 am**  
For Father Jude's loved ones who have died, that God will comfort him and his family as they mourn their loss.

The blessing of throats will take place after Mass today

**Sunday: Holy  
hour for vocations  
to the priesthood  
and the religious  
life**

2.30 pm

**Monday  
St. Paul Miki &  
Companions,  
Martyrs**

**Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Anne Bell)

**Tuesday  
Feria**

**Mass: 10.15 am**  
(for those named on our November list)

**Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament  
in the sacristy  
8.00 am – 4.30 pm**

**Wednesday  
St. Jerome  
Emiliani**

**Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Leon and  
Konstanze  
Krajewski [Helena  
and Eugene])

**Thursday  
Feria**

**Mass: 10.15 am**  
(our parish family)

**Friday  
St. Scolastica,  
Virgin**

**Mass: 11.30 am**  
(Christopher Smyth  
[June and Margaret])

**Saturday  
Our Lady of  
Lourdes**

**Sacrament of  
Reconciliation:  
11.00 to 11.30 am**

**Saturday for  
Sunday**

**Mass: 6.00 pm**  
(Martha Green  
[Eamonn])

**Sunday  
The Sixth in  
Ordinary Time**

**Mass: 10.00 am**  
(Lynne Constantine  
[Lesley and Deacon  
Tony Weldon])

5<sup>th</sup> February

**Car park**

Fred Cork  
Richard Hannah

**Welcoming**

Veronica Hoy  
Veronica Dilcock

**Altar linen**

Trish Brocklebank

**Church cleaning  
group 1`**

Anne Hobbes  
Anne McGrath  
Jane McGovern

**Flowers**

Kay Hockmayer

**Little Church**

Lesley/Rose

**Offertory  
collection**

Colin Faria  
Richard Hannah

**Offertory  
procession**

Anne Mear/Marion  
Smith

Little Church

**Readers**

**Saturday for  
Sunday**

Marion Smith  
Denice Middlebrook

**Sunday**

**The Fifth in  
Ordinary Time**

Pat Blakeman  
Little Church

12<sup>th</sup> February

**Car park**

Eamonn Greene  
Amanda Hemmant

**Welcoming**

Michael Browning  
Richard Hannah

**Altar linen**

Kath Cole

**Church  
cleaning  
group 2**

Barbara and Mike  
Swaby

**Flowers**

Charlita O'Neill

**Little Church**

Merla/Will

**Offertory  
collection**

Ben Hanwell  
Jane McGovern

**Offertory  
procession**

Michael Browning  
Little Church

**Readers  
Saturday for  
Sunday**

Barbara Browning  
Maureen Mawditt

**Sunday**

**The Sixth in  
Ordinary time**

Mary McAleavy  
Little Church

## **Please pray also for the sick of the**

**parish:** Theresa Abram, Martin Bell, Christopher and Catherine Brown, Tony Brown, Marcello Calcagno, Pat Clement, Paul Croker, Phil Culmer, Peter Doyle, Mark Eddington, Vivienne Field, Christopher Fordham, Patricia Gainey, John Garratt, Muriel Gourlay, Mimi Gunn, Alan Hanley, Peggy and Stan Hart, Bob Hill, Dianne Keaton, Tom and Brenda McLaughlin, Sheila Morse, Eileen Mulrooney, Richard Neill, Roger Peto, Winifred Philips, Gladys Powell, Maureen Renfrew, Mrs. Slattery, Jacob Taylor, Delia Teszkowska, Teresa Todd, Jane Walker, Henrick Waszczuk, and Anne and Ken Woods.

## **Father Jude**

I learned at the beginning of the week that Father Jude has recently lost two members of his family. A bereavement in any family is sad, but for Father Jude this loss is especially sad, as they were family members to whom he was especially close.

I have written to him to offer him our sympathy and I have told him that he and his family will be very much in our thoughts, Masses and prayers over the coming weeks, so that we can all join in both the Masses this weekend.

Father Jude has gone home to be with them all and will be coming back some time in early March. May their souls rest in peace!

## **Thank you**

On my own behalf and for the whole of our parish family, I want to thank Deacon Tony for looking after everything, especially for leading the Eucharistic services last weekend while I have been ill. We are so blessed to have a deacon in our parish.

## **Congratulations ...**

... To Maria and Simon Sweeney, who celebrate 55 years of married life this weekend. We pray that they continue to lead a happy married life.

## **Monthly Holy Hour**

You will remember that towards the end of last year Bishop Patrick asked that there be a Holy Hour to pray for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life each month in every parish in the diocese.

Ours for February will be this afternoon at 2.30; the timing is deliberate, so that you will be able to get home while it is still light.

This need for more priests is especially apparent through our own recent practical experience here.

I hope you will make the effort to attend – especially you families with children – because

it is you in the coming years who will be most affected by the shortage of priests.

**The annual “Valentine” Marriage Mass,** during which married couples renew their vows before the bishop, will take place at the cathedral on **Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, at 3.00 pm.**

The Mass is for any married couples who wish to renew their vows, but is, of course, especially appropriate for those celebrating significant anniversaries. **Deacon Tony**

## **Eric Blakeman**

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support for Eric and myself. It has been a difficult time for me, but made easier by the kindness of all our church family. Thank you. The collection for Dementia UK was a total of £282 plus, as I am aware that some people chose to send a personal donation directly. I thank every-one for their contribution. **Pat Blakeman**

## **From Grantham Passage**

Mary Howard, the co-ordinator, writes: “I write to thank you most sincerely for your kind donation of clothes. Your gifts are greatly appreciated by our clients, particularly the coats, scarves and hats for the colder weather.”

No more donations of clothes are needed for the present. The amount you gave to the Passage will keep the clients going for the next few months.

## **Sleaford Recycling Centre**

At Sleaford Recycling Centre we collect surplus furniture and other items donated by the public in Sleaford. These items are then given to people referred to the Centre by the local authority/ NKDC.

At the moment the Centre has had a large number of referrals which have depleted all our main stocks. If any parishioners wish to donate any items of furniture, we can collect. We are in great need of basic items such as beds, mattresses (*unstained*), wardrobes and chests of drawers. Please contact 01529 307060 and ask for either Stewart Nixon or Victor Spiteri.

## **Offertory giving – December 2016**

Gift Aided standing orders	£2,357.36
Gift Aided envelopes	£232.00
Gift Aided other	£1,044.50
<b>Total Gift Aided</b>	<b>£3,633.86</b>
Non-Gift Aided standing orders	£152.00
Loose Plate	£1,703.51
<b>Total non-Gift Aided</b>	<b>£1,855.51</b>
<b>Total offertory giving</b>	<b>£5,489.37</b>

## **Diocesan levy**

It's here again! This is the first weekend of the month, so there will be a second collection at the Masses for the diocesan levy.

## **One Hundred Club winners January**

The winners for January 2017 are:

£75 – Mr. S. Ryan; £50 – Clare Grant; and Judy Saunders - £25.

Congratulations to the winners! For everybody else, don't give up! It could be your turn next month! If you are not a member of the lottery, you can contact either Jane or Krys on 01529 240516. **Jane and Krys Szokalo.**

## **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.

## **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.

## **Security: school gates**

Would all volunteers who unlock and lock the Girls' High School gates at weekends please make sure the gates are **locked after weekend Masses**. After the 10 am Mass on Sundays, and when the hall decoration is finished, please be aware some parishioners will stay for coffee in the parish hall and others sort out the weekend collection in the presbytery. If you cannot stay and wait for them to finish, please ask someone who can wait to lock up for you. Do not leave the gates unlocked without telling anyone. The gates are kept locked by the school caretaker as a matter of security.

**Remember, parking within the school grounds is a facility given to our parish by the school and one we would not wish to lose.**

Please see the notice in the church porch about a visit to the open air theatre at Tolethorpe on 19<sup>th</sup> July. Contact David Hitchcock a.s.a.p. if you are interested.