

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

26th February, 2017

Eighth 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.

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

Father Adrian Chatterton and
Father Joseph Maguire

and the deceased members of our parish family: Rose Collinson, Margaret Goode and Michael Dingwall

Responsorial psalm

In God alone is my soul at rest

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word is truth, O Lord; consecrate us in the truth.

Alleluia!

Saturday for Sunday

Mass: 6.00 pm
(Maggie McDonald
[Jennifer and Tom
Doherty])

Sunday
The Eighth in
Ordinary Time

Mass: 10.00 am
(Father Chris Hogan
[Tom McLaughlin])

**Healing service:
2.30 pm**

Monday
Feria

Mass: 10.15 am
(Denis Sheridan's
intentions)

Tuesday
Feria

Mass: 10.15 am
(Sleaford Mass Fund)

Ash Wednesday
(Day of fasting and
abstinence)

Mass: 10.15 am
(Leslie Bell)

Mass: 7.00 pm
(our parish family)

Blessing and
distribution of ashes
at both Masses.

Thursday
Lenten Feria

Mass: 10.15 am
(in thanksgiving for
60 years of married
life: Muriel and
Ian Gourley)

Friday
Lenten Feria

Mass: 11.30 am
(Joan Summers
[Peggy and Stan
Hart])

**Friday, 3rd March:
At the New Life
church, Mareham
Lane.**

**Women's World
Day of Prayer:**
Assemble at 1.00 pm
for start of service at
1.30 pm

Saturday
St. Casimir

Sacrament of
Reconciliation:
11.00 to 11.30 am

Saturday for the
First Sunday of Lent

Mass: 6.00 pm
(our parish family)

5th March

Car park Charmaine Jones
Anna Rogalska

Welcoming Philip Hunt
Nick Spolton

Altar linen Maureen Mawditt

**Church cleaning
group 5** Fred Cork
Maureen and
Michael Griffith

Flowers Isobel Carrington

Little Church Judy/Sheena

**Offertory
collection** Ben Hanwell
Bill Bush

**Offertory
procession** Anne Mear/
Marion Smith
Little Church

**Readers:
Saturday for
Sunday** Bill Martindale
Maureen Mawditt

**Sunday
The First in Lent** Nick Spolton
Barbara Swaby

12th March

Car park Eugene Krajewski
Nick Spolton

Welcoming Barbara Browning
Doreen Noble

Altar linen Pat Blakeman

**Church
cleaning
group 6** Jane Szokalo

Flowers Imelda Elkington

Little Church Lesley/Melissa

**Offertory
collection** Denice Middlebrook
Richard Hannah

**Offertory
procession** Michael Browning
Little Church

**Readers
Saturday for
Sunday** Liz Peto
Denice Middlebrook

**Sunday
The Second in
Lent** Jane McGovern
Pat Blakeman

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 Phillips, Gladys Powell, Maureen Renfrew, Mrs. Slattery, Jacob Taylor, Delia Teszkowska, Teresa Todd, Henriek Waszczuk, and Anne and Ken Woods.

Prayers for priests, deacons and religious

Bishop Patrick has asked that, on each day of this year, we all pray especially for a named priest, deacon or religious of the diocese. This week:

Today	Father Frank Higgins
Monday	Father Gabriel Offor
Tuesday	The religious of the diocese
Wednesday	Father Biju Joseph
Thursday	Our seminarians
Friday	Father John Daley
Saturday	Deacon Paul Boshell

"Our God will have mercy and give grace according to our trust in him."

Congratulations ...

... To Muriel and Ian Gourley, who will be celebrating 60 years of married life on Thursday. We all hope you will have many more happy years together.

Coffee in the parish hall ...

... **Monday**, from 10.00 am till 12 noon. We welcome all our regular customers and look forward to meeting some new ones. *June Ellis*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the sacristy on Tuesday, from 8.00 am till 4.30 pm.

A DVD training film...

... is to be made of a Service of Word and Communion in church on this coming **Thursday, 2nd March** at 11.00 am. It will not be a bona fide service, and unconsecrated hosts will be used. However, it is hoped to create a realistic atmosphere of a service, and parishioners are invited to attend and act as a congregation. The completed film will be used to train future Eucharistic ministers. Please note that Mass will be celebrated as *usual* on that day.

Instruction in the Faith

Please note that instruction in the faith will continue on Tuesday evening at 6.30 in the sacristy.

Parish bingo

The weekly bingo session will be held in the parish hall at 8.00 pm. Come and join us; you will be among friends and, of course, you could win some prizes! *Kath Duthie*

During Lent ...

... there will be Stations of the Cross with a short reflection in church each Wednesday, **starting on 8th March at 7.00 pm**. Afterwards, each week I shall be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Forthcoming events

ρ **This afternoon**, at 2.30 pm, by way of preparation for the season of Lent, there will be a healing service, during which all present will be able to receive that wonderful sacrament, the Sacrament of the Sick.

ρ **Lent begins on 1st March – Ash Wednesday**: there will be Mass at 10.15 am, led by the children of the primary school.

ρ In the evening there will be **Mass at 7.00**. **The school car park will be available in the evening.**

During both Masses there will be the blessing and distribution of ashes.

ρ On **5th March** at 3.00 pm there will be the Rite of Election, in which all those from all over the diocese who are hoping to be received into full membership of the Church at the Easter Vigil service on 15th April will participate.

From this parish Stephen Stray will be taking part; let us all pray for Stephen each day during Lent.

ρ As you know, Bishop Patrick has asked each parish of the diocese to have a monthly hour of prayer in church for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life. Our March holy hour will be on **12th March at 2.30 pm**
Deacon Tony

Human trafficking and modern slavery

The Nottinghamshire session of Bishop Patrick's programme of awareness-raising events on this subject is on Tuesday, 7th March, at 6.30-8.30 pm at Our Lady and St. Patrick in the Meadows, Launder Street, The Meadows, NG2 1JQ; registration from 5.30 pm. For those coming straight from work, a simple meal of soup and a roll will be available.

National Novena to St. Joseph: 10-18 March

Mill Hill Missionaries prepare a yearly novena to St. Joseph, their patron saint, to ask for his help and God's blessing during the coming year. You are invited to send your petitions, and/or request a booklet to help you join in from home in praying the daily novena prayer, by contacting Father Liam Cummins, MHM, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT, or email: novena@millhillmissionaries.com.

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.

One Hundred Club winners – February

£75 – Denis Sheridan; £50 – David Stodart; £25 – Imelda Elkington. Congratulations to the winners! Everybody else: don't give up; it could be your turn next month.

Not joined the club yet? You can contact Jane or Krys Szokalo on 01529 240516.

Mileage for life

During 2016 the number of deaths on Lincolnshire's roads reached its highest level for about ten years, and fatalities included a proportion of those over 60 years of age.

The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership recognises that the proportion of drivers over 60 is likely to increase over the years and for this reason the Partnership has developed "Mileage for Life", a series of courses specifically designed to meet the needs of more mature drivers: to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the driving task, to raise their awareness of new road signs and road markings introduced over the past ten to fifteen years; to give them the confidence they need to become safer drivers and thus to extend their driving careers.

The courses are offered free of charge and are held at a number of venues within the county. Drivers should contact the partnership and sign up to attend a theory course.

Drivers are also free to, if they wish, to take part in an optional practical drive. It will involve an assessment of their driving, **but it is not a test**. It will provide an opportunity for drivers to ask questions, to learn new techniques, and possibly erase some of the bad habits that may have developed over the years. They can do this at a time and place that is convenient to them.

You can contact the Partnership at the District Council offices, Kesteven Street, Sleaford, NG34 7EF, or on line at www.roadlincs.com