

# 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)

**2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2017**  
**Fifth week in Lent**

### 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 co-operate 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 Monsignor Peter Dooling and Father David Everitt

### Responsorial psalm

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption

### Gospel acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!  
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die.  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Saturday for Sunday, the Fifth in Lent **Mass: 6.00 pm**  
{our parish family}

Sunday The Fifth in Lent **Mass: 10.00 am**  
(Lesley and Tony Weldon [Tom McLaughlin])

**2.30 pm Holy Hour**  
to pray for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life

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

Tuesday St. Isidore, bishop and doctor of the church **Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Tony [Veronica])  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 8.00 am – 4.30 pm

Wednesday St. Vincent Ferrer, priest **Mass: 10.15 am**  
(Louise Doyle)

**Stations of the Cross: 7.00 pm**

Thursday Lenten Feria **Mass: 10.15 am**

Friday St. John Baptist de la Salle, priest **Mass: 11.30 am**  
**7.00 pm Lenten penitential service**

Saturday Lenten Feria **Sacrament of Reconciliation: from 11.00 – 11.30 am.**  
**See also overleaf.**

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

Palm Sunday **Mass: 10.00 am**  
(Michael Proudlove [Kate and David Davies])

**Please note: the school car park will be available for all evening and Sunday services during Lent**

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: Good Friday – for the holy places of Palestine**

**2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**Car park** Fred Cork  
Richard Hannah

**Welcoming** Philip Hunt  
Veronica Dilcock

**Altar linen** Pat Blakeman

**Church cleaning group 3** Mary and Roy Carvin

**Flowers** Alice Rossiter

**Little Church** No Little Church

**Offertory collection** Denice Middlebrook  
Nick Spolton

**Offertory procession** Anne Mear/  
Marion Smith

**Readers:**

**Saturday for Sunday** Marion Smith  
Maureen Mawditt

**Sunday The Fifth in Lent** Ivan Rossiter  
Barbara Swaby

**Palm Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> April**

**Car park** Tom Doherty  
Amanda Hemmant

**Welcoming** Bill Martindale  
Richard Hannah

**Altar linen** Trish Brocklebank

**Church cleaning group 4** Maria Burrows  
Charlita O'Neill

**Flowers** Isobel Carrington

**Little Church** No Little Church

**Offertory collection** Colin Faria  
Robert Vink

**Offertory procession** Michael Browning  
Veronica Dilcock  
Kath Duthie

**Readers**

**For Holy Week** See separate list.  
Copy in church porch.

### 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, 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, George Sheridan, Mrs. Slattery, Jacob Taylor, Delia Teszkowska, Teresa Todd, Henrick Waszczuk, Lesley Weldon 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 David Senyk
Monday	The diocesan hermits
Tuesday	Deacon John Timson
Wednesday	Canon Michael Brown
Thursday	Father Jude Eze
Friday	Father Michael Kirkham
Saturday	Father Peter Wade

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

### Sacrament of Confirmation

We thank Bishop Patrick for coming on Friday evening to give the wonderful Sacrament of Confirmation to Victoria Skaife, Lewis Benson and Tommy Saunders, together with Hanna Morris and Niamh Dunne. We congratulate these youngsters on reaching this stage on their spiritual journey.

### Diocesan levy collection

As this is the first weekend of the month, there will be a second collection at the Masses for the diocesan levy.

### 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.

### Instruction in the Faith

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

### News from Our Lady's school

Following our recent diocesan inspection, we are delighted to advise that the inspector reported the school to be "a joyful, vibrant community with a strong sense of its Catholic identity." Against the demanding inspection framework, she judged Catholic life in the school to be "outstanding", collective worship to be "Good", and religious education to be "Good".

The inspector also acknowledged the high level of the support we enjoy from our parish –

so thank you to all for that and the prayers offered to support us through the inspection. You can view the full report on the school website. **Michelle Parker, Head Teacher.**

### 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**

### Stations of the Cross

On this coming Wednesday evening, and the Wednesday evening in Holy Week there will be **Stations of the Cross at 7.00.**

### Lenten penitential service

On Friday evening at 7.00 wt here will be a Lenten penitential service; Father Peter Wade, Father Stanislaus Kowalski and myself will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Remember: as well as our Lenten practices and penances, the reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is an essential part of our preparation for Easter.

I shall be available on Saturday morning for the sacrament as long as is necessary, from 11.00 o'clock.

### Easter lilies

If you wish to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please see the list in the porch and write the names which will be placed on the altar at the Easter Masses. Place your donation in an envelope marked "Easter lilies" and hand it in or put it through the presbytery letter box. For more information see me or phone 01529 306705. **Trish Brocklebank**

### Afternoon tea – St. George's Day

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April afternoon tea will be served in the parish hall. Steve Scarfe and friends will provide the music. Tickets, £6 each, will be available next weekend. **Sue Stodart**

### Baptism course

Parents who would like their children baptised in the near future should approach Father Michael or Deacon Tony so that arrangements can be made for the necessary instruction for parents and godparents in preparation for the reception of their child/children. The next course of instruction will be held after Easter, to give time for parents to respond to this request.

### Carer wanted

At present I am in Kings Court Nursing Home in Grantham, but, if I could find someone to take on the role of carer, I would be able to go back to my home.

If you are interested in this post and would like some details, or if you think you know someone who would be, I can be contacted on 01476 576928. **Tony Browne**

### Faith in Families

If you have a Faith in Families box, would you be kind enough to bring it in to be emptied. Thanking you in anticipation, **Kath Duthie**

**One Hundred Club:** The winners in this month's draw are: £75 – Margaret Whitton and Debbie Hall; £50 – Sarah Weldon and Nick Spolton; and Krys Szokalo and Kenneth Elkington. If you didn't win this month, better luck next time!

### Holy Week Programme

- 7<sup>th</sup> April Penitential service and Sacrament of Reconciliation: **7.00 pm**
- 8<sup>th</sup>/ 9<sup>th</sup> April Blessing and distribution of palms at the Masses
- 10<sup>th</sup> April Passover Meal: **7.00 pm**
- 12<sup>th</sup> April Chrism Mass at the cathedral: **11.30 am**
- 13<sup>th</sup> April Mass of the Lord's Supper: **7.00 pm**
- 14<sup>th</sup> April Good Friday Walk of Witness: **10.45 am**, assemble in Station Road; short service in Market Place Celebration of the Lord's Passion: **3.00 pm**
- 15<sup>th</sup> April Easter Vigil and first Mass of Easter: **7.45 pm**
- 16<sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday: Mass, **10.00 am**

### Meditation for the fifth Sunday of Lent

*by Cardinal Basil Hume*

Each of us has a burden to carry, if not today's burden, at least to recall yesterday's, or prepare inevitably for some burden tomorrow, for that is the way of life. There is no human life that does not have its burdens. Much of our lives is indeed the way of the cross, or at least it is so at times.

That burden may be a sorrow, or an anxiety; a broken heart; a secret fear; a chronic pain; a disappointment; a frustration; a wound from the past. Burdens take different shapes and are of varying weights, but they have this in common: they press hard on us causing us sometimes to falter and stumble. They make our journey through life more difficult and perhaps at times seemingly impossible, and lead us to wonder about the meaning and purpose of it all. That is, until we remember that the burdens we carry always lead to life, life hidden with Christ in God.

All those burdens we carry are crosses which he asks us to carry, and we carry our crosses through life as he carried his. We meet him in a marvellous manner when we help him to carry his burden and he helps us to carry ours.

The sharing of his passion is the most certain way of growing closer to him and a sure way too of discovering the meaning of the resurrection, the knowledge that, whatever befalls us, whatever happens, we can never be separated from love of him. *Lord, help me to remember that, whatever happens, I can never be separated from your love*