

**PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST PETER MELTON MOWBRAY**

N.R.C.D.T a registered charity

St John the Baptist, Thorpe End; St Peter's, Welby Lane; Convent, Dalby Road.

<http://www.meltononline.co.uk/catholiccommunity/>

**Parish Priest:** Father Jim O'Hanlon (01664 562274)

**Polish Priest:** Fr Tylka (01664 562101)

**Parish Sisters:** Sr Ignatius & Sr Baptista (01664 562422)

**Saint Francis Primary School** Dalby Road (01664 562891) Headteacher Mrs Denise Shipstone  
**Youth Club** for years 7 to 10 at the United Reformed Church Hall, Chapel St, each Weds 7.30-9pm  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Christmastide – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 2 of Psalter**

**Epiphany of Our Lord**

**Mass Intentions**

Parishioners' Intentions

<b>Sat</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>		<b>Readers</b>
	6.00pm	Convent		P Dark J Boylan Debbie Burke
<b>Sun</b> <b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St John's	Fr George Ennis	
	10.30am	St Peter's	Private Intention	
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Churches Together in Melton Epiphany Service	
<b>Mon</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	7.45am	Convent	<b>ST RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT</b> Sr Patricia's Intention	<b>Welcomers</b> Mr Barker J Cuttill & family
<b>Tues</b> <b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	St John's	Family and friends (Kirby family)	
	10.45-12noon	St John's	(followed by refreshments) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Counters</b> This week B Next week C
<b>Weds</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	<b>NB</b> St John's	Funeral Mass for Mr Edgar Hunt RIP	
	8.00pm	Convent House	Holy Hour	
<b>Thurs</b> <b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	<b>NB</b> St John's	November Dead List Intention	
<b>Fri</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	7.45am	Convent	O'Hagan Family Intention	<b>Cleaners</b> Mrs Loj Mrs Curley
<b>Sat</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St John's	<b>ST AELRED (Abbot)</b> A Mother and Father's Intentions	<b>Welcomers</b> Mrs Cardwell L Catton & R Rifugiato
	9.30-12 noon	St John's	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11.30am	St John's	Confessions	
	5.15-5.45pm	Convent	Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 1 of Psalter**

**The Baptism of Our Lord**

Private Intention

	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>		<b>Readers</b>
<b>Sun</b> <b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	6.00pm	Convent		J Dolan R Murray Dominic/Rumbi
	9.00am	St John's	Mr Edgar Hunt RIP	
	10.30am	St Peter's	Parishioners' Intentions	

**All kinds of everything**

Someone once described love as the ability to see butterflies in caterpillars. I think that holds true for faith too. The feast we celebrate today, the Epiphany, is a good example of that.

Epiphany, a strange sounding word of Greek origin, simply means seeing something, or someone, more clearly than ever before. It's sudden and it takes your breath away. Something we are very familiar with we suddenly discover has more to it than we thought. Someone we thought we knew inside out suddenly gob-smacks us into seeing that we can't take her, or him, or anyone else for granted ever. Mystery rules, ok! That's epiphany. We need constant contact with mystery so life's richness isn't diluted.

After their vision, the three wise men in today's gospel reading (Mt 2:1-12) have their dream. It warns them to avoid Herod. Some people can't cope with mystery. Their attitude is all wrong, their values are all wrong, they are all wrong. As the wise men avoided Herod, so too must we, with whatever name or in whatever form he may appear. He's the one who tramples on caterpillars and thinks butterflies are for the birds. Clearly, besides mystery we also need our dreams.  
Fr Tom Cahill

**Holy Father's Mission Intentions for January:** That the Church in Africa may bring reconciliation and justice in a continent still suffering from war, exploitation and poverty.

**Cycle of Prayer:** During Ordinary Time until Lent we pray for these intentions: Peace on earth; Christian unity; the sick and those who care for them; students and teachers and the unemployed.

**Pray My Brothers and Sisters For:** Joseph Digoia, Kathleen Bielak, David Bennett, Denis Cronin, Joan Mynett, Bernadette Elliott, Clare Mason, the McCann family, Fr Philip O'Dowd and other sick clergy, a mother of two young children who is sick and for all the sick & household of the Parish.

**Parish Anniversaries:** 1999 Muriel Sanderson; 2006 Teresa James.

(NB We pray for parishioners up to the tenth anniversary of their death)

**Collection:** Week commencing 30<sup>th</sup> December 2007; Loose £160.31; Envelopes £302.90; Standing Orders £325.00

Thank you for your generosity.

### **Mr Edgar Hunt RIP**

The parish regrets to announce the death of Edgar, an elderly and much loved parishioner. Edgar, as many of you know at St John's Church, was a reader for many years and always read with great reverence, respect and dignity. He was also a collector. Sincere sympathy to his niece Sarah, friends and parishioners. Edgar's funeral mass takes place at 10.30am this Wednesday at St John's Church. All are welcome to attend the mass and are also invited to attend the Harborough Hotel, Burton Street for refreshments afterwards.

### **THIS WEEK**

**Sun 6<sup>th</sup> 6pm** Epiphany Service at St Peter's  
**Weds 7.30pm** SPUC meeting at St Peter's  
**Thurs 10am** Mothers' Prayer Group St John's  
**Thurs 2-4pm** Silver Circle party at the Convent  
Please bring a plate.

### **New Year's Greetings**

I wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year.

### **Christmas Offerings**

Many thanks for your usual very generous Christmas Offerings. May God bless you all.

### **Christmas Thanks**

Many thanks to all who prepared the Churches for Christmas, those who decorated, erected the cribs and Christmas trees; also the flower arrangers, cleaners, readers, eucharistic ministers, altar servers, welcomers, organists, musicians and those who led the singing, our sacristans and all who help in anyway over the year. Special thanks to the members of the Parish Pastoral Council, those who helped to stock the kitchen in the Parish Centre and the Management Committee. Finally, many thanks to our Parish Sisters, Sr Baptista and Sr Ignatius for all their work and to the visiting group.

### **Epiphany Service – St Peter's this Sunday 6pm**

As this is a Churches Together Service we hope that many of our parishioners will support it and give our visitors from other churches a very warm welcome. Please bring some food for a shared supper afterwards.

### **SPUC Meeting – this Weds 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 7.30pm St Peter's**

The local branch will meet in the sacristy. We need more people prepared to take an active part in this challenging but rewarding pro-life work. Why not make this a New Year's resolution?

### **Mother's Prayer Group**

Next Thursday meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> January 10am St John's  
Next Tues meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 8.15pm Samworth Centre

### **Society for the Protection of Unborn Children White Flower Appeal – 12/13 January**

This annual appeal takes place next weekend. In common with the Catholic Church SPUC defends the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. The Society opposes laws and policies which violate human life such as abortion, euthanasia, research on human embryos and anti-life sex education. SPUC also provides speakers for schools and a range of pro-life support services. Please give generously to this very worthy cause.

### **Santo Nino Devotion**

All are invited to the celebration of the Feast of Santo Nino (Divine Infant) on 19<sup>th</sup> Jan at Blessed Sacrament Church, Braunstone, Leicester. All are also welcome to join the 9 days novena. See poster for details.

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes – Jubilee Year**

By air from East Midlands Airport Mon 14<sup>th</sup> to Sun 20<sup>th</sup> July 2008 (6 nights in Lourdes) or by luxury coach from Sun 13<sup>th</sup> to Sun 20<sup>th</sup> July (5 nights in Lourdes) with overnight stops, including a visit to the shrine of St Bernadette at Nevers. For brochures and booking forms (one per person) write to the Pilgrimage Office, Willson House, Derby Road, Nottingham NG1 5AW, or call 07971 625 764. Early booking advisable on this special year for Lourdes – the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Our Lady appearing to St Bernadette.

### **Parish Centre**

The Parish Centre is now available for bookings. It can be hired for £7.50 an hour, including use of the kitchen for teas and coffees, or an extra £20 to cook in the kitchen. Groups in the parish or parishioners who wish to make a booking for meetings, birthday parties etc please contact the parish office on 562274.

### **Car Park at St Peter's**

In the near future the car park will be marked out. To the left of the main door two spaces will be marked for disabled parking. If you have any suggestions or observations on pedestrians please put your comments in the box in the porch at St Peter's or pass on to any member of the PPC, Parish Sister or Fr Jim.

### **Petition against human-animal hybrids**

Please sign the petition in the porch against the current Bill, which proposes to legalise the creation of human-animal hybrids and to widen the scope for experiments on human embryos.

*God Bless You All – Fr Jim*