

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

4th Sunday of the Year – 3rd February 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 4 of Psalter

Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	
Sat 2nd	6.00pm	Convent	Vincent & Maria Digoia (50 th Wedding Anniversary)	<u>Readers</u> M Frisby P Lee A McGrath
Sun 3rd	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Priest's Intention Priest's Intention	
Mon 4th	7.45am	Convent	NB ST GILBERT OF SEMPRINGHAM <i>No Mass today</i> (Mass at Polish Church at 9am)	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barker H Webb & family
Tues 5th	9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's (followed by refreshments) St John's	ST AGATHA Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<u>Counters</u> This week B Next week C
Weds 6th	9.15am 7.30pm 8.00pm	NB School St John's Convent	ASH WEDNESDAY John White RIP Living and deceased members of Johnson Fund Holy Hour	
Thurs 7th	9.15am	NB St John's	Ann Daveigas RIP	<u>Cleaners</u> Mrs Jones Mr & Mrs Donachie
Fri 8th	7.45am 7.00pm	Convent St John's	Sr Gemma McCormack RIP Stations of the Cross	
Sat 9th	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	Private Intention Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<u>Welcomers</u> Mrs Cardwell M & S Riley & Mrs Bezzano
			<u>First Sunday of Lent – 10th February 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 1 of Psalter</u>	
	6.00pm	Convent	Private Intention	<u>Readers</u> Sr Thomas More R Escott S McGuire
Sun 10th	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Mrs Halina Oles RIP Parishioners' Intentions	

To be or not to be?

A wit once described capitalism as the survival of the fittest. He could have said it about life in general. We prize ability above its lack. Those with skills shine brighter than those without them. They are courted, indulged and promoted. Others aren't. That's life. But not as God intended.

That's clear from today's readings: *I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly....and no one shall make them afraid.* (Zephaniah 3:12-13). *God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong....*(1 Corinthians 1:27). What did he choose them for? Was it to do something, or to be something? The order of things here is important. God chooses people to be. Bosses choose people to do. God doesn't choose people for what they have. Bosses do. That's the difference.

When people become what God calls them to be, they then "perform" beyond expectation. Then the "foolish" shame the wise. Then the "weak" shame the strong. People who think that letters after their name or titles before them important have a lot to learn.

And they won't learn it from books.

Fr Tom Cahill

Holy Father's Mission Intentions for February: That Institutes of Consecrated Life, in faithfulness to the Gospel, may generously share Christ's mission to the world.

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, Denis Cronin, Joan Mynett, Bernadette Elliott, Clare Mason, the McCann family, Josh Crump, Mrs Joan Taylor (Sr Valerie's mother) Fr Philip O'Dowd and other sick clergy, a mother of two young children who is sick and for all the sick & housebound of the Parish.

Parish Anniversaries: 2000 Matthew Farrington; 2006 Ethan Wilson; 2007 Margaret Digby, Margaret Binks, Ann Aldridge. (NB We pray for parishioners up to the tenth anniversary of their death)

Collection: Week commencing 27th January 2007; Loose £199.79; Envelopes £455.27; Standing Orders £325.00

Second Collection for sick and retired Priests: £541.66

Thank you for your generosity.

Welcome

We welcome visiting priest Fr Gi Hong Choi who will be celebrating Mass this weekend. He is a Korean priest who is studying at Leicester University.

THIS WEEK

Thurs 7th 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's

Thurs 7th 7pm First Communion meeting at school

Baptism Preparation Course

If you are expecting a baby or have a baby for baptism, the next course will start on Mon 4th Feb at the Convent, Dalby Road. If interested please phone Sr Baptista.

First Communion

There will be a meeting for parents of First Holy Communion children on Thursday 7th February at 7pm at St Francis School.

PARISH MAGAZINE

Please email articles for the parish magazine to dolores.harvey@ntlworld.com or send them to 1, College Avenue, MM, by Monday 18th February, just after half term. Thank you very much.

Admissions to St Francis School

The closing date for admissions next year is Friday 22nd February 2008. Applications being considered are for children who will be five years old between 1.9.08 and 31.8.09. Please contact the school on 562891 if you have not yet put in an application for your child.

Day of Renewal for Eucharistic Ministers

PLEASE NOTE: This will take place on Saturday 26th April at St Patrick's, Leicester or Saturday 17th May at Mother of God. Full details will be sent nearer the time.

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill

This will have its final reading in the House of Lords tomorrow (Monday), before going to the House of Commons. Please pray that the Lords will vote to reject it. More details from Frances Levett, 565781.

Call to Prayer

Please pray – we are living in a time where the moral and ethical boundaries our nation once adhered to and took for granted, are being wholly rejected. As Christians it is our responsibility to speak up for truth and justice. The embryo ought to be accorded special status in our law. Society is defined by its treatment of the most vulnerable – the embryo cannot defend itself and so we must be the voice of the voiceless.

Ashes for Ash Wednesday

Please return your blessed palms from Palm Sunday so that they can be burnt for ash on Ash Wednesday.

Garment of Suffering

Please ensure you have a leaflet about this for Lent.

Lent Groups

Churches Together propose that home groups meet during Lent to follow a course called "Just Church" produced in connection with Hope 08. (See justchurch.org.uk). If you wish to join a group please fill in your name on the appropriate list in the porch.

Recommended Website

<http://www.catholicblogs.com/>

The largest Catholic blog website on the Internet and one of the easiest to use and to search. Search for articles from thousands of Catholic blogs, or browse the directory of Catholic blogs and RSS/Atom feeds. Hundreds of articles added daily to this website.

The Catholic Unattached Directory

Are you an unattached Catholic seeking new friends or perhaps looking for someone special? Why not join the Catholic Unattached Directory? It is run by practising Catholics for practising Catholics. For free information pack ring 01322 222213 or write to: The Catholic Unattached Directory, FREEPOST (DT 1153), Dartford, DA1 2BR, or visit www.cathud.com.

When Admitted To Hospital

When you or a relative is admitted to hospital please let Fr Jim know, stating which hospital and ward. The Catholic chaplain will then be informed. If you wish to see a priest while you are in hospital the procedure these days is to request one through the staff. Sometimes I visit the hospitals in Leicester to see parishioners, so please let me know you have been admitted.

Before Surgery

*Lord, you are the healer of soul and body.
Remove fear and anxiety from my heart.
Guide the hands of the surgeon
and all who assist in the surgery.
Use their skills to set me on the path to recovery
for all my days are in your loving care.*

God Bless You All – Fr Jim