

**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

**DIOCESAN THEME 2008 – HANDING ON OUR FAITH**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent – 9<sup>th</sup> March 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 1 of Psalter**

	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Church</u></b>	<b><u>Mass Intentions</u></b>	
<b>Sat</b> <b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	6.00pm	Convent	Jim Walsh RIP	<b><u>Readers</u></b> P Dark R Murray J Garrett
<b>Sun</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	St John's St Peter's St John's	Fr George Ennis RIP Parishioners' Intentions <b>Community Service of Reconciliation</b>	<b><u>Welcomers</u></b> Mrs Cardwell E Keogh & E Green
<b>Mon</b> <b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	7.45am	Convent	John and Margaret Reid	
<b>Tues</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's St John's	Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Croasdell RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b><u>Counters</u></b> This week C Next week D
<b>Weds</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00am 8.00pm	St Peter's Convent House	Requiem Mass for Leo Gilmartin RIP Holy Hour	
<b>Thurs</b> <b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	7.00pm 7.30pm	St Peter's St Peter's	<b>Deanery Station Service</b> Sacrament of Reconciliation Norma Challis RIP (Preacher Fr Anthony Pateman)	<b><u>Cleaners</u></b> Mrs Bezzano & Mrs Wright
<b>Fri</b> <b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	7.45am 7.00pm	Convent St John's	Alice Desborough RIP <b>Stations of the Cross for Lent</b>	
<b>Sat</b> <b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	<b>ST JOSEPH/ST PATRICK Patron of Ireland</b> F & J McCarthy Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <b>NB</b> <i>No Confessions</i> Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<b><u>Welcomers</u></b> Mrs Draper & Mrs Strange Sr Baptista & M Bryning

**PALM SUNDAY – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 2 of Psalter**

	6.00pm	Convent	Mrs Mary Daintith RIP	<b><u>Readers</u></b> J Dolan J Chisnall L Hollingshead
<b>Sun</b> <b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am <b>10.25am</b> 10.30am 3.00pm 4.00pm	St John's <b>St Peter's</b> St Peter's St Peter's Convent	Fr Tom Allen RIP <b>Blessing of Palms</b> (see note overleaf) Parishioners' Intentions Baptism of Orla Brown Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction followed by meeting for Eucharistic Ministers	

**Life-giving**

Many years ago I saw a Hollywood "religious" film about Jesus of Nazareth. Jeffrey Hunter – he of the brilliant blue eyes, for those old enough to remember him – portrayed Jesus. In one scene, the raising of Lazarus to life (today's Gospel reading, John 11:1-45), Hunter calls on him to come forth from his tomb. He does, wrapped in layers of loose cloth, except for his face, which would have been better wrapped too. He looked hideous. I thought that if that was what being raised to life meant, he'd have been better left as he was.

In today's first reading (Ez 37:12-14) Yahweh says he will bring the house of Israel up from its grave and put his spirit within them so that they live. No ghoulish appearances there, no mummified creatures creaking around zombie-like as in a horror film. God gives his Spirit, beautiful, vibrant and creative. Whoever opens up to that Spirit, in turn becomes beautiful, vibrant and creative.

The body is often debased in today's entertainment industry. Constant exposure to that debasement can degrade one's respect for the beauty and sanctity of the human body – the dwelling place of God's Holy Spirit. Nothing debased or second-grade ever comes from the hand of God.

Fr Tom Cahill

**Holy Father's Mission Intentions for March:** That persecuted Christians may be sustained by the Holy Spirit and courageously bear witness to the Word of God.

**Cycle of Prayer:** During Lent we pray for these intentions: candidates for the sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers.

**Pray My Brothers and Sisters For:** Baby Amelia sick, 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, Alice Chalmers, Ann McElroy and for all the sick & housebound of the Parish.

**Parish Anniversaries:** 2004 Megan Trusty, William Stuart, Simon Austin; 2006 Amy Bayden.

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

**Collection:** Week commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2008; Loose £182.11; Envelopes £487.00; Standing Orders £325.00

**Second Collection for Franciscan Missions:** £49.52

Thank you for your generosity

**Second Collection next Sunday:** For flowers to decorate our Churches for Easter.

### Sympathy

The parish is very sorry to announce the unexpected death of Leo Gilmartin of Wicklow Avenue. Leo was a very faithful parishioner and will be sadly missed by all his friends. Sincerest sympathy and prayers to his family. There will be a Requiem Mass for Leo at 11am at St Peter's this Wednesday. Burial will take place in Omagh Co Tyrone.

### THIS WEEK

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> 8.15pm** Mothers' Prayer Group meet at the Samworth Centre

**Weds 12<sup>th</sup> 7pm** Confirmation session in Parish Centre

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> 7pm** Lenten Station Service at St Peter's

### Enrolment of First Communion Children

To take place at the 10.30am Mass today.

### Our Lenten Community Service of Reconciliation

This will take place at St John's Church today at 5pm. There will be two visiting Confessors, Mgr T McGovern P.P Oakham and Fr Adrian Chatterton.

### Mothers' Prayer Group

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 8.15pm at the Samworth Centre. There will then be a break for Easter. The next meeting is scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> April – time and venue to be confirmed.

### Confirmation Session for all Candidates

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 7pm in the Parish Centre.

### **Lenten Station Service – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March St Peter's Church Melton Mowbray.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** 7pm, Visiting Confessors Fr Michael Eastwood P.P. Shephed and Fr Peter Harvey P.P Coalville.

**Concelebrated Mass** at 7.30pm. The Preacher will be Fr A. Pateman P.P Syston & Sibley.

### Easter Pilgrims

Needed – families who are able to accommodate one or two walkers who are part of a group carrying the cross from Nottingham to Walsingham during Holy Week. Can you offer a meal and bed on **March 15<sup>th</sup>**? If so, please contact Helen Webb on MM 560010.

### Churches Together in Melton Mowbray

Resurrection Rock, a performance of songs by St Francis School and readings telling the Easter story, takes place at St Mary's Church on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. See you there.

### People of the Passion

A day of recollection for Holy Week at the Diocesan Centre, Mackworth, Derby. See poster for details.

### Garment of Suffering

A number of square pieces of cloth have come in as symbols of the grief, separation, pain or sickness etc that people are experiencing. Please take a leaflet that explains this more fully and hand in your square piece of cloth as soon as possible, so that the pieces of cloth can be sewn together into one garment. During Lent and Easter we will pray for these Intentions. What is unique about this little ritual is that you will understand that so many others share similar worries. On Good Friday after the Veneration of the Cross the garment will be draped over the Cross and left there throughout Easter. At Pentecost the garment will be removed and burnt.

### Readers for Easter

Readers please volunteer to do a reading if you are here at Easter. Thank you.

### Palm Sunday at St Peter's

Please gather outside at 10.25am for the blessing of the Palms, having collected your Palm, hymn book etc. If wet gather in the Parish centre. We will then enter the Church by the front doors as usual.

### Car Parking

It will be appreciated if cars can be parked beyond the grating in the car park in front of the Church. This is particularly important for the procession on Palm Sunday. Thank you.

### Diocesan Year Book 2008

This year's edition has a long article on the life of Bishop James McGuinness who died on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2007. The homily preached at Bishop Malcolm's Silver Jubilee and the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome; as well as articles on other jubilees, papal awards etc. On sale today for £3.

### Vacancy at St Francis School

A Premises Officer is required for 35 hours per week split shift. See poster in porch for details.

*God Bless You All – Fr Jim*