

**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

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE – 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 1 of Psalter**

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
<b>Sat</b> <b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	6.00pm	NB St Peter's	<b>Confirmation Mass with Bishop Malcolm</b> Parishioners' Intentions	Confirmation S Charlton L Stapleton
<b>Sun</b> <b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Pasquala and Anthonio Perduno RIP Giuseppe Digoia RIP	
<b>Mon</b> <b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	7.45am	Convent	<b>ST ANSELM</b> Sr Valerie's Intention (Silver Jubilee)	<b>Welcomers</b> Mrs Draper & Mrs Strange L Catton & R Rifugiato
<b>Tues</b> <b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's St John's	Fred Draper RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
<b>Weds</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	12.20pm 8.00pm	Convent Convent House	<b>ST GEORGE Patron on England</b> Michael Phillips RIP Holy Hour	<b>Counters</b> This week D Next week A
<b>Thurs</b> <b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	School	Tadeusz Rolinski	<b>Cleaners</b> Mrs Jones & Mr & Mrs Donachie
<b>Fri</b> <b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	7.45am	Convent	<b>ST MARK Evangelist (Feast)</b> Sr Agnes's Intention	
<b>Sat</b> <b>26<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	Mrs Taylor's Intention Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<b>Welcomers</b> M Barson & J Reed E Keogh & E Green

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE – 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 2 of Psalter**

	6.00pm	Convent	Victor Kren RIP (Anniversary)	<b>Readers</b> M Barson J Boylan R Price
<b>Sun</b> <b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Parishioners' Intentions Conway family	

**Cornered by the stone**

Today's Second Reading (1Pet 2:4-9) describes Jesus as a stumbling stone for those who do not believe. Could that include anybody who harbours disbelief – even believers? I think so. Following Jesus is a very varied venture. When he calls us to follow him he doesn't specify the distance. That's up to us. And the temptation is to start measuring – especially the closer we get to him.

From a distance, everything Jesus stands for is great. How could any decent human being not be for what Jesus is for: love of God, love of neighbour, especially the weak, the exploited and those on the margins of society and even sanity? But how close to that loving do we want to get and how close do we actually get?

In his book, *God of Surprises*, Gerard W. Hughes writes: "There is a foolish prodigality, too, in the Father who is presented as leaving the ninety-nine sheep to go and hunt for the one that is lost, a foolishness which we so often correct in the Church by concentrating our attention and energies on the one which is safe and leaving the ninety-nine!

There is no detour. That stumbling stone has us cornered. We must face it in the one who is lost, or become lost ourselves.

Fr Tom Cahill

**Holy Father's Mission Intentions for April:** that future priests in young Churches may be fully prepared to proclaim the Gospel in their own countries and to the whole world.

**Cycle of Prayer:** During Eastertide we pray for these intentions: new members of the Church; vocations; the right use of the media; the Church and human work.

**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, Mrs H Dickinson who is sick and for all the sick & housebound of the Parish.

**Parish Anniversaries:** 1998 William Trigg; 1999 Walter Shelton.

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

**Collection:** Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> April Loose £158.95; Envelopes £349.10; Standing Orders £325.00

**Second Collection for the Mayor's charity for young people:** £181.42

Thank you for your generosity

### **Welcome**

This weekend we welcome our Bishop, Malcolm and his Chaplain Father Jeff as they visit our parish to administer Confirmation at the 6pm Mass at St Peter's this Saturday.

### **Confirmation**

Many congratulations to all our young people who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. We pray that they will remain faithful to their Confirmation promise. Our heartfelt thanks to Sister Thomas More who co-ordinated the parish Confirmation programme and to our parish Catechists, Mrs Gwenne Mamos, Mrs Helen Chadwick and Mr John Richardson. Many thanks for all your hard work. Many thanks also to the parents for their support.

### **Sunday 20th April**

Please join us for 10 minutes at midday in Melton Market Place on Sun 20th April, to add your link to a giant paper chain being made in all parts of the world, asking for cancellation of the remaining third world debt. A group of us will take the Melton chain to the Journey to Justice Day on Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>. Dolores Harvey 568023.

### **Silver Circle**

The next meeting will be on Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> April 2-4pm in the Parish Centre at St Peter's Church, Welby Lane.

### **St Francis School Association – Irish Night**

On Fri 25<sup>th</sup> April at Hoby village hall there will be traditional Irish music performed by Bannastrand, dancing and delicious supper. Tickets £12.50. There is also a fabulous raffle of five meals for two, kindly donated by local restaurants, special thanks to La Torre, Thai Sabai, Jasmine House, Quorn Lodge and The Wise Plaice. Raffle tickets will be on sale after the masses this weekend £1 each. Thank you again for your continued support. For more details phone 560657.

### **Wedding**

Congratulations to Sean Hutchins and Antonia Azzara who will be married at St John's at 2pm this Sat 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

This Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April many of our Eucharistic Ministers will be attending their annual retreat day at St Patrick's Church in Leicester. At all Masses on the 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> April they will renew their commitment, in preparation for the consecration of St Peter's Church.

### **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Abortion Act – Sun 27<sup>th</sup> April**

Since the Abortion Act came into force 7.2 million children have died and many women have been damaged. At all Masses we will bring a memorial to the altar. Please pray for the babies, their mothers and all families affected by abortion.

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Beauvale**

Please see poster for details of this pilgrimage on 4<sup>th</sup> May to honour the first two martyrs of the reformation.

### **Stations of the Cross at St Peter's**

At long last the problem has been solved. The existing Stations will have a cream backing with a matte screen in front of the glass to prevent glare, which has been the problem all along. The Architect is very pleased with the outcome and the Stations of the Cross will be framed and hung up in St Peter's in due course.

### **New PPC Members**

Four members of the Parish Pastoral Council are retiring and I would like replacements. If you feel you can make a contribution however small we would like to hear from you. Please give your name to Pat Lee, Chairman, c/o the Presbytery.

### **Readers**

Anybody wishing to be a reader at Mass please contact Sr Thomas More, as a new rota will be made shortly.

### **Human-Animal Hybrids**

This Bill is a very serious threat, ultimately to us all. Bishops (Catholic and Anglican) are calling on us to act. In his Easter Vigil homily Bishop O'Donoghue of Lancaster said: "It is not the defenceless human-animal embryo that is "monstrous", it is we ourselves who have become "monsters" for allowing the exploitation of the unborn.... *Pray, Protest and Petition* your MPs to stop this monstrous medical experimentation." Please write to your MP **now** asking him to vote against this Bill.

### **Tombola Prizes Wanted**

The local SPUC branch is running a Tombola at Melton Show on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May and would appreciate your help. We need good prizes: bottles, sweets, toiletries, new packaged gifts and games, large soft toys e.g. teddies and similar items. (Sorry no bric-a-brac). Contact Frances on 565781.

### **Nottingham Diocese Education Service**

Requires 2 part-time consultants for June/ September: A Co-ordinator for Diocesan Inspections (Section 47/8) and a Buildings Officer. Both posts are 14 hours per week. Further details from Mrs Maxine Taylor at The Diocesan Centre: [maxine.taylor@nottingham-des.org.uk](mailto:maxine.taylor@nottingham-des.org.uk) or 01332 293833 ext 838.

### **Questions about the faith? Try this website**

Returning Catholics, new enquirers & existing Catholics with questions visit [www.catholicscomehome.org](http://www.catholicscomehome.org). It is an excellent, easy to use website.

God Bless You All – Fr Jim