

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

9th Sunday of the Year – 1st June 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 1 of Psalter

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	
Sat 31st	6.00pm	Convent	Private Intention	<u>Readers</u> D Howe L Escott A McGrath
Sun 1st June	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Mrs Josie Gredziak' mother (Lucy Wayt) Parishioners' Intentions	
Mon 2nd	7.45am	Convent	SS MARCELLINUS AND PETER Norah Murray RIP	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barker J Cuttill & family
Tues 3rd	9.15am NB 10.45-12noon	St John's St John's	SS CHARLES LWANGA & COMPS (Ugandan Martyrs) Mrs Kathleen Murray RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Weds 4th	12.20pm 8.00pm	Convent Convent House	Private Intention Holy Hour	<u>Counters</u> This week B Next week C
Thurs 5th	9.15am	School	ST BONIFACE OF CREDITON Mass with Year 3 children Mrs Maguire RIP	
First Fri 6th	7.45am	Convent	ST NORBERT James Differ and family	<u>Cleaners</u> Mrs Loj Mrs Curley
Sat 7th	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	OUR LADY'S SATURDAY E Hudson & Titley (Foundation Mass) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<u>Welcomers</u> Mrs Cardwell L Catton & R Rifugiato
			<u>10th Sunday of the Year – 8th June 2008 (Year A Readings) Week 2 of Psalter</u>	
	6.00pm	Convent	Mr Bob Dickinson RIP	<u>Readers</u> M Frisby S Charlton S McGuire
Sun 8th	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Mrs Irene Burnett RIP Parishioners' Intentions (especially First Communion families)	

A Delusion by any other name

In *The God Delusion* Richard Dawkins states, "...one of the truly bad effects of religion is that it teaches us that it is a virtue to be satisfied with not understanding." Seems there's more than one "delusion" doing the rounds! Religion acknowledges mystery. Unlike a puzzle that can be solved, mystery is not for solving but exploring. And, by definition, it can't be sucked dry by human intelligence. It's greater than anything the human mind could ever comprehend. Otherwise it's not mystery. Any religion worth its incense delves into mystery, but with humility in the face of unknowing. It's the humility bit that's the virtue not some spurious satisfaction with ignorance.

Take today's First Reading, for example (Deut 11:18, 26-28). "Today I set before you a blessing and a curse" (v.26).

That's not the mystery, however. The mystery is that some people choose the curse. Now why would they do that?

Don't they know the stakes? Don't they believe in curses? Don't they care one way or the other? Seems not.

Shakespeare wrote in *Hamlet* that there is nothing either good or bad but thinking makes it so. If he were writing today he might upgrade that to: "There is nothing good or bad but DNA makes it so." Wouldn't it be great if that were true? Just a tweak on the old DNA spiral here and a zap of the old laser beam there and *hey presto*: a new creation!

And if that's not a delusion, I don't know what is.

Fr Tom Cahill

Holy Father's Mission Intentions for June: that the Eucharistic Congress in Canada may lead to a deeper understanding of the Eucharist, the heart and source of evangelisation.

Cycle of Prayer: During Ordinary Time until September we pray for a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; human life and seafarers.

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, Ray Broad, Mrs H Dickinson who is sick, Richard Price, Jeanette Crosdale, Muriel Digby, Michael Roach and for all the sick & housebound of the Parish.

Parish Anniversaries: 1998 Terence Ketland; 2003 Richard Frisby; 2005 Christine Bursnell; 2006 Agnes Orr.

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

Collection: Week commencing 25th May 2008 Loose £161.19; Envelopes £456.65; Standing Orders £325.00

Second Collection for Franciscan Missions: £52.09

Thank you for your generosity

Sympathy

Sincere sympathy and prayers are extended to the Connors family of Upper Broughton on the recent death of Gaidagh Bentley (nee Connors). Fr Jim represented the parish at the funeral.

THIS WEEK

Weds 4th 7.30pm SPUC meeting

Thurs 5th 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's

SPUC Meeting this Weds 4th June 7.30 St Peter's

The local branch will hold its monthly meeting in the Sacristy finishing by 9pm at the latest. Meetings are very friendly and everyone is welcome. We would like some new faces. We are an active group and really do need your help and ideas. Please come along.

Annual APF/Mill Hill Get Together

The annual reunion Mass will take place on Sat 7th June at 3pm at Our Lady of the Assumption, Coventry.

First Holy Communion

This will take place at the 10.30am Mass at St Peter's on Sunday 8th June. Twenty children will be receiving Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion.

Handing on our faith – "As the Father has sent me"

There will be a day of exploration for clergy and lay people on Sat 14th June from 10-4pm at Holy Trinity Centre Newark. Please see poster for details.

A Day with Mary – Walsingham Sun 15th June

Please see posters in the porch for details of this and A Day with Mary pilgrimages to Rome and Fatima.

"Understanding CAFOD"

CAFOD Nottingham is holding a series of presentations, discussions and interactive activities at St Peter's, Leicester Road, Hinckley LE10 1LW on Sat 21st June from 10-4pm. Please see poster for details.

Nottingham Diocese Walsingham Pilgrimage

This will take place on Sunday 22nd June from 11-5pm. Come and pray for vocations and celebrate especially this year the vocation to parenthood! Please see poster.

Baptism Preparation Course

If you are expecting a baby or have a baby due to baptism, please book in for this four week course, which starts on Mon June 30th from 7-8pm in the parish centre. Booking forms available in the church porches.

Gift Day – 5th/6th July 2008

As you may have heard some weeks ago, we will not be having a summer garden party at the school this year so instead we have decided to have a Gift Day whereby parishioners can donate in an envelope the amount they would have spent at the garden party. We will also have a Grand Draw, which will take place during refreshments after the 10.30am Mass at St Peter's. Tickets may be available next weekend.

Car Park at St John's Church

It is becoming very difficult for parishioners to park cars for Tuesday morning Mass. The Parish Pastoral Council has decided to introduce car permits for everybody who wishes to park their cars there. If you would like one of these please contact the parish office at the presbytery.

The Vatican Magazine

There are a number of copies of this magazine "treasures of the world's smallest city state." Price £3.50

Diocesan Catholic Newspaper

This is available today and includes articles on the Confirmation away day, including a photo of our group; child protection and the internet; the diocesan project in Nigeria and a reflection on the current diocesan theme, "Handing on our Faith." Please ensure you take a copy, or ring the parish office at the presbytery for one.

Approximate Cost of Building Work

This will be £330,000 plus approximately £3,000 to prepare the old Stations of the Cross and an additional sum for the extra lighting in the Sanctuary.

St John's Church

This needs painting, especially the Sanctuary and I hope we can easily come to an agreement on the colour scheme! Any other suggestions please let Fr Jim know.

Standing Order/Offerings at Mass/Gift Aiding

Basic rate of tax has been reduced and inflation is increasing. Both affect the value of your offerings. If you have not altered the amount of your offering for a few years perhaps this may be a good time to review it. Thank you once again.

Parish Website

Please have a look at our website (<http://www.meltononline.co.uk/catholiccommunity/>) for information about our parish, e.g. events for your diary, the weekly bulletin and church rotas. You can also send in any suggestions you have to mmcatholics@yahoo.co.uk

God Bless You All - Fr Jim