

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

Second Sunday of the Year – 18th January 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 2 of Psalter

Day of Special Prayer for Peace on Earth

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
Sat 17th	6.00pm	Convent	Domenico Alfieri RIP Visiting Church of England Preacher Rev Dr Peter Hooper	P Dark R Murray Helen/Elizabeth
Sun 18th	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Richard Casper RIP Parishioners' Intentions	<u>Welcomers</u> Mrs Draper & Mrs Strange J Curley & family
Mon 19th	7.45am	Convent	Sr Valerie's Feast Day Intentions	<u>BLESSED CYPRIAN TANSI Monk of Mount St Bernard's Abbey</u>
Tues 20th	9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's (followed by refreshments) St John's	Sr Dorothy Paul's Feast Day Intentions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<u>Counters</u> This week C Next week D
Weds 21st	12.20pm 8.00pm	Convent Convent House	<u>ST AGNES</u> Patrick O'Hanlon RIP Holy Hour	<u>Cleaners</u> Mr & Mrs Donachie
Thurs 22nd	9.30am	St John's	November Dead List Intentions	
Fri 23rd	7.45am	Convent	Aleksander Zorko RIP	
Sat 24th	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	<u>ST FRANCIS DE SALES</u> November Dead List Intentions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barson & J Reed E Keogh & E Green

Third Sunday of the Year – 25th January 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 3 of Psalter

	6.00pm	Convent	Mrs Maire Rankin RIP	<u>Readers</u> J Dolan P Lee Imogen/Amy
Sun 25th	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Parishioners Intentions Fr Thomas Kenny RIP	

Howls of protest

This is something you may not want to hear. Even with faith in God it takes some getting used to. It's what Paul says in today's Second Reading: "you are not your own" (1 Cor 6:19). You don't have the final say over what you can and can't do.

I can almost hear howls of protest from those who claim total ownership over themselves, from those who claim the "right" to do whatever they wish provided it's not illegal, from those who claim the "right" to end their life at a time and in a manner of their choosing – and generally from anybody who doesn't like being told what to do. And that covers a lot of people.

But isn't it basic to our faith that we belong to God, and are happy with that? Isn't that what baptism is about: acknowledging God's ownership of us? We didn't make ourselves, cause ourselves to be born, give ourselves life in any way whatsoever. So how can we possibly claim ownership over something we had no hand or act in making? We have been given as a gift unto ourselves – a gift for purpose not whimsy, for freedom not licence, forever not just for a day. But suppose, for the sake of argument, that God's word in Scripture were to tell us that God couldn't care less what we did here; that God couldn't be bothered whether we wiped ourselves off the face of the earth for that matter, how would we feel?

I can almost hear howls of protest.

Fr Tom Cahill

The Holy Father's Mission Intention for January: That all Christian Churches give authentic witness to the Good News and move toward the full unity of all Christians.

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; the unemployed.

Pray My Brothers and Sisters For: Deacons Stephen Boulter and Joe Rogan, Denis Cronin, Joan Mynett, Bernadette Elliott, Fr Philip O'Dowd, Fr John Mack, Caroline, Nicholas, sick brother, a young man who is having chemotherapy, Mrs H Dickinson, and for all the sick & housebound of the Parish.

Parish Anniversaries: 1999 John Coughlan; 2003 William Guy; 2004 John Jinks, Richard Casper; 2005 Aleksander Zorko; 2006 Leszek Mosoro; 2008 Alice Desborough.

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

Collection: Week commencing 11th January 2009 Loose £117.17; Envelopes £339.60; Standing Orders £325
Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK

Mon 19th 7.30pm St Vincent de Paul Society St Peter's
Tues 20th 3.30pm Kumon (Maths & English after school)
Tues 20th 7.30pm Parish Magazine meeting
Weds 21st 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre
Weds 21st 7.30pm Youth Club meet at UR Church Hall
Thurs 22nd 9.30am Weight Watchers in Parish Centre
Thurs 22nd 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's
Thurs 22nd 5.30pm Slimming World in Parish Centre
Fri 23rd 9.30-11am Mother & Toddler Group at St Peter's
Sat 24th 9.30am Kumon in the Parish Centre

Silver Circle Christmas Party

This will take place on Thursday 29th Jan 2-4pm at St Peter's Parish Centre. Christmas food will be provided.

National Marriage Week

Rev John Sherrington, Director of the Marriage & Family Life Commission, will be offering a Mass of Celebration in St Barnabas Cathedral on Monday 9th February at 7.30pm. All who have ever received the Sacrament are welcome, as are engaged couples and people experiencing difficulties in their marriage. Refreshments will be served and representatives of Catholic organisations will be in attendance.

White Flower Result

Last week's collection for SPUC totalled £290. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Child Protection Representative

I am sorry to announce that Mrs Deborah Burke, our Child Protection Representative, has resigned from this position. We are very grateful for all her help in the past. Could anyone interested in taking over from Deborah please contact Fr Jim as soon as possible.

Compulsory Sex Education – Online Petition

In deciding to introduce compulsory sex education for children from five years upwards, the Government appears to have gone back on its commitment not to do so without a public consultation. An online petition asking for a 12-week public consultation so that parents can contribute to the debate can be signed at: <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/Parentchoice>

Kumon

This is a maths and English after school programme. It takes place in our Parish Centre on Tuesday afternoons from 3.30pm and Saturday mornings from 9.30am. For more details visit www.kumon.co.uk or call Yvonne on 01572 823884.

Enquiring about the Catholic faith?

If you know of anybody wishing to know more about the Catholic faith please contact Sr Ignatius on 562422 or Fr Jim. Three people have already expressed an interest and we hope to start sessions soon.

Justice & Peace Commission Fieldworker

Please see poster for details of this vacancy .

God Bless You All – Fr Jim

Churches Together in Melton Mowbray

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** with the theme, "Reconcile your people", starts this Monday 19th January. Please try to attend some of these events/services. See poster for details.

The final service, "Service of Hope", **takes place at St Peter's on Sunday 25th January at 6pm.** It will specifically celebrate the unity that already exists between the churches and in particular will include a focus on the Child Contact Centre and the Commissioning of the Street Pastors.

Preacher: Rev Dr Derek Tidball, (former Principal of London School of Theology).

St Vincent de Paul Society

The first meeting of this new group (which incorporates the Visiting Group) will take place on Monday 19th Jan 7.30pm in St Peter's meeting room. All welcome.

Parish Magazine

Do you enjoy reading the Parish Magazine or would you like it to change? Either way we would welcome some new input. No skills or experience necessary. Come and see if its for you on Tuesday 20th Jan 7.30pm at 1 College Avenue, Melton. Thanks. Dolores (Tel. 568023).

Months Mind Mass for Fr Frank McCarthy RIP

This will now take place on Wednesday 28th January **12noon at St John's Church.** Please make a note of this in your diary. Members of Fr Frank's Order, Mill Hill Missionaries will be attending and will say a few words about Fr Frank. He was brought up in Melton Mowbray and went to St Francis School. For many years he gave Mission appeals in the Dioceses of Nottingham, Northampton and East Anglia. We are hoping that a number of priests from the Deanery, Leicester City area, and further afield, will attend a concelebrated Mass.