

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

Sixth Sunday of the Year – 15th February 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 2 of Psalter

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
Sat 14th	6.00pm	Convent	Mrs Marjorie Barker RIP	M Frisby S Charlton Danny B/Tony
Sun 15th	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Fr David Everitt's Intention Fr David Everitt's Intention	<u>Welcomers</u> Mrs Draper & Mrs Strange L Catton & R Rifugiato
Mon 16th	9.00am NB	Polish Church	Mass	
Tues 17th	9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's (followed by refreshments) St John's	Service of the Word and Holy Communion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<u>Counters</u> This week C Next week D
Weds 18th	12.20pm 8.00pm	Convent Convent House	Sr Nelisa and Sr Lunga's Intentions Holy Hour	
Thurs 19th	9.30am 10.30am	St John's Melton Cemetery Chapel	Kathleen and John Reid RIP Funeral service for Mr James Reaves RIP of Stevenage	<u>Cleaners</u> Mrs Bezzano Mrs Wright
Fri 20th	9.00am NB	Convent	Mrs Nora Lenehan RIP	
Sat 21st	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	<u>ST PETER DAMIAN</u> Mrs Dorothy Smith RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barson & J Reed H Webb & M Barber

Seventh Sunday of the Year – 22nd February 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 3 of Psalter

Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed

	6.00pm	Convent	Parishioners' Intentions	<u>Readers</u> Sr Thomas More J Boylan Dominic/Rumbi
Sun 22nd	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Fr John Drew RIP Cecilia Townend RIP	

Compassion through anger

There are two possible images of Jesus in today's Gospel reading (Mark 1:40-45). The obvious one is the compassionate Jesus who pities a leper (v.41) and cures him. But then, why the "stern warning" (v.43)? It's not a warning to keep quiet, because that order comes after the stern warning. There's no information on what Jesus warns him about. Hence, the excuse to speculate.

The NRSV Catholic Edition has a footnote to v.41 stating that "other ancient authorities read *anger*." That's *anger* instead of *pity*. This makes more sense in terms of the "stern warning." The NRSV also notes that the terms *leper* and *leprosy* can refer to several diseases. Could the leper's disease be caused by a particular lifestyle? Jesus recognising this perhaps is angry with him. Yet, he cures him. Curing a leper who through no fault of his own contracts the disease warrants compassion. But Jesus' compassion could be even greater than that because he shows compassion to someone who possibly contracted a disease through his own fault. This is an even greater challenge for us today for it clearly shows that anger and compassion are not mutually exclusive. And that giving a stern warning about risky lifestyles is not out of order.

Could those who fashioned the final form of the Gospel of Mark have opted for the softer Jesus? If they did what criteria did they use for their preference? And if they did, were they correct? Could they have had difficulty with compassion flowing through anger?

It's an issue we too may have to face.

Fr Tom Cahill

The Holy Father's Mission Intention for February: That the Church in Africa may promote reconciliation, justice and peace as it prepares for the special Synod for Africa.

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 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 Freda Toth; 2001 Marjorie Barker; 2005 Bridgette Moy; 2006 Dorothy Smith. And all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Collection: Week commencing 8th February 2009 Loose £132.16; Envelopes £388.10; Standing Orders £325

Second Collection for the Franciscan Missions: £40.99

Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK

Tues 17th 3.30pm Kumon (Maths & English after school)

Weds 18th 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre

Thurs 19th 9.30am Weight Watchers in Parish Centre

Thurs 19th 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's

Thurs 19th 5.30pm Slimming World in Parish Centre

Thurs 19th 7.30pm Faith sharing for adults (see below)

Fri 20th 9.30-11am Mother & Toddler Group at St Peter's

Sat 21st 9.30am Kumon in the Parish Centre

Welcome

Today we welcome Fr David Everitt, a priest of our Diocese who has been working in Zimbabwe but is on leave at the moment. He will make an appeal for the Mother of Peace Community, an orphanage for destitute children regardless of colour or creed. Please be as generous as you can to this good cause.

Faith sharing for adults enquiring about the Faith

There will be a meeting on Thursday 19th February at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

Silver Circle

The next meeting is on Thurs 26th Feb from 2-4pm in St Peter's Parish Centre. We look forward to seeing you.

Monos Workshops

Monos is a centre for the study of monastic culture and spirituality which holds events throughout the year. Please see poster for details of a Lenten workshop at Mount Saint Bernard's Abbey from 28th Feb-1st March.

St Francis School PTA fundraising events

Please join us on March 7th in the school hall for an evening of Murder, Mystery and Suspense! A performance from The Oxtou Amateur Players from Southwell accompanied by a two course dinner all for £12.50 per ticket. Please contact Teresa (560657) or Alison (568076) for more details.

If you have any unwanted clothes, bedding, cuddly toys, curtains, shoes or handbags why not bag them up and bring them along to school on Feb 27th by 9.30am or to any Mass on Sun Feb 22nd. "Bags2school" will collect them and pay the school £300 per tonne. Many thanks.

Search for the Light – 9th-12th April

Easter retreat at The Briars for anyone in Year 11 or over. Details and booking form on www.ndcys.com (go to The Briars mini site) or call 01773 852044 for details. A great opportunity to reflect on the real meaning of Easter with young people from all over the country. See poster in porch for more details.

God Bless You All – Fr Jim

Pilgrimage to Ireland – 10th-15th May

If you would like to join Blessed Sacrament Parish's Pilgrimage the cost will be £350 (single supplement £50). Travel by coach and ferry with daily outings, including Knock. Ring 0116 285 8795 for a booking form and see poster for more details.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The youth service is leading a group on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for Catholic young people not in Catholic Education or whose Catholic school is not already taking a group. Travelling by coach along with other school groups from the diocese and staying with them in Lourdes. If you are 16 –18 on the 19th July this year (just left Year 11, in 6th form or just left 6th form) then check out www.ndcys.com for details on how to be part of the group. For more details, look on the website or contact Fr Joe on 01773 852044 fr.joe@ndcys.com.

Eucharistic Adoration Rota

A very big thank you to everyone who takes part in this. You have kept the rota going for several years now, enabling St John's church to be left open every Tuesday and Saturday morning. Your prayers bring many blessings on yourselves and the parish and we want to continue to have the church open. However, we very much need new people to add their names to the rota. There are only a few names down for some of the time slots. Please would you look at the rota in the porch and sign your name if you are able to commit to half an hour. Or see Frances Levett after Mass. Also, it would help if you could be on call occasionally even if you cannot make a regular commitment. If more people sign up this will ensure the church will remain open for all parishioners who want to visit it to pray.

Ashes for Ash Wednesday

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

Youth St Vincent de Paul Society

Thank you to all who made/bought cakes from the cake stall last Sunday. Total raised was £43.62. Next meeting is Tues 3rd March at 6pm in the Meeting Room.

Briars team 2009/10

The Briars Catholic Youth Retreat Centre is now recruiting for the volunteer team for September. If you will be 18 – 25 this September and want to spend a year working with young people in residential retreat work at one of the best and most exciting youth centres in the country, then get in touch; Hannah@ndcys.com or 01773 852044.