

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

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

Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed

| | <u>Time</u> | <u>Church</u> | <u>Mass Intentions</u> | <u>Readers</u> |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Sat 21st | 6.00pm | Convent | Parishioners' Intentions | 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 | <u>Welcomers</u> M Barson & J Reed H Webb & M Barber |
| Mon 23rd | 7.45am | Convent | ST POLYCARP Donor's Intention | <u>Counters</u> This week D Next week A |
| Tues 24th | 9.30am 10.45-12noon | St John's (followed by refreshments) St John's | November Dead List Intentions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | |
| Weds 25th | 9.15am 7.30pm 8.00pm | School St John's Convent House | ASH WEDNESDAY (fast and abstinence from meat) Mrs Maryte Pauliukonis RIP Mgr John Ryan RIP Holy Hour | <u>Cleaners</u> Mrs Bezzano Mrs Wright |
| Thurs 26th | 9.30am | St John's | November Dead List Intentions | |
| Fri 27th | 7.45am | Convent | SS MARGARET CLITHEROW ANNE LINE & MARGARET WARD Richard Young RIP | <u>Welcomers</u> M Barker M & S Riley O Bezzano |
| Sat 28th | 9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm | St John's St John's St John's Convent | Private Intention Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm | |

First Sunday of Lent – 1st March 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 1 of Psalter

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| | 6.00pm | Convent | Fr Jack Fahy RIP | <u>Readers</u> M Barson R Murray Gemma/Colette |
| Sun 1st March | 9.00am 10.30am | St John's St Peter's | Parishioners' Intentions November Dead List Intentions | |

Netting a fisherman

Jesus' choice for "pope" was a strange one: an unlettered fisherman. His followers were quick to change the gene pool. Had Jesus made a mistake? Unlikely! Was Peter a failure? Hardly! So why the shift? Who knows! But first: the "why" of Jesus' choice. Were there no academics around in his time, no doctors of the Law, no scholars, no intellectuals? No doubt there were. But God has the disconcerting habit of choosing unlikely people to do his work: Abram and Sarah, Moses, David, the prophets, Job, Zachariah and Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph. The rationale being that it's God's power that must shine through what is being done, not the brilliance of the person doing it. Jesus was a carpenter, not a scholar. None of his disciples were scholars either. God's choice to get the ball rolling, if you'll pardon the expression, was unlettered people. I wonder how the Church would have developed had we had tradesmen as popes instead of scholars. As the prospect of ever having such a pope again is remote – though knowing Who's behind the scenes not impossible – harbouring such a thought seems ludicrous. How different would Christ's Church be today had persons with trades under their belt instead of letters after their name been leading her? This speculation is interesting and useful for it brings to focus the biblical imperative that regardless of who leads, God is head and God's power must shine through those who lead.

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 Anne Kinsella; 2000 Elizabeth Croasdell; 2003 Herbert Beyer; 2007 Joan Clarke. And all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Collection: Week commencing 15th February 2009 Loose £121.30; Envelopes £382.11; Standing Orders £325

Second Collection for the Mother of Peace Community: £1,041.99 Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK

Tues 24th 3.30pm Kumon (Maths & English after school)
Tues 24th 7.30pm First Communion meeting St Peters
Tues 24th 8pm Mothers' Prayer Group at St Peter's
Weds 25th 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre
Weds 25th 7.30pm Youth Club meet at UR Church Hall
Thurs 26th 9.30am Weight Watchers in Parish Centre
Thurs 26th 2-4pm Silver Circle meet in Parish Centre
Thurs 26th 5.30pm Slimming World in Parish Centre
Fri 27th 9.30-11am Mother & Toddler Group at St Peter's
Sat 28th 9.30am Kumon in the Parish Centre

Walk With Me Lenten Reflections

Lent reminds us of our need to make a fresh start at drawing closer to God which is what conversion means. In this booklet we shall look at the ways conversion is expressed in our daily lives. We shall ponder too on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the wonderful gift to the Church of that reliable outward and effective sign of the grace of forgiveness. This year, being a jubilee year of St Paul, the booklet will look at his figure as a marvellous encouragement to us on our pathway of continual conversion. St Peter too can inspire us to experience real sorrow for our failings and to know the forgiving love of the Lord. A hundred of these booklets are on sale today cost £1. They will be sold on a first come first served basis so please ensure you have your copy today and make your £1 donation at a later date. There are also fifty free Lent calendars for children – please encourage your children to follow this daily.

Garment of Suffering

Please ensure you have a leaflet about this for Lent.

Eucharistic Adoration Rota

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 let Fr Jim know. 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.

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.

Parents of First Holy Communion Children

There will be a meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm on Tuesday 24th February.

Faith sharing for adults enquiring about the Faith

The next meeting is on Thursday 26th February at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

This will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 5th March in the Meeting Room at St Peter's. If anyone has any point for discussion please send it in as soon as possible.

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.

First Holy Communion Enrolment

On Sunday 8th March at the 10.30 Mass at St Peter's our children for First Holy Communion will be enrolled in the home, school and parish preparation programme.

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.

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 2009

This will take place from 20th-26th July (by air) and 19th to 26th July (by coach). Please see poster for details.

God Bless You All – Fr Jim