

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

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

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
Sat 28th	6.00pm	Convent	Fr Jack Fahy RIP	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	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barker M & S Riley O Bezzano
Mon 2nd	7.45am	Convent	Marie Geary (get well)	
Tues 3rd	9.15am 9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's St John's (followed by refreshments) St John's	Rosary for pro-life issues November Dead List Intentions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<u>Counters</u> This week A Next week B
Weds 4th	12.20pm 8.00pm	Convent Convent House	Sr Magdalene's diamond jubilee Holy Hour	<u>Cleaners</u> Mrs Loj Mrs Curley
Thurs 5th First	9.30am	St John's	Mrs Irene Burnett RIP	
Fri 6th	7.45am 7.00pm	Convent St John's	CAFOD Fast Day (Day of Special Prayer for the Poor and Needy) Private Intention Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Communion	
Sat 7th	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	November Dead List Intentions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<u>Welcomers</u> Mrs Cardwell J Curley & family

Second Sunday of Lent – 8th March 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 2 of Psalter

	6.00pm	Convent	Mgr John O'Neill RIP	<u>Readers</u> P Jones P Lee Alison/John
Sun 8th	9.00am 10.30am 3.30pm	St John's St Peter's Convent	Mrs Diana Box RIP Parishioners' Intentions Stations of the Cross & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	

Reading in the wilderness

I've heard it said that some people who suffer from burnout have never been on fire. *Ouch!* Today's Gospel reading (Mark 1:12-15) brings that to mind: "And the spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness." No sooner does the Father declare Jesus to be his Son, the Beloved (v11) than the Spirit shunts him off to the wilderness. Why? So that the ecstasy of his baptism doesn't turn his head? So that his divinity doesn't overpower his humanity? So that he opts for service and not for privilege? Fired with the Spirit he hurries there to learn how to read his person and his mission. A plan of cosmic scale clicks into play. The air tingles with urgency as Jesus reaches the wilderness. The words of Paul (Rom 8:22-23) time travel back to us, "We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now....and we ourselves groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies." That's what the urgency is about: humanity's impending redemption.

It's what we groan for to fill the emptiness within us. It's what we search for to complete ourselves as a person. But have we learnt how to read our person and our mission? If we've not allowed God's Spirit to fire us to seek the wilderness, we will groan for all the wrong things: money, power, fame, drugs and sex – and just burn out.

Lent leads us into the wilderness. Let us enter and spend time there with the demons and the angels. Fr Tom Cahill

The Holy Father's Mission Intention for March: That Church leaders and people in the People's Republic of China may be the sign and instrument of unity, communion and peace.

Cycle of Prayer: During Lent we pray for these intentions: Candidates for the sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers.

Pray My Brothers and Sisters For: Joan Mynett, Bernadette Elliott, Fr John Mack, a young man who is having chemotherapy, Mrs H Dickinson, Bernadette McGuinness and for all the sick & housebound of the Parish.

Please also pray for Fr McShane, Brid Herity and David Firman who died recently.

Parish Anniversaries: 1999 Margaret Duignan; 2001 Beatrice Ward, Patrick Butler; 2004 Margaret Whitfield, James Walsh; 2006 Margaret Boyle; 2008 Leo Gilmartin. And all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Collection: Week commencing 22nd February 2009 Loose £136.01; Envelopes £293.00; Standing Orders £325

Second Collection for the Franciscan Missions: £44.49

Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK

Mon 2nd 6-7.30pm Brownies at St Francis School
Mon 2nd 7.30-9pm Guides at St Francis School
Tues 3rd 3.30pm Kumon (Maths & English after school)
Tues 3rd 6pm Youth SVP in the Meeting Room
Weds 4th 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre
Weds 4th 7.30pm Youth Club meet at UR Church Hall
Weds 4th 7.30pm SPUC meet in St Peter's Sacristy
Thurs 5th 9.30am Weight Watchers in Parish Centre
Thurs 5th 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's
Thurs 5th 5.30pm Slimming World in Parish Centre
Thurs 5th 7.30pm PPC meet in the Meeting Room
Fri 6th 9.30-11am Mother & Toddler Group at St Peter's
Fri 6th 2pm Women's World Day of Prayer at Sage Cross Methodist Church
Sat 7th 9.30am Kumon in the Parish Centre

Walk With Me Lenten Reflections

There are still a few of these left, please collect one.

Garment of Suffering

Please ensure you have a leaflet about this for Lent.

Stations of the Cross for Lent

These will take place at St John's at 7pm each Friday during Lent, followed by Holy Communion. At this service we reflect on all that Jesus suffered to win for us all the blessings we need. Please make the effort to join fellow parishioners for this devotion. I invite readers to take part in the service by volunteering to read two or three Stations. Please contact me if you would be able to help. Thank you.

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. Please add your name to the rota in the porch 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.

Assistant Youth Leader's Programme

Thanks to Emma Curley, James Pitts and Niall McGuire for volunteering to do this programme. They will meet in the Meeting Room on Sundays from 7-8.30pm for the next four weeks.

Extract from Fr David Everitt's letter of thanks

"£1,092!! was the truly magnificent response to my recent appeal in your lovely parish. On behalf of the orphans and lepers a million grateful thanks! The money will go directly to those who care for them and be assured every penny will go to bring quality to their lives. They will be praying for their "elder brothers and sisters" in Melton Mowbray. Please continue to hold them in your loving prayer. THANK YOU! God bless you all."

Rosary for pro-life issues during Lent

Our Lady said the Holy Rosary has the power to defeat Satan and all evil so if issues such as abortion, contraception and sex education worry you please join us at St John's when the Holy Rosary will be offered each Tuesday during Lent, before the 9.30am Mass. Please also pray for these intentions at home.

SPUC Meeting this Wednesday 4th March 7.30pm

Your local Pro-life group will hold its monthly meeting in St Peter's Sacristy, finishing by 9pm at latest. Meetings are very friendly and everyone is welcome. If you care about the unborn and the elderly then why not make an effort to join us?

Faith sharing for adults enquiring about the Faith

Next meeting Weds 4th March 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.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day – Friday 6th March

Please give generously and bring hope to people living in poverty. Don't forget to fill in your Gift Aid details if you are a taxpayer.

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 Oxtan 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.

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.

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