

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

Third Sunday of Lent – 15th March 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 3 of Psalter

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
Sat 14th	6.00pm	Convent	Parishioners' Intentions	C McGrath J Chisnall Justin/Jean
Sun 15th	9.00am 10.30am 3.30pm	St John's St Peter's Convent	Mgr John O'Neill RIP Mr Giuseppe Digiola RIP (anniversary) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Mon 16th	7.45am	Convent	Daniel Smith RIP	<u>Welcomers</u> Mrs Draper & Mrs Strange E Keogh & E Green
Tues 17th	9.15am 9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's St John's (followed by refreshments) St John's	<u>ST PATRICK (Feast Day)</u> Rosary for pro-life issues Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Crosdell RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<u>Counters</u> This week C Next week D
Weds 18th	11.00am 8.00pm	St John's Convent House	Funeral Mass for Mrs Maria Martorano RIP Holy Hour	<u>Cleaners</u> Mrs Garrett Mrs Pingue
Thurs 19th	9.30am	St John's	<u>ST JOSEPH Spouse of Our Lady (Feast Day)</u> Private Intention	
Fri 20th	7.45am 7.00pm	Convent St John's	Rosemary Warner RIP Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion followed by Confessions	
Sat 21st	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	Patrick Quigley RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barson & J Reed Sr Baptista & M Bryning
			<u>Fourth Sunday of Lent – 22nd March 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 4 of Psalter</u>	
	6.00pm	Convent	Mrs Norma Challis RIP (anniversary)	<u>Readers</u> P Dark R Escott Lesley/Helen
Sun 22nd	9.00am 10.30am	St John's St Peter's	Parishioners' Intentions Fr Tadgh Barry RIP	

Christ Crucified

Paul preaches "Christ Crucified" (1 Cor 1:22) in today's Second Reading, not the Crucifixion. There's a huge difference between the two. The one focuses on Christ; the other on suffering. While the Gospels describe his suffering and death, they don't dramatise them with lengthy and graphic descriptions of flowing blood and torn flesh. There's an important lesson to be learnt in the Gospel accounts of Jesus suffering and death that focusing on pain and ripped flesh won't provide.

Put simply the lesson is: it was not Jesus' suffering that was the primary part of God's salvific plan, or even primary to our redemption. No! It was the Spirit that enabled him to suffer come what may. That Spirit was his loving faithfulness to his Father's will. It was this love in Jesus' heart that effected our redemption, not his suffering, which would have had no value had it not been endured because of love. This view may be unacceptable to those of a certain type of spirituality. However, nothing should get in the way of that understanding – especially not a penance-promoting spirituality that makes a "no-pain-no-gain" claim where God is concerned.

For if suffering was the non-negotiable part of God's plan what sort of an image does that present of him? A Father, who would want his beloved son in whom he was well pleased to suffer cruelly and be killed – and all to gratify his anger at human sinfulness! That would certainly be a stumbling block, I'd say – and to more than the Jews.

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: Denis Cronin; 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.

Parish Anniversaries: 2003 Bridget North; 2006 Dolan Perdue, Amy Bayden; 2008 Giuseppe Digioia. And all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Collection: Week commencing 8th March 2009 Loose £202.58; Envelopes £455.90; Standing Orders £325

Second Collection for CAFOD: £595.74

Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK

Mon 16th 6-7.30pm Brownies at St Francis School
Mon 16th 7.30-9pm Guides at St Francis School
Tues 17th 3.30pm Kumon (Maths & English after school)
Weds 18th 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre
Weds 18th 7.30pm Youth Club meet at UR Church Hall
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
Fri 20th 9.30-11am Mother & Toddler Group at St Peter's
Sat 21st 9.30am Kumon in the Parish Centre

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at the Convent this Sunday 15th March at 3.30pm, followed by a meeting at 4pm.

Baptism Preparation Course

This continues on Monday 16th March from 7pm-8.15pm in the Parish Centre and also 23rd and 30th March.

Companions

If anyone is interested in learning more about Franciscan spirituality as a way of deepening their prayer-life, and becoming more closely associated with the Sisters, there will be an initial meeting on Thursday 19th March at 7.30pm in the Convent.

Community Service of Reconciliation

To take place at St John's on Sunday 29th March at 5pm. We will have two visiting priests for confession, Fr Anthony Pateman and Fr Peter Vellacott. Please put the date in your diary so that you can support this event to prepare for Easter.

Dying and Rising with Christ

A day of prayer and reflection as part of our celebration of the Year of St Paul, in preparation for Holy Week. To be held at the Diocesan Centre, Mackworth, Derby on 4th April 10 am-3.30 pm. Cost £10 per person. Bring a packed lunch – tea and coffee provided. To book a place contact Janet Hornsby on janet.hornsby@nottingham-des.org.uk or by phone 01332 293833 ext 820

St Francis Association News

We would like to thank the parish for the massive support received for our Murder Mystery Night. The evening was a huge success, both financially and socially, and we very much appreciate your help. The event raised approx £1,500. We hope this parish and school collaboration may continue and perhaps you may like to come along to our next event!:-

Quiz night on Saturday 25th April in the school hall.
Contact Teresa on 560657 for more information.

The Beginning Experience

As you may know The Beginning Experience is a ministry to the separated, divorced and widowed and enabling them to work through the trauma of the loss of a spouse. Rooted in the Catholic Church it is open to people of all faiths. The residential weekend programme offers participants the opportunity, in an atmosphere of support and acceptance, to re-evaluate themselves and their lives and move on to the future with new hope. There are two weekends planned for 2009 which are to be held at Prince Thorpe Retreat Centre, Rugby, on 15th-17th May and Hinsley Hall, Leeds on 23rd-25th October. Please ring Cath on 01942 246542 or Glen on 01159 174584. If you know of anybody who would appreciate this experience please pass on this information to them.

Lent 2009

In response to God's great love for us do keep trying to do something special for Lent to help you to draw closer to Christ.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place at St John's at 7pm each Friday during Lent, followed by Holy Communion and also an opportunity for the sacrament of God's forgiveness. Please try to join us whenever you can.

Confessions for Easter

I am sure you will do your best to avail of the strength of this sacrament, which helps us with whatever gets us down in life. Bishop Malcolm has written asking us to encourage you to celebrate this sacrament. Parents of course bring your children to this sacrament.

Garment of Suffering

Please hand in a piece of cloth six inches square to symbolise our grief, pain or sickness. During Lent let us all pray for these special intentions. The pieces will be sewn together into a complete garment and on Good Friday after the Veneration of the Cross the garment will be draped over the Cross and left there throughout Easter. It will travel to the three churches in the parish. At Pentecost the garment will be removed and burnt. What is unique about this little ritual is that we will understand that so many others share similar struggles.

Readers for Easter

Readers please volunteer to do a reading if you are here at Easter. Thank you.

God Bless You All - Fr Jim