

**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**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 1 of Psalter**

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
<b>Sat</b> <b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	6.00pm	Convent	Kathleen and John Reid RIP	J Dolan L Escott Liam/Simon
	<b>Start of British Summer Time: Clocks go FORWARD one hour at 2am</b>			
<b>Sun</b> <b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St John's	Parishioners' Intentions	
	10.30am	St Peter's	Fr Frank McCarthy RIP	
	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>St John's</b>	<b>Community Service of Reconciliation with visiting Confessors</b>	<b><u>Welcomers</u></b> M Barker J Cuttill & family
<b>Mon</b> <b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	7.45am	Convent	<b>NB</b> <i>No Mass today</i>	
	9.30am	St Peter's	Funeral Mass for Denis Cronin RIP	
<b>Tues</b> <b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	9.15am	St John's	Rosary for pro-life issues	
	9.30am	St John's	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion	<b><u>Counters</u></b> This week A Next week B
	10.45-12noon	St John's	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
<b>Weds</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	12.20pm	Convent	<b>NB</b> <i>No Mass today</i>	
	8.00pm	Convent House	Holy Hour	<b><u>Cleaners</u></b> Mr & Mrs Donachie
<b>Thurs</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.15am	School	End of term liturgy led by school staff	
<b>Fri</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	7.45am	Convent	<b>NB</b> <i>No Mass today</i>	
	7.00pm	St John's	Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion	
<b>Sat</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St John's	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion	<b><u>Welcomers</u></b> M Barker L Catton & R Rifugiato
	9.30-12 noon	St John's	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11-11.55am	St John's	<b>NB</b> <i>No Confessions</i>	
	5-5.50pm	Convent	Confessions ( <b>visiting priest</b> ) followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	
	<b><u>PALM SUNDAY – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 2 of Psalter</u></b>			
	6.00pm	Convent	Marie Rankin RIP	<b><u>Readers</u></b> J Reed S Charlton Rebecca/Debbie
<b>Sun</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St John's	Fr Joel's Intention	
	10.30am	St Peter's	Fr Joel's Intention	

**As You Like It**

Usually I pick the bits of scripture that I like. But not now. Verse 8 in today's Second Reading (Heb 5:7-9) grabs my attention and won't let go. The reason? It makes no sense: Jesus learning obedience through suffering! Does that mean that had he not suffered he would have been disobedient? If so, to whom? His Father? Unthinkable!

So, what is the author saying? Thank God for academics! Even though Richard Rohr in *Things Hidden* writes, "In fact none of the Bible appears to be written out of or for academic settings" nevertheless thanks to someone's academic study of scripture a person like me can discover that in Greek there's a play on words here. The Greek for "learned" is *emathen*, while the Greek for "suffered" is *epathen*. The purpose of this wordplay may be to convey the close relationship between faithfulness to God and ability to face the suffering that results from such faithfulness in a sinful world.

So instead of verse 8 being a conundrum, pessimistic and negative in tone, it's now a positive and upbeat statement. It tells us that obedience (better still "faithfulness") to God's will and suffering go hand-in-hand to some degree. But most important of all: the suffering doesn't harm the faithfulness. It can even perfect it. Furthermore, it tells us that faithfulness to God permeates all of life. Faith does not dwell in compartments, but apartments. There are no God-free zones. Facing God means facing life with all its joys and sorrows.

Perhaps I should pay more attention to the bits I don't like.

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:** Roland Hornby; 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:** 2002 Mary Brannan; 2003 Robert Dickinson. And all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

**Collection:** Week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 Loose £148.96; Envelopes £418.00; Standing Orders £325

**Second Collection for the Franciscan Missions:** £47.06

Thank you for your generosity.

### **THIS WEEK**

Mon 30<sup>th</sup> 6-7.30pm Brownies at St Francis School  
Mon 30<sup>th</sup> 7pm Baptismal course Parish Centre  
Mon 30<sup>th</sup> 7.30-9pm Guides at St Francis School  
Tues 31<sup>st</sup> 3.45pm Kumon (Maths & English after school)  
Tues 31<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm Meeting for First Communion parents  
Weds 1<sup>st</sup> 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre  
Weds 1<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm SPUC meeting St Peter's sacristy  
Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.30am Weight Watchers in Parish Centre  
Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's  
Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> 5.30pm Slimming World in Parish Centre  
Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.30-11am Mother & Toddler Group at St Peter's  
Sat 4<sup>th</sup> 9.45am Kumon in the Parish Centre

### **Sympathy**

Sincerest sympathy and prayers to the family of Denis Cronin who died last Monday evening. The funeral Mass takes place at St Peter's on Monday at 9.30am.

### **Missionary Society of St Columban – Annual Appeal**

We welcome Fr Peter Hughes of the Columban Fathers who will be talking about their missionary work in Asia and Latin America, followed by a second collection.

### **Community Service of Reconciliation**

To take place at St John's this Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm. We will have two visiting priests for confession, Fr Anthony Pateman and Fr Peter Vellacott.

### **Visiting priest for confession**

Fr Joel of Blessed Sacrament parish, Leicester, will be available this Saturday from 5-5.50pm at the Convent.

### **SPUC meeting Weds 1 April, 7.30pm at St Peter's**

Your local Pro-life group will hold its monthly meeting in the Sacristy, finishing by 9pm at latest. Meetings are very friendly and everyone is welcome. Please come along – you really can make a difference

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham**

Please see poster in porch for details of this year's pilgrimage on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Please phone the presbytery (562274) if you are interested in going, as the Deanery may organise a coach.

### **Loughborough Deanery Faith & Fun Celebration Day**

This will take place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 12-4.30pm at De Lisle School. Please collect a handbill for details. Please do your best to support this get-together.

### **A Day with Mary Pilgrimages 2009**

Please see poster in porch for details of pilgrimages to Fatima and Rome.

### **National Pilgrimage to Fatima – July 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**

Please see poster in porch for details of this pilgrimage.

### **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. Please try to join us whenever you can.

### **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.

### **Readers for Easter**

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

### **Youth Club**

Youth Club is now closed and re -opens on 22 April.

### **St Vincent de Paul Society**

We are pleased to announce that on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2009 the St Vincent de Paul Society was re established in our Parish after an absence of around twenty years. Meetings will take place once a month in the St Peter's Meeting Room. The act of befriending is the core activity of the SVP as well as Childrens' holiday camps, Support Centres and Side by Side with those in debt, SVP members often recognise the need to help in other ways. If you would like to be part of this work please contact Pat Lee (567452) for information.

### **Nottingham Diocesan Yearbook 2009**

At last this is available today, apologies for the delay. It has the usual interesting articles about the Diocese and its people. Of particular interest will be an article on Fr Frank McCarthy who died just before Christmas and also an article on the alterations at St Peter's church. It is available here at £2 a copy. If you haven't bought one recently please consider buying one this year.

### **Gift Aid Claims**

I am pleased to announce the parish has received £2,298.81 from the Inland Revenue in respect of claims for the second quarter of year 2008/2009. Many thanks to all who have gift aided their offerings at Mass. By signing a Gift Aid form, making a Standing Order or using an Offertory Envelope you can increase your offering by nearly 30p in the pound. If you would like to do this contact David Hall, Simon Curley or Tony Garrett c/o the presbytery.

*God Bless You All – Fr Jim*