

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.

Parish Priest: Father Jim O'Hanlon (01664 562274)

Seventh Sunday of Eastertide – 24th May 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 3 of Psalter

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

World Communications Day

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
Sat 23rd	6.00pm	Convent	Tony Laurens RIP	C McGrath S Charlton Liam/Simon
Sun 24th	9.00am 10.30am 11.40am	St John's St Peter's St Peter's	Parishioners' Intentions Brian Keogh RIP Baptism: We welcome Daniel Robert O'Brien into God's family in this parish	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barson & J Reed L Catton & R Rifugiato
Mon 25th	9.00am	NB Convent	ST BEDE THE VENERABLE Sick friend's recovery	
Tues 26th	9.30am 10.45-12noon	St John's (followed by refreshments) St John's	ST PHILIP NERI Service of the Word and Holy Communion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<u>Cleaners</u> Mrs Garrett Mrs Pingue
Weds 27th	12.20pm 8.00pm	Convent Convent House	NB <i>No Mass today</i> Holy Hour	
Thurs 28th	9.30am	St John's	NB <i>No Mass today</i>	<u>Counters</u> This week D Next week A
Fri 29th	7.45am	Convent	NB <i>No Mass today</i>	<u>Welcomers</u> M Barker H Webb & M Barber
Sat 30th	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.30am 5.15-5.45pm	St John's St John's St John's Convent	NB Service of the Word and Holy Communion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <i>No Confessions</i> Confessions followed by Rosary at 5.40pm	
		<u>PENTECOST – 31st May 2009 (Year B Readings) Week 1 of Psalter</u>		
	6.00pm	Convent	Bernard Durant RIP	<u>Readers</u> P Dark J Boylan Rebecca/Debbie
Sun 31st	9.00am 10.30am 11.40am	St John's St Peter's St Peter's	Fr Philip O'Dowd RIP Parishioners' Intentions Baptism: We welcome Charlotte Stapleton into God's family in this parish	

Strange Attraction

In his book, *Jesus Today*, Albert Nolan writes, "It seems that systems of various kinds often exist in a state of chaos or, as they say, "on the edge of chaos," and then suddenly and unpredictably there emerges something called a "strange attractor" that rearranges the chaos into some new order." Today, on the feast of the Ascension we celebrate not the arrival but the departure of *the* strange attractor: the Risen Lord. Change "systems" to "individuals" above and you have many a person's life story. Confusion and doubt are necessary for intellectual and psychologist growth. As Timothy Ferris writes in *Coming of Age in the Milky Way*, "Yet it is turmoil and confusion and not calm assurance that mark the growth of the mind." Into our personal confusion steps the "strange attractor." As we flounder, his helping hand pulls us up and out of our confusion – not, however, on to a placid and permanent plateau, but to a higher level of confusion. No sooner are our feet placed firmly on Mother Earth than we are whisked to heights that make us dizzy. If our faith doesn't s-t-r-e-t-c-h our mind, we're not people of faith, but people of reason. Belief in the Ascension should make us gasp. Do we realise what we're saying we actually believe in! First: that someone flatline dead didn't just revive and return to his former state but resurrected to a higher, super-human, everlasting one. Second: having done so, then "ascended" to a totally new quantum-leap environment we call "heaven." Wow! Wow! Wow! Is all I can say.

Fr Tom Cahill

The Holy Father's Mission Intention for May: that recently founded Catholic Churches may be ready and willing to share in the mission of the whole Church to the world.

Cycle of Prayer: during Eastertide we pray for these intentions: new members of the Church; vocations; the right use of the media; the Church; human work.

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, Christine Walsh's daughter Susan, and for all the sick & housebound of the Parish.

Collection: Week commencing 17th May 2009 Loose £359.10; Envelopes £468.49; Standing Orders £325

Second Collection for the Franciscan Missions: £80.04

Thank you for your generosity.

Second Collection this weekend: For the spread of the Faith through the mass media – radio, TV etc.

THIS WEEK

Tues 26th 3.45pm Kumon (Maths & English after school)

Weds 27th 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre

Thurs 28th 9.30am Weight Watchers in Parish Centre

Thurs 28th 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's

Thurs 28th 2-4pm Silver Circle meet in Parish Centre

Thurs 28th 5.30pm Slimming World in Parish Centre

Thurs 28th 7.30pm SVP meet in the Meeting Room

Fri 29th 9.30-11am Mother & Toddler Group at St Peter's

Sat 30th 9.45am Kumon in the Parish Centre

World Communications Day

The second collection this weekend will be to support the work of the Catholic Communications Network which provides support for the Bishops of England and Wales in promoting the Gospel in the media.

Sympathy

Sincerest sympathy and prayers to Mrs Durant on the death of her husband Bernard whose funeral took place last Friday. Also to Veronica Grant and family on the death of her husband Liam. Liam was a handyman who did a number of jobs at St Peter's. His funeral Mass takes place at St John's 1pm on June 1st. Both men will be sadly missed in our parish, may they rest in peace.

First Holy Communion Sunday

Once again, this was a wonderful occasion for the parish. Sincere thanks to all who organised it and helped in any way. Congratulations to our First Holy Communicants and their families.

Easter Duties

All Catholics are expected to receive Holy Communion during Eastertide to show their belief in the sacrament and if necessary to repent of sin by receiving the sacrament of forgiveness. The time for fulfilling Easter duties ends on Trinity Sunday, 7th June.

National Family Week

The UK celebrates its first National Family Week on 25-31 May. The Marriage & Family Life Project Office has produced three leaflets to help families celebrate: Family Days In, Family Days Out and Celebrating Home is a Holy Place. They are available in the porch.

Silver Circle

The next meeting takes place on Thursday 28th May in St Peter's Parish Centre from 2-4pm, when the Fire Service will give a safety talk.

Sacrament of the Sick for sick & elderly parishioners

This will take place on Sunday 7th June, 3pm at St Peter's Church, followed by a buffet. Any parishioners

who could offer lifts please contact Pat Lee on 567452, or a member of the Silver Circle group.

Parish Gift Day/Grand Draw – 21st June

The Gift Day envelopes and Grand Draw tickets are available for you today. Please take a bundle of tickets and do your best to sell some.

Please note the times of Mass that weekend will be:

Saturday 20 June – **6pm at St John's.**

Sunday 21 June – 10.30am at St Peter's.

NB There will be no Mass at the Convent that weekend.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham – 21st June

A coach will be going from Loughborough and picking up from Melton bus station at 8.45am. Cost £18. If anyone is interested in going please contact St Mary's Loughborough on 01509 262123.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2009

Did you know that this pilgrimage is run by volunteers on a "not for profit" basis. Prices for this year's trip are £591 by air 20th-26th July, full board, sharing, with six nights in Lourdes, or £444 by coach 19th-26th July (including St Bernadette's shrine at Nevers), full board, sharing, with five nights in Lourdes. Fr Jim is hoping to go to this year. A donation has been received to partly subsidise the costs for nurses and health care assistants, if you think you can help please contact the pilgrimage office on 07971 625764 or pilgrimage.office@ntlworld.com

Last appeal for SPUC tombola prizes

Our Tombola at Melton Show is this Monday. We still need good prizes: bottles, toys, games, sweets, toiletries, unwanted gifts. You may leave them at church this weekend, or ring Frances, 565781 by 2pm Sunday.

Public consultation on TV abortion advertising

It is proposed to advertise abortion services on television, as well as condoms before the 9pm watershed. There is a public consultation on this which ends on 19 June. The newly-appointed Cardinal of England and Wales, Vincent Nichols, has spoken strongly against the proposal (and against current advertising which depicts promiscuity as normal), and has called on all Catholics to register their protest by taking part in the consultation. Write to: **Advertising Standards Authority, Mid City Place, 71, High Holborn, London. WC1V 6QT** or email: enquiries@asa.org.uk

God Bless You All – Fr Jim