

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

BIBLE SUNDAY

Second Sunday of Advent – 6th December 2009 (Year C Readings) Week 2 of Psalter

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
Sat 5th	6.00pm	Convent	Domenico Alfieri RIP	P Dark J Chisnall Justin/Lesley
Sun 6th	9.00am 10.30am 4.00pm	St John's St Peter's St John's	Marcin Wojtack RIP Parishioners' Intentions Community Service of Penance (3 priests available for confessions)	Welcomers M Barker R Rifugiato & L Catton
Mon 7th	7.45am	Convent	ST AMBROSE Deceased parents, relatives, friends and benefactors	
Tues 8th	9.30am (followed by refreshments) 10.45-12noon	St John's St John's NB	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY November Dead List Intentions <i>No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	Cleaners Mrs Loj Mrs Curley
Weds 9th	12.20pm 8.00pm	Convent Convent House	November Dead List Intentions Holy Hour	Counters This week D Next week A
Thurs 10th	9.15am 10.30am	School St John's	Prayer Service November Dead List Intentions	
Fri 11th	7.45am	Convent	For our sick sisters	
Sat 12th	9.00am 9.30-12 noon 11.00am 5-5.45pm	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	Welcomers M Barker H Webb & M Barber

Third Sunday of Advent – 13th December 2009 (Year C Readings) Week 3 of Psalter

	6.00pm	Convent	Peter Howe RIP (Eucharistic Ministers)	Readers J Dolan R Escott L Stapleton
Sun 13th	9.00am 10.30am 11.30am 2.30pm	St John's St Peter's St Peter's St John's	Parishioners' Intentions Brian Keogh Confessions (if requested) Carol Service	

On the margins

Drunk and wobbling, he stood berating passers-by for walking around in a dream and not knowing it. He had a point. But no impact. "Ye'r all livin' in a dream!" was his shouted message. But for his spectral hearers the medium was the message: a noontday drunk couldn't have anything worthwhile to say.

Yet what about another down-and-out: the poet Francis Thompson. He had much to say, and all of it worthwhile. As God's word came to John the Baptist in the wilderness of sand (today's Gospel Luke 3:1-6) so too it came to an opium addict in his wilderness of streets. When it came his eyes opened and he penned these luminous lines: *The angels keep their ancient places/Turn but a stone and start a wing!/'Tis ye, 'tis your estranged faces,/That miss the many-splendored thing.*

John the Baptist couldn't have put it better! Truly what Advent announces *is* a "many-splendored thing": God's splendour shining through simplicity, God's power bursting through weakness. Conceived out of wedlock, born out of home, rejected by society, killed by the "law", Jesus became a man on the margins.

Do we want to cheer at the birth of a marginalised man? Do we want to listen to what he says? Do we not prefer the hollow chant of "Ho! Ho! Ho!" and the glint of tacky tinsel? Could that be why we've handed Christmas over to kids?

Fr Tom Cahill

The Holy Father's Mission Intention for December: that at Christmas the peoples of the earth may recognise in Jesus the light of the world and open their hearts to him.

Cycle of Prayer: during Advent and Christmastide we pray for these intentions: openness to the Word of God; migrants and refugees; expectant mothers.

Pray My Brothers and Sisters For: Teresa Tierney, Fr David Everitt, Mrs Joan Robertson, Don Hall, Eileen Green's (of Asfordby) Intention, Helen Clinton, Mary and Noirin O'Hanlon, Olly, Christine and Leah, Pat (Hugo Schorb's widow), B Morris, Linda Escott's sister and for all the sick & housebound of the parish.

Parish Anniversaries: 2004 John Harding. And all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Collection: Week commencing 29th November 2009: Loose £169.30; Envelopes £295.40; Standing Orders £325

Second Collection for the Franciscan Missions: £38.14

Thank you for your generosity.

Second Collection this weekend: For Poor Parishes in our Diocese

THIS WEEK

Mon 7th 5-6pm Rainbows at St Francis School
Mon 7th 6-7.30pm Brownies at St Francis School
Mon 7th 7.30-9pm Guides at St Francis School
Tues 8th 3.45pm Kumon in the Parish Centre
Tues 8th 6.30pm Confirmation meeting Parish Centre
Weds 9th 9.30am Slimming World in Parish Centre
Youth Club closed until 6th Jan
Thurs 10th 10am Mothers' Prayer Group at St John's
Thurs 10th 7.30pm Faith sharing in the Presbytery
Thurs 10th 9.30am Weight Watchers in Parish Centre
Thurs 10th 5.30pm Slimming World in Parish Centre
Sat 12th 9.45am Kumon in Parish Centre
Sun 13th 2.30pm Carol Service at St John's

Sympathy

Sincerest sympathy and prayers are extended to Richard Escott and his family, on the sudden death of his father Eric last Sunday morning.

Enrolment of our Candidates for Confirmation

This was a wonderful celebration. A lot of preparation went into it. Our sincerest thanks to our Catechists and young people for all the work they put into this and also our Altar servers.

Community Service of Penance

This annual service will take place at St John's Church at 4pm this Sunday 6th December. Two visiting priests will be available to help Fr Jim. Our last service of penance was very well attended; I hope we can have your support this time also.

Day Retreat for Advent and Christmas

Peace, Hope, Love, Joy – A Christmas message....but what does it mean? This retreat takes place at the Diocesan Centre, Mackworth, Saturday 12th December 10am-3.30pm. Cost £10. Please see poster in porch.

Carol Service St John's 2.30pm Sunday 13th Dec

We will have our usual Carol Service with carols, readings, children's nativity tableau (if any children would like to take part please contact Jean Garrett on 07960 975483 – they need to be there from 2-4pm) and Benediction, followed by tea and mince pies. If you need a lift ring Ann: 560080 or Frances: 565781

Mass at St Peter's 10.30am 20th Dec – Christingle

Could children arrive in good time, bringing Christingles (a candle in an orange – examples will be at church and school). Father will bless them and they can be lit at home on Christmas day to celebrate the coming of Jesus, the light of the world. Children can come dressed

as characters from a Nativity scene and will be invited to sing a few carols after Mass. Please also bring a plate of party food for the children to enjoy after Mass.

A Family Christmas Spectacular – Carols for All

See poster for details of this event at St Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham on Friday 18th December 7.30pm

SPUC (Pro-Life) Door to Door Carol Singing

Come and join our traditional carol singing on Mon 21st Dec. We are going round the Welby Lane estate, finishing with a hot drink, mince pies etc. at the presbytery. Bring the family and turn up festively dressed if possible, at the Presbytery at 6.45pm. Phone Frances on 565781 for details.

Christmas Fair

Once again this was a great parish effort. The grand total to date is £2,860.97. A wonderful achievement. Our special thanks must go to Charlotte Hood, very much supported by her parents Mick and Sheila Sulley, in co-ordinating the Christmas Fair this year. Thanks also to the stall holders for all their hard work in preparing their stalls and manning throughout the day. Finally, thanks to all who came to support the event.

Praying for Priests (Year for Priests)

Father, you have appointed your Son Jesus Christ eternal High Priest, guide those he has chosen to be Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and help them to be faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
This week we pray for Kevin Clark, Anthony Colebrook, Jonathan Cotton, Peter Coyle (sick), Frank Daly, Mgr Brian Daseley.

APF Red Box Holders

Please collect your brown envelope (containing the 2010 calendar) from the porch.

Silver Circle Christmas Lunch

This takes place on Weds 9th Dec at Sysonby Knoll Hotel, 12.30pm for 1pm. There will be a raffle, £1.50 a ticket, with prizes provided by us. The taxi run starts 28th January. Please ring ABM 563636 to cancel your lift if you are unable to come to the meeting.

Religious Christmas Stamps

Each year the Post Office has religious stamps, but you have to ask for them. Please request the "Madonna and Child" stamps. Let's keep Christ in Christmas.

God Bless You All – Fr Jim