

**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**

**DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009 (Year C Readings) Week 4 of Psalter**

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Readers</u>
<b>Sat 19<sup>th</sup></b>	6.00pm	Convent	Parishioners' Intentions	J Reed L Escott Simon/Tony
<b>Sun 20<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St John's	Mothers' Intentions all over the world	
	10.30am	St Peter's	Salvatora Barcellona RIP	
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>St Peter's</b>	<b>Confessions for the elderly &amp; parents with young children</b>	<b><u>Welcomers</u></b>
<b>Mon 21<sup>st</sup></b>	9.00am	<b>NB</b> Convent	Special Intention	M Barker M & S Riley & O Bezzano
<b>Tues 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.30am	St John's	Lil Kenny	
	(followed by refreshments) 10.45-12noon	St John's	<b>NB</b> <i>No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	<b><u>Cleaners</u></b> Mrs Garrett & Mrs Pingue
<b>Weds 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	12.20pm	Convent	Fred Draper RIP	
	8.00pm	Convent House	Holy Hour	<b><u>Counters</u></b> This week B Next week C
<b>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	St John's	Eric Escott RIP	
	11.30pm	St Peter's	<b>CHRISTMAS MASSES</b> Carol Service followed by Midnight Mass Maire Rankin	
<b>Fri 25<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St Peter's	Parishioners' Intentions	
	10.30am	St Peter's	Private Intentions	
<b>Sat 26<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	<b>NB</b> St John's	<b>FEAST OF ST STEPHEN (Patron of Altar Servers)</b> Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion	
	9.30-12 noon	St John's	<b>NB</b> <i>No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
	11.00am	St John's	<b>NB</b> <i>No Confessions</i>	<b><u>Welcomers</u></b>
	5-5.45pm	Convent	<b>NB</b> <i>No Confessions</i>	M Barker
	5.40pm	Convent	Rosary	J Curley & family

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

**Day of Special Prayer for Protection of Human Life**

**First Week of Christmastide – 27<sup>th</sup> December 2009 (Year C Readings) Week 1 of Psalter**

	6.00pm	Convent	Jan Mazur RIP	<b><u>Readers</u></b> D Howe S Charlton Dominic/Rumbi
<b>Sun 27<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	St John's	George Lee RIP	
	10.30am	St Peter's	Parishioners' Intentions	

**The Intangibles**

Apollo 8, launched on December 21 1968 to orbit the Moon, paved the way for the first human to set foot on its surface. It made ten lunar orbits in 20 hours. However, it wasn't the Moon that captivated the crew but Mother Earth. From their seats in the gods, their eyes riveted on her spellbinding beauty, they made a Christmas Eve television broadcast. Timing it to coincide with a full view of the planet suspended in the empty blackness of infinite space, the crew read the first ten verses from the *Book of Genesis*. We're familiar now with the image of that big, beautiful orb wrapped in its gossamer covering of life-giving gases. This protective layer above all else stuns us into realising how much life on earth with all its beauty, diversity and richness depends on something as ethereal as air. Our delicate, intangible atmosphere is vital for our physical survival. So too are intangible things vital for our communal survival. Things like respect shown through courtesy to one another, and kindness shown in caring for each other. Things like thinking well of others so that we speak well of them and act decently towards them. Things like awareness of their and our relationship to God. Things like faith in that God and hope in his promise of a glorious destiny for humankind. And, of course, Christmas Day to remind us of Jesus' birth and why, like the Magi, we fall down in adoration before him.

Fr Tom Cahill

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

**Parish Anniversaries:** 1999 Patrick Lenehan; 2000 Eva Hunt; 2002 Nancy Cowan, James Michell; 2007 Edgar Hunt. And all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**Collection:** Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009: Loose £153.47; Envelopes £288.92; Standing Orders £325

**Second Collection for Franciscan Missions:** £48.44

Thank you for your generosity.

**Second Collection this weekend:** for flowers to decorate our three churches for Christmas.

Please note there will be no Masses now until:

**Fri (First Friday)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Jan** 11.00am St John's

**FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD**

Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

**Counters**

This week C  
Next week D

**Sat** 9.00am St John's

**2<sup>nd</sup>** 9.30-12 noon St John's

11.30am St John's

5.40pm Convent

**NB** *No Mass*

**NB** *No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*

**NB** *No Confessions*

**NB** *Rosary only*

**SS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN**

**Welcomers**

M Barker  
E Keogh &  
E Green

**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**

**Second Week of Christmastide (Year C Readings) Week 2 of Psalter**

6.00pm Convent Domenico Stiscia RIP (visiting priest this weekend)

**Readers**

M Frisby  
J Boylan  
Colette/Gemma

**Sun** 9.00am St John's

**3<sup>rd</sup>** 10.30am St Peter's

Liam Grant RIP

Priest's Intentions

**Christmas Greetings**

I wish you all a very joyful and blessed Christmas and a happy time building up family friendships over the Christmas period. Happy New Year when it comes.

**Collection at Christmas**

Your offering at Christmas is your traditional offering to your priest. Envelopes are available.

**Procedure for receiving Communion**

I welcome you all. Catholics who are not regular Mass attenders, or who know of other serious failings should first be reconciled through the sacrament of confession before receiving Holy Communion. You are welcome to come and ask for a blessing, as are those who are members of other churches.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

If you or your friends wish to be reconciled with God the times of confessions are:

**Today**

After Mass at the Convent and St Peter's.

**Christmas Eve at St John's**

After the 9.30am Mass and from 11am until 12noon.

Also on request.

**Crib Offerings**

For Faith in Families (formerly Catholic Children's Society). Crib offerings last year allowed the agency to support 42 families in need in the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham with hampers of basic food items over the Christmas period. Please give generously.

**Christmas Tree at St Peter's**

We are very grateful to Richard Barnes, undertakers, for donating the Christmas tree. They have provided stars and suggest you write the name a loved one who has died and place it on the tree. If you wish please make a

donation to help Mission Together, the Catholic Church's official overseas charity for disadvantaged children, to support their education, health and spiritual wellbeing.

**SPUC (Pro-Life) Door to Door Carol Singing**

More people are needed to join us carol singing around the Fairmead estate this Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec, finishing with a hot drink, mince pies etc. at the presbytery. This is a fun event and we are well received as we carry lanterns around bringing the true message of Christmas. Bring the family and turn up festively dressed if possible, at the Presbytery at 6.45pm. Phone 565781 for more details.

**Parish Carol Singers**

Thank you to those who volunteered. No request for carol singing has come this year but please remember this next year. Thank you very much.

**Praying for Priests (Year for Priests)**

This week we pray for John Feeley now almost 90 years young (Lutterworth), Terry Fellows, over 50 years a priest (Earl Shilton), Stephen Foster (South Wigston), Anthony Franey (Ratcliffe on Trent), Michael Gallagher (Aspley Notts) and Michael Gilligan (prison chaplain)

**Stamps for the Missions**

Now that we are receiving lots of Christmas cards, please save your used postage stamps. They can be put in the box at the back of church, which will help to raise money for the missions. Please leave at least 1/4" border. Why not do this all through the year?

**Admissions to St Francis School**

Parents of children due to start school in September 2010 will need to complete the school admissions form before 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Please contact the school on 01664 562891.

*God Bless You All - Fr Jim*