

Parish of Saints Peter and Paul, Lincoln

20 pence please
to cover costs



Third Sunday of Advent - 10th & 11th December 2011

Thought for the Week:

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice! The Lord is near." This Sunday, we find ourselves already half way through Advent! This half- way stage is marked in a particular way by the Church. Instead of the usual violet of a penitential season, this Sunday, the Celebrant may wear rose-coloured Vestments. On the Advent wreath with its four candles marking the four Sundays of Advent, the rose-coloured candle is lit. The Entrance Antiphon quoted above, also acclaim that we are getting closer to the great Feast: **"Rejoice....the Lord is near."**

Today's Gospel is taken from that of St John telling us about the vocation of John the Baptist: **"He came as a witness, as a witness**

to speak for the light."...and the first and second readings have, as usual, a similar theme: **"He has sent me to bring good news to the poor."...."God has called you and He will not fail you."**

So this stage in our Advent journey is a good time to stop and reflect about our own preparation for Christmas and the witness to the light that we are called to give.

Amidst the hustle and bustle of material preparations; in this world that is becoming more and more secularised, when for many in our Society Christmas is "a Winter Festival" what is our own witness to the real meaning of Christmas? There are many ways in which we can show what Christmas is really about: in our choice of Christmas cards...we have

Continued over the page



Gaudete Sunday

Rejoice in the Lord!

many beautiful examples in our own Church shop; by putting up a crib in our homes; by remembering those who are less fortunate than ourselves etc...

During the next two weeks we shall be offered the opportunity in our own Parish or in the other city Parishes to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.....a time to reflect on how we are living our lives as Christians and make resolutions to do better with God's help. It is good to remind ourselves that we may be the only Bible some people may read.

We have just celebrated the great Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Let us ask Mary to help us prepare, in a fitting way, for the coming of her Son.

We are continuing to work on the newsletter, and thank those parishioners who have sent in comments and suggestions. They have all been considered; some implemented (such as including the Sunday Psalm response) and some not, but with reasons given (such as not including the Sunday readings, but giving the references instead). If you have further comments, please do let either Tina McCarthy or Deacon Simon know - but no anonymous comments, please!

Please take a newsletter each week, and if you can contribute the 20 pence price, many thanks!

Second collection this weekend for
Christmas Flowers.
Many thanks!

Parish Priest

Mons. Thomas McGovern
240 Boultham Park Rd, Lincoln LN6 7SU
Telephone: 01522 696838
Email: frtmcgovern@virginmedia.com

Retired Priest: Fr Michael Lynch

Parish Deacon: Rev. Simon Gillespie
Telephone: 07760 372105

Email: simon@nottinghamcatholic.com

Parish Sister: Sr Eileen Keane

Parish Secretary: Mrs Tina McCarthy

Parish Office

2a Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln LN6 7RB
Telephone: 01522 682278
Email: tinasspp@btconnect.com

Website:

www.peter-paul-lincoln.org.uk

Schools

St Hugh's Catholic Primary School
(Head: Mr G Hughes) 01522 501137
St Peter and St Paul's
Catholic High School
(Head: Mr M Kerridge) 01522 871400

Collection Last Week

Standing Order	£428.00
Envelopes	£646.10
Loose Plate	£469.51
TOTAL	£1,543.61
Hungry Box	£68.35

500 Club Draw

w/d £100 04/12/11	Peggy McCarthy 59
-------------------	-------------------

Coffee Mornings – Uganda 2011/12:
£1,686
Church Restoration/Roof Fund 2011/12:
£4,938

Christmas Raffle:

Target £2,500 - Running Total £955

Thank you for your kind donations!
The Parish relies on your generosity!

Parish News

Lady Chapel: Redecoration of the Lady Chapel continues next week, it will remain closed to Parishioners until the works are completed. All Masses will be held in the main Church. Should you wish to have access to the Church after Mass times to light a candle or say a prayer please contact the Parish Secretary.

Community Larder 10th / 11th December: Today the Third Sunday of Advent we have our traditional collection of food to help stock the Community Larder for Christmas. Toiletries, seasonal gifts and other essential items would be most welcome. Food parcels and gifts will be brought to the Sanctuary as part of the offertory procession at all Masses.

Peruvian Craft Sale: 11th December - we will again be having a craft sale in the Parish Centre after both Masses today. Please come and have a look and perhaps buy some last minute gifts for Christmas. The workshops where the crafts are made are run by a group of Australian nuns who train the women from the shanty towns in Lima and pay them a wage for their work so that they can feed and clothe their children. Please support.

Flowers for Christmas: There will be a door collection at the end of all Masses this weekend 10th/11th December for Christmas Flowers. Thank you.

The team would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new members but are sure

there are many more talented people out there !! All enquiries to 723136

Advent & Christmas 2011: Available on the CTS Table this weekend is a Calendar for young Children to take home and reflect upon over the Advent and Christmas periods. You will also find a card containing the weekday and weekend Mass times from Saturday 17th to Friday 30th December. A small donation to cover the cost of purchase would be most welcome. Please note confessions on Christmas Eve morning will run from 10.15am-Noon and not to 10.30am as stated.

Parish Christmas Raffle: Thanks to all those who have sold raffle tickets and returned the stubs, and who have donated prizes. If you are able to help with the money prizes please speak to Deacon Simon. NOTE: **All remaining tickets and prizes need to be at the office by Wednesday 14th please so that we can prepare properly in time for the draw !!!**

Painting for Poverty: This course has now finished and raised £100 for CAFOD.

Catechist Training: Starting in January, Catechists will have the opportunity to undertake a foundation course in catechesis called the 'Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis'. The course will support and enable catechists to pass on the Catholic faith with effectiveness and confidence. One of the three locations for the course is Ss Peter & Paul's on Wednesday evenings from

Parish News

7-9pm. There are twelve sessions running approximately once a fortnight. Details are available in a leaflet available in the sacristy. The costs of the course will be paid for by the parish, although donations are welcome. Catechists are strongly encouraged to attend if possible. It is a fantastic opportunity for training and support and will be run locally. Once forms have been completed and endorsed by Fr Tom, please leave in the Parish Office marked for the attention of Sr Eileen.

Parish Magazine: The Parish Herald is published this weekend. Please pick up a copy from the porch. The suggested donation to cover printing costs is £1. Deacon Simon has contributed the feature article on his recent pilgrimage to Jordan. Also included are articles from some of our parish groups, Ss Peter and Paul School and individual parishioners. The magazine includes some snippets to - hopefully - make you smile and Christmas activities for the children. Thanks go to everybody who submitted items for the publication. A few pieces have been saved for the next edition.

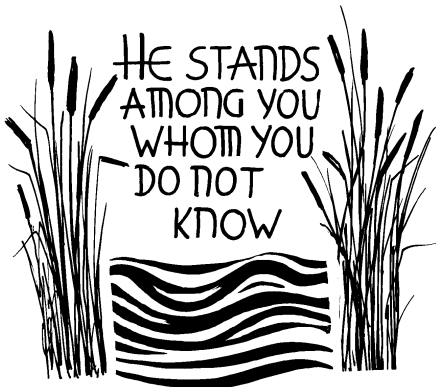
Pilgrimage to Assisi 2012 - Tuesday, 18th to Saturday 22nd September: "I have been asked by a number of people if I would consider putting on another Pilgrimage next year. Would all who are interested please contact me on 01522 826390. Please ask me for details. The cost is £499 plus insurance plus transport. It is half-board and we will fly from East Midlands. I need at least twenty-five people to be able to run it."
Noel Harris.

Missing! From the Parish Centre:

- 3 saucepans
- 20 tablecloths
- 40 blue mugs
- 20 white mugs
- 82 plates

If you know the whereabouts of any of these items, please return them as soon as possible - **there'll be an amnesty until Christmas!**

On a positive note, the extension cable has now been found and returned!



From today's Gospel:

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness

to speak for the light

Please remember in your prayers . . .

Please pray for all the sick of our community, especially: Cathal Brown, Ian Whyte, Sr Mary Swaby, Susan Aliwell, Sheila Leon, Kathleen Braddley, Margaret Carter, Sheila Phillips, John Crevison, Steve Scully, Mark Barrett, Fr Fred Franklin, Mary Nesbitt, Rose Cole, Kerry Clifton, Freda Magee, Halina Juszczuk, Ellen Blackledge, Terry Wall, baby Emily Clare, Mike Glover, Lillian Loftus, Sabina Czerniak, Mrs D'Alessandro, Anna Barron, John Hobson, Kathleen Swinbank, Barrie Morris, Karen Foreman, Grant Edens, Jenny Kirkpatrick, Julia Bogg, John Hughes,



Martin McDonnell, Joyce Ward, Lucy O'Reilly, Terri Fairweather, Eric Ward, Charles Wyatt, Sean Hogan, Catherine Lamb, Rozy Ingham, Dorothy Ward, Bethany Mickleburgh, May Hollingsworth, Mary McNulty, Bridget Matuszewsky, Bobby Doherty and Sr Agnes.

Please remember the family of Deacon John Hague, Brother Didacus Pierce OFM, Leslie Smith, Vincente **Sebastian Ibiza Caselles** and Don Gough RIP and all those of our family, friends and parish community who have anniversaries occurring at this time. May they rest in God's eternal peace!



Mt. 25:37

Community Larder

ARE IN DESPERATE NEED of all food items due to an increased demand from local families. They are really struggling to meet the higher demand. Please remember the Community Larder when you do your weekly shop.

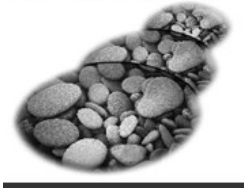
There is a letter of thanks in the Parish Office for you from the Food Larder.

You are Living Stones

Over the past two weeks we considered the Bishop's introduction to the document 'You are Living Stones' and the timeline that he has given us for more collaborative work, and then a reflection on change as a concept rooted in the bible and in prayer, utilising the Road to Emmaus story as a vehicle for understanding this change. We recognise that this whole process, stemming from the Diocesan Assembly in 2003, is a time of grace for us in the Church of Nottingham, and in our particular parish of Ss Peter and Paul. We are invited, to grasp the change, and not to see it as something to be feared or resisted. In doing so we understand this is done in prayer; in union with God and with the parishes of our deanery and diocese.



RENEWAL



The second section of 'You are Living Stones' goes on to examine in detail the reality of the situation in our diocese as it is affected by priests. The Bishop gives us some statistics:

- There are 108 parishes in our diocese
- There are 90 parish priests
- There are 94 *diocesan* priests working in our diocese, although some of these are sick
- There are a further 34 retired diocesan priests, some within our diocese and some retired further afield
- The diocese is blessed to have some parishes – about 10 – which are ministered to by priests from other dioceses, or priests who are members of religious orders, etc.
- There are 11 students (including Deacon Simon) training for the priesthood
- We are blessed with 43 permanent deacons (although some are retired) and a further five in formation.

Of the 94 active diocesan priests, their age-profile is:

75+	12	55-64	28	35-44	8
65-74	24	45-54	22	25-34	0

Canon Law asks parish priests to tender their resignation to the Bishop when they are 75, although he doesn't have to accept this; the older parish priest in our diocese is 93 years old. On the other hand, some priests may retire earlier, due to ill health, etc.

Projections for the numbers of active diocesan priests over the next 14 years, up to 2025, range from possibly 60 (if all present priests continue until they are 75 and there is one ordination each year) down to 32 (all priests retiring at 70 and no further ordinations). Of course, it's impossible to accurately predict the future, but what seems certain is that there will be a diminution of active diocesan priests within our diocese, and it will probably be quite a dramatic reduction.

The Bishop reminds us of the words of Blessed John Henry Newman, that each one of us is called to live out 'some definite service' within our Church. Each of us has a vocation, a 'calling out of', and this might be a calling out of our lives, our communities, out of our comfort-zones. Although this is a challenge, it is also a source of joy, as we are responding to the Word of God, and fulfilling that person which God is calling us to be.

We are called, each one of us, to develop a 'culture of vocation' within our parish, and within our wider church. This discernment of vocation has to be undertaken on the individual level, since no one can tell another person what his or her vocation might be. We need to understand the tools which help with the discernment process, fundamentally prayer. It is only through prayer that we can hear the voice of God, calling each one of us. We can ask ourselves the question: 'What is the vocation of our parish community?', or 'How do we bring Christ to the world?' As we begin to ponder, we might also ask ourselves how we might encourage men to put themselves forward for priestly ministry? This is not the only vocation, and within the parish there are many ways in which each of us can find a vocation within the community. However, the priestly vocation is a particular calling from God, to set the individual man aside within his community, to sustain the Eucharistic community through the celebration of Mass and the other sacraments. For that reason, the vocation to ordained ministry is uniquely empowered through the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Let us pray for more priests!

At this stage we must also remember that our diocese has been richly blessed with permanent deacons; a particular ministry of compassion and charity within the community within which the deacon lives and works. This ministry is expressed through their proclamation of the Word of God within the assembly, and then their pastoral care of those who form the wider community within the parish. It is an 'outward looking ministry' through which the Church proclaims the Kingdom to all people.

The deacons who have been ordained for our diocese have all come from particular parishes, and usually continue to minister within that parish; however, they are ordained for the service of the Church as a whole, and so are a blessing on the Diocese, and not just their individual parish. Their role will not become one of 'parochial administrator', even when there might be a shortage of parish priests, and it is not envisaged that deacons will ever replace the local priests. There will always be a parish priest for each parish, even if that priest is not resident within the parish. Through their long knowledge of and involvement with the parish, deacons can often assist the parish priest who serves the community. By having a freedom from this parochial responsibility, the deacon is able to exercise his proper ministry of charity.

Let us pray for more deacons!

Next week we'll look at the third and final section: The Consultation Process

Dates for your Diary

CAMEO:

The next meeting is on Tuesday 13th December when we have been invited to The Mount for a short retreat beginning at 11am and to end approximately by 3.15pm. Tea or coffee will be provided but please bring a packed lunch. Those needing transport please be in the Church car park at 10.20am to leave at 10.30am

North Hykeham Town Council - Nativity on the Green:

Please support Churches Together in North Hykeham at this event on Wednesday 14th December. Stalls open at 4.30pm Official opening at 6.00pm by Sue Taylor (BBC Radio) and the Mayor. School performances, church readings, Father Christmas in his Grotto, Hog Roast and hot food. All proceeds to The Rainbow Trust.

Day of preparation for Christmas:

Saturday 17th December 11am-4pm at The Mount with the Friends of the Sisters of Providence.

First Holy Communion Course:

The course continues on Saturday mornings in the Parish Centre but please note that on SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER we have an extended session from 10.00am until 12 noon.

We have NO CLASSES on Saturdays 24th and 31st December due to school holidays but resume on Saturday 7th January at 10am until 11.30am as usual

Any queries please contact Rita on 01522 801630 or stanley.davis@ntlworld.com

Nativity Mass Rehearsals:

Today Sunday 11th & next Sunday the 18th December after the 11am Mass in the main Church.

City of Lincoln Catenian Association Advent Carol Concert - St Peter & St Paul's Church:

Performing - Orpheus Male Voice Choir, Angela Simpkin (nee Ellis) and SSPP School Choir. Saturday December 17th followed by entertainment and festive refreshments in the Parish Centre. Tickets £5 per adult, £10 per family, proceeds to SSPP Church, tickets available from Alan Stephinson. **Paintings created at the Painting for Poverty course that was held in aid of CAFOD will also be auctioned off after the concert in the Parish Centre.**

Children's Christmas Party:

Monday 19th December 11am-1pm approx. in the Parish Centre. If you would like to attend with your child please put their name on the list on the Parish Centre notice board. Any queries call Diane 529002 or Jo 823907.



Rejoice!

Ministries: this week and next week

Readers	This	R Boyns	S McFarlane	D Gray
	Next	C Rhodes	M Needham	C & S Burke
Coffee	This	Aid for Chad		
	Next	Church Requisites		
Cleaners	This	Team B C Scanlon D Rooney T & A Rowlett M Gavin J Rasdall M Strickson		
	Next	Team C M Barrett M Flannigan B Flannigan A McGrath E Cooper D Reeves		
Footsteps	This	D Murray, M Moore and L Coatsworth		
	Next	F Carroll and M Moore		

News from St Peter & St Paul's School

Dr Mike Maloney

On 28th November we welcomed Dr Mike Maloney, a world renowned photographer and former student of St Peter and St Paul's School, who took photos of the school in action. Mike's work will hopefully support the school's current preparation for our new website. Watch this space!

Sixth Form at St Peter and St Paul's

Sixth Form *'enabled me to be challenged and reach heights I would have never thought possible'*. (Former student and PhD Nottingham University) Any young person currently not attending St Peter and St Paul's is welcome to consider what we offer at Sixth Form level. If you wish to receive information regarding our courses and/or apply to our Sixth Form, please contact Mrs McDowell at the school on 01522 871400.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our Clergy Priests are at school each Friday during the season of Advent to allow pupils to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas.

Joint Catholic Schools' Carol Service

St Hugh's Primary and Our Lady of Lincoln Primary will be joined by St Peter and St Paul's for the Joint Catholic Schools' Choir Service, to be held at Our Lady of Lincoln church on Wednesday 14th December, 7.00 pm.

Awards' Evening

St Peter and St Paul's annual Awards' Evening will be held in St Peter and St Paul's church on Thursday 15th December at 7.00 pm. This is our opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students at GCSE, AS/A Level and Vocational Studies. Our guest speaker is Mrs Debbie Barnes (Director of Children's Services, LCC).

The Order of Mass

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God. **or**

Priest Have mercy on us, O Lord.
All For we have sinned against you.
Priest Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
All And grant us your salvation.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Readings

Reader The word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Deacon The Lord be with you.
All And with your spirit.
Deacon A reading from the holy Gospel
according to N.
All Glory to you, O Lord.
Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in
one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward
to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

May the Lord accept
the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good
and the good of all his holy Church.

Eucharistic Prayer

Priest The Lord be with you.
All And with your spirit.
Priest Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them up to the Lord.
Priest Let us give thanks
to the Lord our God.
All It is right and just.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again. **or**

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again. **or**

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

Communion Rite

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Priest The peace of the Lord
be with you always.
All And with your spirit.
Deacon Let us offer each other
the sign of peace.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world, grant us peace.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter
under my roof, but only say the word and my
soul shall be healed.

Concluding Rites

Priest The Lord be with you.
All And with your spirit.
Priest May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son,
+ and the Holy Spirit.
All Amen.
Deacon Go forth, the Mass is ended. **or**
Go and announce the
Gospel of the Lord. **or**
Go in peace,
glorifying the Lord by your life. **or**
Go in peace.
All Thanks be to God.

This week's Liturgy

Day / Date	Time	Intention
Weekend Saturday 10 Sunday 11 December	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) Bernadette Brogan Intentions Ann Gaughan RIP Ann Martin—to get well
Monday 12 December	Note change 8.30am 7.00pm	Advent Feria Jean Fallon—In our prayers Carmen Carmano RIP
Tuesday 13 December	9.30am Fr L 7.00pm Fr T	St Lucy (Virgin, Martyr) (Memorial) Margaret Ann Bushby RIP (Birthday remembrance) Jim Freeman
Wednesday 14 December	9.30am Fr L After Mass 10-10.30am	St John of the Cross (Priest, Doctor) (Memorial) Helen Mason Tea/Coffee in the Parish Centre - Fr Vincent's Water Appeal Sacrament of Reconciliation
Thursday 15 December	9.30am Fr L	Advent Feria Mrs Therese Silva
Friday 16 December	9.30am	Advent Feria Francis Elizabeth Blythe RIP (Birthday Remembrance)
Saturday 17 December	9.30am 10-10.30am	Advent Feria Patsy & Benny Williams RIP Sacrament of Reconciliation
Weekend Saturday 17 Sunday 18 December	5.15-5.45pm 6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am 4.00pm	Fourth Sunday of Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation Deceased family and friends of Rhodes & Crawford family Kathleen & Anthony McDonnell Roy Topham Reconciliation Service

Sunday: Isaiah 61:1-2.10-11; Luke 1 46-50.53-54; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8.19-28

Psalm: **My soul rejoices in my God.**

Acclamation: **The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.**

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Monday: Numbers 24:2-7.15-17; Psalm 24:4-9; Matthew 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zephaniah 3:1-2.9-13; Psalm 33; Matthew 21:28-32

Wednesday: Isaiah 45:6-8.18.21-26; Psalm 84:9-14; Luke 7:19-23

Thursday: Isaiah 54:1-10; Psalm 29; Luke 7:24-30

Friday: Isaiah 56:1-3.6-8; Psalm 66; John 5:33-36

Saturday: Genesis 49:2.8-10; Psalm 71; Matthew 1:1-17

Sunday: 2 Samuel 7:1-5.8-12.14.16; Psalm 88; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38