

PARISH .

- **MISSION TEAM:** The Bishop has asked that every parish prepare a plan for mission and that either he or the Vicars General will be visiting each parish after Easter. If you would like to be on a mission team, please see Fr or Deacon Martyn.
- **BICENTENARY PREPARATIONS:** We need to start discerning our preparations. If you have ideas or are willing to serve please see Fr or Deacon Martyn.
- **NEW WEBSITE** stmarys-boston.rcdon.uk We have a new website now for the parish which is much improved.

Gift Aid Boxes - New Tax Year 2026/2027 Are available to collect from the Narthex . **The new Tax Year starts Saturday / Sunday 11th / 12th April 2026**- Those registered for gift aid and use the boxes please pick up from the back of the church. **Please do not use the new BLUE envelopes before 11th / 12th April and do not use the old YELLOW envelopes after 4th / 5th April.** Your donation must be in the correct envelope for each weekend of the donation. If you do not attend Mass on a particular weekend, please place your next donation in the following weeks envelope. If you want to change to a standing order, please set this up with your personal bank and inform myself (you do not need a gift aid box for standing order). If your circumstances have changed and you are no longer paying tax, or have changed address please let Fr. Dominic and myself know so we can amend our records. Thank you for your co-operation. If you have any queries my contact details are: 07778840886.
Chaz Mayhew

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING BANK: The Women's Guild is operating a clothing bank, initially for clothes to fit under 11 year olds. If you don't have any children you may purchase new underwear and socks. Thanks for the kind donations of excellent quality already received. **If donations need collecting text: C.C.B to 07827274251**

If you would like to be on the parish email circular, please send an email to: info@saintmarysboston@gmail.com **New Website: stmarys-boston.rcdon.uk**

FACE BOOK



DONATIONS: Just scan the QR code with your phone to donate to our parish. Don't forget to gift aid if you can.



In the Parish of Saint Mary's Our Lady of the Rosary



The Lord is risen, Alleluia!

He has risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

St Mary's Presbytery 24 Horncastle Road Boston PE21 9BU
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NRCDT - Registered Charity - 1134449

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic O'Connor
Deacon Martyn Chambers, Deacon David Witherick (Ret.)
Priest to the Polish Community: Fr Stanisław Kowalski SChr,
School: St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy, Ashlawn Drive,
PE21 9PX TEL: 01205 362092
Hospital: Pilgrim Hospital, Sibsey Road, Boston PE21 9QS
Prison: HMP North Sea Camp

If you know of a parishioner who is an in-patient at the Pilgrim hospital, please contact Father at the Presbytery 01205 362056 or Deacon Martyn.

Liturgical calendar

Day	Date	Time		Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Saturday	4	8.30pm	Eng	Vigil	<i>Sick and Housebound</i>
Sunday	5	8.00am 10.00am 12.30pm 7.30pm	Lith Eng Pol Pol	EASTER SUNDAY	<i>Parish</i>
Monday	6	10.00am	Eng	Easter Monday	<i>Steven Davis RIP</i>
Tuesday	7	9.30am	Eng	Easter Tuesday	<i>Suffering Christians</i>
Wed.	8		Eng	Easter Wednesday	
Thurs.	9	12.30pm	Eng	Easter Thursday	
Friday	10	7.00pm	Eng	Easter Friday	<i>Elvira Aniukshita RIP</i>
Saturday	11	9.30am 4.00pm	Eng Eng	Easter Saturday	<i>Nelly Green RIP</i>
Sunday	12	8.30am 10.00am 12.30pm 3.00pm 4.00pm 7.30pm	Eng Eng Pol Eng Latin Pol	Divine Mercy Sunday Service @ 3.00pm	<i>C+K Fox The Parish</i>

Adoration/Holy Hour: Tuesday 8.00am Friday 6.00pm

Confessions: Saturday 3.20pm-3.50pm Sunday 7.50am-8.20pm and 9.30am-9.50am
Before weekday masses and on request.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CONFESSIONS FROM 2.15pm

Divine Mercy: Wednesday 2.00pm

DATES FOR THE DIARY

16th April Thursday: 7.00pm Opening of Deanery Mission Initiative here

25th April Saturday: Pro-Life Chain Tritton Road Lincoln Road 11am - 1pm

9th May: Retreat Day for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist @ SS Peter and Paul

9/10th May Parish Visitation by V.G. Canon Eddy Jarosz

SPECIAL JUBILEE YEAR OF ST FRANCIS 10 JAN '26 – 10 JAN '27 Marking 800 years since his death. Normal conditions plus a visit to a Franciscan place of worship

Catechesis Available/ Courses running: 1) 1st Holy Communion-restarts Sept.
2) Young Teens ages 13-15 group Sat pm 3) Confirmation combined with older teens Sat pm
4) Rosary Group ages 9-12 Sat am 5) Adult catechesis Friday am
(See Father if interested)

Financials:

- Offertory Loose £ Envelopes (GA) £ Dona £
- Standing Orders £ Votive Candles £ TOTAL: £

FINANCE

FINANCE "GIFT AID: The December 2025 quarterly return amounting to £7,286.00 has been submitted to HMRC slightly later than planned due to a technical problem. Thank you for all your gift aid donations to our parish via envelope, standing order or the card machine at the entrance to the church. If you have recently joined our parish or started to pay income tax on personal income, please consider completing a Gift Aid declaration. For further information and help, please contact me on 07778840886 or email giftaid.bt@dioceseofnottingham.uk. Many thanks, Chaz Mayhew If donating by cheque please make it payable to Boston Roman Catholic Parish. Thank you for your financial support and those too who pay through the bank. "

PLEASE SEE BACK PAGE FOR IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ENVELOPES

SECOND COLLECTIONS: 26th April Clergy Form. 17th May Catholic Communications

OF YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR

- The sick and housebound and for those who need your prayers, Sadie Wheate, Rosalyn, Mary, Fay Cowell, David Locking. Michael Campbell; Sally Wallington; ; Elizabeth Hunter; Sharon Peates, Margaret Fretwell.
- Margaret Lilley RIP Nicholas Cornell RIP David Murphy RIP



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

THE GREATEST DAY OF GRACE IN THE YEAR

SERVICE SUNDAY 12th APRIL AT 3.00PM

CONFESSIONS HEARD BEFORE from 2.15pm.....START PREPARING!!

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA INDULGENCE

Briefly, here are the other main differences between the "special graces" promised by Jesus for Divine Mercy Sunday, and the plenary indulgence offered by the Church for special devotions to the Divine Mercy on Mercy Sunday:

- 1) To receive special graces that our Lord promised for Divine Mercy Sunday, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the Vigil celebration) by making a good Confession beforehand and staying in the state of grace and trusting in His Divine Mercy. Any plenary indulgence granted by the Church, on the other hand, involves the fulfilment of a number of conditions, including prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, Confession and Holy Eucharist, and the carrying out of the special indulgenced work (in this case: participating in public devotions to the Divine Mercy on Divine Mercy Sunday itself).
- 2) The special graces promised by our Lord for Divine Mercy Sunday can be received by a soul in a state of grace, but with imperfect love for God, and imperfect contrition for sin-as long as the soul merely trusts in the mercy of God, and clings to Him because of His promised benefits. A plenary indulgence, however, can only be obtained through the performance of an indulgenced work as an expression of pure love for God. If the intentions of one's indulgenced work are not pure (say, the work is done in part out of fear of hell or purgatory, and loathing for oneself - or the desire to impress one's friends and relatives! - rather than purely out of love for God) then the indulgence obtained will be only partial, not plenary.
- 3) The special graces that our Lord promised for Mercy Sunday can only be received for oneself, through the devout reception of Holy Communion on Mercy Sunday (as stated in #1 above). A plenary indulgence, however, can be offered for oneself, or for souls suffering in purgatory.
- 4) The most special grace promised by our Lord for Mercy Sunday is nothing less than the equivalent of a complete renewal of baptismal grace in the soul: "complete forgiveness (remission) of sins and punishment." Such a measure of grace can only be received otherwise through baptism itself, or through making a sacramental confession as an act of perfect contrition for sin, out of pure love for God.

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS

- 1) Be to the best of ones knowledge in a state of grace
- 2) Make a confession within two weeks either side. Our Lord did ask that we also go to confession on the day itself.
- 3) Receive Holy Communion worthily on the day.
- 4) Make some devotional act to Divine Mercy.



*Wishing you and your families
all the joys of Easter and the Risen Lord.*

*May god bless you
during this sacred time,
Father Dominic.*

The Regina Coeli Lyrics in Latin

V. Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.

R. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.

V. Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.

R. Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.



From the Parish Priest's Desk...Our Lenten Journey.

“After the Sabbath” (Mt 28:1), the women went to the tomb. This is how the Gospel of this holy Vigil began: with the Sabbath. It is the day of the Easter Triduum that we tend to neglect as we eagerly await the passage from Friday’s cross to Easter Sunday’s Alleluia. This year however, we are experiencing, more than ever, the great silence of Holy Saturday. We can imagine ourselves in the position of the women on that day.

They, like us, had before their eyes the drama of suffering, of an unexpected tragedy that happened all too suddenly. They had seen death and it weighed on their hearts. Pain was mixed with fear: would they suffer the same fate as the Master? Then too there was fear about the future and all that would need to be rebuilt. A painful memory, a hope cut short. For them, as for us, it was the darkest hour.

Yet in this situation the women did not allow themselves to be paralyzed. They did not give in to the gloom of sorrow and regret, they did not morosely close in on themselves, or flee from reality. They were doing something simple yet extraordinary: preparing at home the spices to anoint the body of Jesus. They did not stop loving; in the darkness of their hearts, they lit a flame of mercy. Our Lady spent that Saturday, the day that would be dedicated to her, in prayer and hope. She responded to sorrow with trust in the Lord. Unbeknownst to these women, they were making preparations, in the darkness of that Sabbath, for “the dawn of the first day of the week”, the day that would change history. Jesus, like a seed buried in the ground, was about to make new life blossom in the world; and these women, by prayer and love, were helping to make that hope flower. How many people, in these sad days, have done and are still doing what those women did, sowing seeds of hope! With small gestures of care, affection and prayer.

At dawn the women went to the tomb. There the angel says to them: “Do not be afraid. He is not here; for he has risen” (vv. 5-6). They hear the words of life even as they stand before a tomb... And then they meet Jesus, the giver of all hope, who confirms the message and says: “Do not be afraid” (v. 10). Do not be afraid, do not yield to fear: This is the message of hope. It is addressed to us, today. These are the words that God repeats to us today, this very night.

Tonight we acquire a fundamental right that can never be taken away from us: the right to hope. It is a new and living hope that comes from God. It is not mere optimism; it is not a pat on the back or an empty word of encouragement, with a passing smile. No. It is a gift from heaven, which we could not have earned on our own. Over these weeks, we have kept repeating, “All will be well”, clinging to the beauty of our humanity and allowing words of encouragement to rise up from our hearts. But as the days go by and fears grow, even the boldest hope can dissipate. Jesus’ hope is different. He plants in our hearts the conviction that God is able to make everything work unto good, because even from the grave he brings life..

The grave is the place where no one who enters ever leaves. But Jesus emerged for us; he rose for us, to bring life where there was death, to begin a new story in the very place where a stone had been placed. He, who rolled away the stone that sealed the entrance of the tomb, can also remove the stones in our hearts. So, let us not give in to resignation; let us not place a stone before hope. We can and must hope, because God is faithful. He did not abandon us; he visited us and entered into our situations of pain, anguish and death. His light dispelled the darkness of the tomb: today he wants that light to penetrate even to the darkest corners of our lives. Dear sister, dear brother, even if in your heart you have buried hope, do not give up: God is greater. Darkness and death do not have the last word. Be strong, for with God nothing is lost!

Courage. This is a word often spoken by Jesus in the Gospels. Only once do others say it, to encourage a person in need: “Courage; rise, [Jesus] is calling you!” (Mk 10:49). It is he, the Risen One, who raises us up from our neediness. If, on your journey, you feel weak and frail, or fall, do not be afraid, God holds out a helping hand and says to you: “Courage!”. You might say, as did Don Abbondio (in Manzoni’s novel), “Courage is not something you can give yourself” (I Promessi Sposi, XXV). True, you cannot give it to yourself, but you can receive it as a gift. All you have to do is open your heart in prayer and roll away, however slightly, that stone placed at the entrance to your heart so that Jesus’ light can enter. You only need to ask him: “Jesus, come to me amid my fears and tell me too: Courage!” With you, Lord, we will be tested but not shaken. And, whatever sadness may dwell in us, we will be strengthened in hope, since with you the cross leads to the resurrection, because you are with us in the darkness of our nights; you are certainly amid our uncertainties, the word that speaks in our silence, and nothing can ever rob us of the love you have for us.

This is the Easter message, a message of hope. It contains a second part, the sending forth. “Go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee” (Mt 28:10), Jesus says. “He is going before you to Galilee” (v. 7), the angel says. The Lord goes before us, he goes before us always. It is encouraging to know that he walks ahead of us in life and in death; he goes before us to Galilee, that is, to the place which for him and his disciples evoked the idea of daily life, family and work. Jesus wants us to bring hope there, to our everyday life. For the disciples, Galilee was also the place of remembrance, for it was the place where they were first called. Returning to Galilee means remembering that we have been loved and called by God. Each one of us has our own Galilee. We need to resume the journey, reminding ourselves that we are born and reborn thanks to an invitation given gratuitously to us out of love, there, in my own Galilee. This is always the point from which we can set out anew, especially in times of crisis and trial. With the memory of my own Galilee. (EASTER HOMILY POPE FRANCIS).

