

## Masses & Services this Week

<b>Saturday 11th March</b>	4.00pm Confessions 4.30pm Mass: (Patrick Kennedy RIP)
<b>Sunday 12th</b>	8.00am Mass: (Sharon Amess' Intention) 11.00am Mass: (Daniel Loughry RIP) 3.00pm Stations of the Cross
<b>Monday 13th</b>	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (Ruth Nester Intentions)
<b>Tuesday 14th</b>	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (Robert & Judith Martin & Family) 12.15pm Funeral Service for Mary Clarke at Crowland Abbey
<b>Wednesday 15th</b>	<b>6.30am</b> Mass: (Norah Vandervoet RIP) 5.00pm The Reception of George Porter RIP 6.00pm Mass: (George Porter RIP) <i>Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
<b>Thursday 16th</b>	12.00pm Requiem Mass for George Porter RIP
<b>Friday 17th St. Patrick</b>	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (Antonio & Guseppina Martino & Deceased Family Members RIP) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
<b>Saturday 18th</b>	9.00am Mass: (People of the Parish) Followed by Confessions 4.00pm Confessions 4.30pm Mass: (Gordon Strickland RIP)
<b>Sunday 19th 3rd Sunday of Lent (A)</b>	8.00am Mass: (Thelma Hare RIP) 11.00am Mass: (Sylvia Robinson's Intentions) <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i>

**JULIA'S FUND:** There will be a voluntary collection taken after all weekend Masses throughout Lent, and a second collection taken on Palm Sunday for Julia's Fund; all monies collected will be presented as our 'Gifts for the Poor' during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday (13th April).

## THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & SAINT NORBERT

**12th March 2017**

**2nd Sunday in Lent (A)**

**Psalter 2**

Parish Priest: Fr. James Burke, 52 St. Thomas's Road, Spalding, PE11 2XX  
Telephone: 01775 722056  
Emails: fr.jim@stnorberts.org.uk  
(or email Lynn: office@stnorberts.org.uk)  
Deacon: Rev. Dennis Brady, 61, Pennygate, Spalding, PE11 1NN  
Telephone: 01775 723616  
(email: deacon.dennis@stnorberts.org.uk)

Parish School: **Saint Norbert's Catholic Primary School**,  
Tollgate (off Pennygate), Spalding, PE11 1TJ Telephone: 01775 722889  
Head Teacher: Mr. Joseph Burns

Nearest Catholic Comprehensive:  
**Saint John Fisher Catholic High School**, Park Lane,  
Peterborough, PE1 5JN  
Head Teacher: Mr. Sean Hayes Telephone: 01733 343646

Parish Pastoral Council: Judy Flynn 07774 260853  
Parish Centre: **Contact the Parish Office: 01775 722056**

**PARISH WEBSITE** [www.stnorberts.org.uk](http://www.stnorberts.org.uk)— *We stream our services live via our website—this service is intended for our sick and housebound parishioners and those who care for them—simply go to our website and click on 'live from the church' and click on the blue banner at the top of the page. CCTV is in operation 24/7*

This parish is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham  
Registered at Willson House, Derby Road, Nottingham NG1 5AW  
Charity Number: 1134449

**Today's Mass:**

2nd Sunday in Lent – 'A'

Preface: Lent 2

Eucharistic Prayer 2

Memorial Acclamation 2 (*May differ at the 11.00am Mass*)**Second collection this weekend is for CAFOD – Lenten Family Fast**

A College student was taking his final exam in Philosophy. On the test paper there was only a single line, which read: *"Is this a question ? Discuss."* After a short time, the student wrote: *"If this is a question, then this is an answer."* He got an A on the exam.

In today's Gospel we hear the familiar story of the Transfiguration. Jesus takes Peter, James, and John up on the mountain where they behold Jesus changed, his face filled with light, the prophetic vision and the voice speaking from the cloud. If the disciples had any questions about this Jesus they were following, the Transfiguration was the astounding answer.

Just as Peter, James and John were invited to the mountain top with Jesus, so are we called to his presence, to behold him face to face. Let us pray for the grace of the transfiguration of our faith and of our lives.

We pray for peaceful solutions to the world's conflicts: for the transfiguration of enemies so that they may see each other as brothers and sisters. We pray for those transfiguration of society to meet the needs of the very sick, the very young and the very old; for all those who struggle with the demands of day-to-day life. We pray for the transfiguration of those neighbourhoods, communities and families where there is anger and bitterness: for gentle speech, kind actions and patient attention to the needs of each other.

**A message from Fr. Jim:** First of all, I would like to thank all those who attended to me when the problem with my leg occurred, and to Sharon who went to the hospital and brought me back to the presbytery in the early hours of Saturday morning. Thanks to Fr. Paul for stepping in and covering last weekends Masses at short notice. Deacon Dennis for contacting Fr. Paul and the Dean, Fr. Alex, and all those who made contact with me, the cards I have received—and the cakes! It has been over 12 years since I experienced anything like what has happened...and it may happen again. In the past, it usually occurs twice, then nothing for a number of years. In the past I have known when my leg is likely to bleed, but now they are covered, I had no warning. Thanks for keeping me in your prayers.

We are inviting you to pray for the success of our mission *now!* If you can, we would welcome you to share a prayer for the parish which we can publish here in the newsletter and on our website. The prayer can be one that you have found, or have in your possession, or you could write your own! We would like to receive prayers from our young people and from children; we would welcome prayers in other languages, although it would be nice to have an English translation! You can send any prayers to Fr. Jim via email ([fr.jim@stnorberts.org.uk](mailto:fr.jim@stnorberts.org.uk)) or they may be handed in to the parish office, please let us know if your prayers are included in the newsletter and website if you give permission for your name to appear in any publication, or if you wish to remain anonymous that is fine too. We look forward to receiving your prayers!

*Other News...*

**YOUR MOST URGENT ATTENTION IS NEEDED WHEN YOU READ THIS!!** *Diana Johnson MP has tabled a Bill to introduce abortion on demand, up to birth, for any reason.* The Bill, **which is scheduled to get its first reading in Parliament tomorrow** (Monday) **intends to decriminalise abortion completely and make abortion legal up to birth.** This proposed legislation is therefore deeply anti-human, and, of course, dangerous. **Email our MP, John Hayes, NOW when you read this announcement to ask him to oppose the Bill at First Reading. Email : [hayes@parliament.uk](mailto:hayes@parliament.uk).** You can also sign the online petition to Diana Johnson urging her to retract the Bill. Go to: [www.citizengo.org/en-gb/if/41644-stop-diana-johnson-mp-abortion-up-to-birth-bill](http://www.citizengo.org/en-gb/if/41644-stop-diana-johnson-mp-abortion-up-to-birth-bill). **Remember: TAKE ACTION NOW!** Thank you.

As announced at all Masses last weekend, **Holy Trinity Parish, Holbeach**, have launched a Lenten programme entitled: *'Conversion: Following the Call of Christ'*. This series continues tomorrow, Monday, at 7.30pm in the Walsingham Hall (the church hall) Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Foxes Lowe Road, Holbeach, PE12 7PA –for more information, contact Fr. Paul on 01406 423034.

office, if you can help. **Fr. Jim would like a brief meeting with all our counters after the 11.00am Mass on the 26th March.** We realise that this is a busy day for mums...but, Fr. Jim promises that the meeting should only take 10 to 15 minutes!

**100 CLUB:** The March Draw took place on Monday, 6th March; the prize winners were: 1st Fr. Jim, (£25), 2nd “Joan McDonald” (£15), 3rd Robert Martin (£10), 4th Cecilia Loughry (£5). *Congratulations to our prize winners.*

**PARISH MISSION 2018:** *Here is what The Sion Community have to say about themselves on their website: “Using a collaborative model, we work in partnership with the parish during the mission process, enabling parishioners to discover and use their God-given gifts and abilities in the service of others.*

Our two-week parish missions include door-to-door visiting, celebration services and Masses, social times and creative workshops as well as many other projects for people, old and young alike, to get involved in. They are part of a mission process that lasts around a year from the moment of booking a mission, through to the mission itself and enabling the parish to carry on after the mission experience. Our aim is to assist parishes to grow in their basic mission of becoming alive and active evangelising communities”.

#### **The Mission Process in a brief**

Phase One- Preparation - Up to one year before the Mission

Phase Two - The Mission - Outreach, Conversion, Celebration

Phase Three - Follow up - Training for further growth

We are setting up a small team to have an initial meeting with the pre-mission co-ordinator, we hope that that meeting will be in the near future. This will be followed up with a full meeting of the Parish Mission Team under the Parish Mission Co-ordinator, Mary Hurst, who will be assisted by Deacon Dennis. There will be an official launch within the parish – which we hope we will celebrate, the date is not yet known for this launch, but we are hoping it will take place in June, and we hope that some members of the Sion Community will launch the year of preparation, we will publish more details of this when they have been finalised.

*Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners:* Pat Brooks, Allison Law, Margaret Trivett, Audrey Cook, Marcello Viglianti, Maria Dowling, Rosetta Le Compte, Elvira Choma, Ros Mullholland-Gullick, Jean Fairbanks, Tony Faulkner, Rosemarie & Peter Anderton, Norma Yaxley, Tony Ball, Robert Baden Smith, Jesus Moniente, Linda Lawless, Susan Bertolaso, Mollie Coaten, Mary Naughton, Norman Coleman, Fr. John Abbott, Julian Paleson, Sylvia Hayden, Katherine McLoughlin, Patrick King, The Taylor Family, Mons. Jonathan Moore, Bob Goemans, Pat Baxter, Rita Gensiorskyj, Manfred Haacker, June Burrell, Maurice Cranney, Kuriakose Antony Thelekatt, Helen Henry, Philip Chandler, Maria Sharples, Fr. Oliver Martin O.Praem, Madge Rankin, Brian Stout, Mandy Beecham, Alison Merryman-Marx, Frs. Jim, Eamonn O’Hara & Dominic O’Connor.

*Please also remember:* Norah Tighe, Rasa Vasiliauskiene, Valarie Kilkenny, Margaret Baltrop, Baby Ethan Burguillo, Richard Bobowski, Mabel Spalding, Petrus van der Werf and all those whose anniversary occurs at this time. *May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

**The Funeral Arrangements for George Porter:** George will be received into church this Wednesday, (15th March) at 5.00pm; his Requiem Mass will take on Thursday at 12.00 noon.

Thanks to those who have offered to provide and/or serve refreshments after the Mass in the Hall. We still have a list of the kind of food we require, if you can make or donate something, please mark it on the list provided; likewise, if you can help on the day, please let Norma Beveridge, Lynn (in the Parish Office) or one of the clergy know – thank you.

**The Funeral Arrangements for Daniel Loughry:** Dan will be received into church on Monday, 20th March at 5.00pm; his Requiem Mass will take place the following day at 12.00 noon.

Again, we are seeking help to provide and serve refreshments after Mass in the Hall – the same arrangements as above. Once again, thanks for your help.

**PARISH FINANCE:** Last weekend you gave £605.64. The voluntary collection for Julia's Fund realised £9.31

**Forthcoming collections in March:** This weekend: CAFOD Family Fast; 18th/19th March: Annual collection for flowers to decorate the church at Easter; 25th/26th March: Building & Maintenance Fund.

**THANK YOU:** We have received a further donation of £100 for our Parish Building and Maintenance Fund, and a donation to cover the cost of the redecoration of the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes in memory of the late Thelma Hare RIP.

The parish also acknowledges a generous gift given to the parish in memory of the late Margaret Burke RIP. Please do remember our benefactors, living and deceased, in your prayers.

**PARISH CENSUS:** (*Repeated from last week*) Fr. Jim wishes to thank all those who took part in the census last weekend. It will take some time to go through each completed form, but we will be in touch soon. **If you missed the census, it is not too late to complete a census form, simply collect a form from the sacristy or parish office – Thank you.**

*This Week:*

**Parish Finance Committee** will meet in the Parish Office this Tuesday, 14th March, at 7.30pm.

**Tea & Toast** will be served after the 6.30am Mass on Wednesday.

**The new CAFÉ DVD course for those over 60:** *'Beloved Disciples – Spirituality for the Autumn of Life'*, presented by David Wells & David Payne, continues this Wednesday (15th March) at 12.00pm in the Hall. This week's presentation is entitled: *'Changing Your World'*. Last week we had a very good attendance, and the feedback received was very positive. **It is important that those wishing to attend this session sign the list at the back of church – even if you signed up last week – as this helps with catering – thank you.**

The remaining two sessions are:

Week 3: Thy Will Be Done

Week 4: The Best is Yet to Come!

**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays & Sundays throughout Lent, please see the weekly schedule (printed on the back page) for details.

*Friday morning is fun time for the over 60's!* All are welcome to meet for chat, fun, games and a cuppa in St Norbert's Hall on Friday mornings from 10:30am – 12.30pm. Various activities are planned including craft sessions, a visit to Waterside Garden Centre, quizzes and some gentle keep fit. Do join us if you can. For further information contact Anne on 761973 or Judy via the parish office.

**Children's Liturgy Training Day:** Fr. Jim is keen to re-establish the Children's Liturgy during the 11.00am Mass – but, we need volunteers to work with the pre-Communion age children. Fr. Jim was delighted to discover we have two volunteers to lead Children's Liturgy – thank you! He will be in contact soon; but it would be wonderful if more people came forward to help. Apart from those who have volunteered to help on the recent census, if there are any more volunteers, he would love to hear from you. You can see Fr. Jim or Deacon Dennis after any of the weekend Masses, or contact Fr. Jim direct: 01775 722056 (option '2') or email: [fr.jim@stnorbets.org.uk](mailto:fr.jim@stnorbets.org.uk)

There is a training day taking place at The Diocesan Centre, Mornington Crescent, Mackworth, Derby on Saturday, 18th March from 10.00am to 3.00pm. The cost of the day will be met by the parish, if you are interested, please speak to Fr. Jim as soon as possible, please.

**Meeting for our Eucharistic Ministers:** Fr. Jim would like to meet with our Eucharistic Ministers on Wednesday, 22nd March at 7.30pm in the Walsingham Chapel. It would be very useful if those attending could check their availability during Holy Week and Easter Sunday – thank you.

**Counters:** We could do with a few more counters to count the weekly takings – please see Fr. Jim, Deacon Dennis or Lynn (in the parish