

Masses & Services this Week

Saturday 20th January	3.30pm Confessions 4.30pm Mass: (Brilly Family RIP)
Sunday 21st <i>3rd Sunday of the Year</i>	8.00am Mass: (Zofija Stec & Leonidas Stec RIP) 11.00am (CJ & Souls in Purgatory, especially FOSS) 5.00pm Reception of Pat Brooks RIP 6.00pm Mass: (Maureen van der Voet RIP)
Monday 22nd	9.30am Requiem Mass for Pat Brooks RIP
Tuesday 23rd	8.00am Mass: (Mary Dullea)
Wednesday 24th <i>St. Francis de Sales</i>	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Service of the Word & Holy Communion
Thursday 25th <i>The Conversion of St. Paul</i>	7.00pm Mass: (Charles & Eileen Cornell RIP)
Friday 26th <i>Ss. Timothy & Titus</i>	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (In Thanksgiving)
Saturday 27th	9.00am Mass: (David Brown RIP) (Confessions) 4.00pm Confessions 4.30pm Mass: (Aldona & Family RIP)
Sunday 28th <i>4th Sunday of the Year (B)</i>	8.00am Mass: (People of the Parish) 11.00am Mass: (Mario & Lina Martino RIP) 6.00pm Mass: (Eileen Walton's Intentions) 01

The manager of a large office noticed a new man one day and told him to come into his office. "What is your name?" was the first thing the manager asked the new guy. "John," the new guy replied. The manager scowled, "Look, I don't know what kind of a place you worked at before, but I don't call anyone by his first name. It breeds familiarity and that leads to a breakdown in authority. I refer to my employees by their last name only – Smith, Jones, Baker – that's all. I am to be referred to only as Mr. Robertson. Now that we've got that straight, what is your last name?" The new guy sighed and said, "Darling. My name is John Darling." "Okay, John, the next thing I want to tell you is ..."

PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & SAINT NORBERT

21st January 2018

3rd Sunday of the Year (B)

Psalter 3

Parish Priest: Fr. James Burke, 52 St. Thomas's Road, Spalding, PE11 2XX
Telephone: 01775 722056 (Ext '2')

Email: fr.jim@stnorberts.org.uk

Deacon: Rev. Dennis Brady, 61, Pennygate, Spalding, PE11 1NN Telephone: 01775 723616

Email: deacon.dennis@stnorberts.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Katherine Saunders

Telephone: 01775 722056 (Ext '1')

Email: admin@stnorberts.org.uk

Parish School: Saint Norbert's Catholic Primary School, Tollgate (off Pennygate), Spalding,
PE11 1TJ Telephone: 01775 722889

Acting Head Teacher: Mrs. Jenna Withers

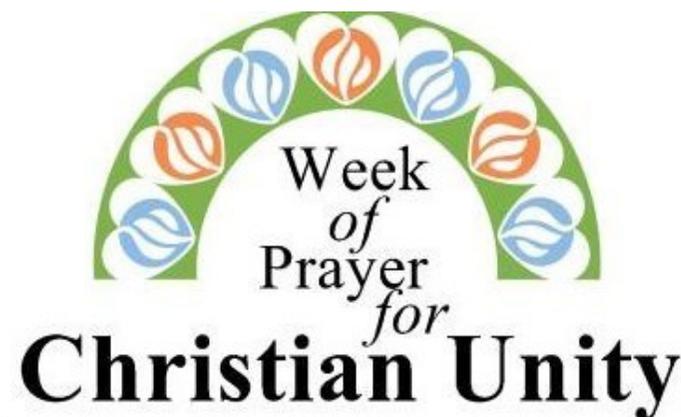
Nearest Catholic Comprehensive: Saint John Fisher Catholic High School, Park Lane,
Peterborough, PE1 5JN

Head Teacher: Mr. Sean Hayes Telephone: 01733 343646

Parish Pastoral Council: Judy Flynn 07774 260853

Parish Centre: **Contact the Parish Office: 01775 722056**

Safeguarding Parish Co-ordinator: Mrs. Mary Hurst: 01775 680598



This weekend: As we are in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we welcome Revd. Steve Weatherley-Barton to our 4.30pm Mass this weekend.

We welcome our First Holy Communion children to the 11.00am Mass.

The Meat Raffle has been an outstanding success! Fr. Jim has been overrun with the 'demand' for tickets! Thank you for your support. At the time of writing we have taken in £122.00! The Draw will take place at the end of the 11.00am Mass today.

Next weekend we will start our next raffle—another £30 meat voucher, this time redeemable at Simpson's Butcher shop in the town centre. The proceeds from the raffle going towards our Mission expenses.

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners: Allison Law, Pat Saville & family, Margaret Trivett, Audrey Cook, Marcello Viglianti, Maria Dowling, Rosetta Le Compte, Elvira Choma, Ros Mullholland-Gullick, Jean Fairbanks, Rosemarie & Peter Anderton, Norma Yaxley, Tony Ball, Jesus Moniente, Linda Lawless, Susan Bertolaso, Mollie Coaten, Mary Naughton, Norman Coleman, Sylvia Hayden, Katherine McLoughlin, Patrick King, The Taylor Family, Mons. Jonathan Moore, Pat Baxter, Rita Gensiorskyj, Manfred Haacker, June Burrell, Maurice Cranney, Helen Henry, Philip Chandler, Maria Sharples, Fr. Oliver Martin O.Praem, Brian Stout, Alison Merryman-Marx, Fr. Eamonn O'Hara, Fr. Dominic O'Connor, Canon Michael Bell, Fr. Tom Breslin & Maddie Scott.

Please also remember: Pat Leahy, John Kwasniewski-Kelvin, Gerald Male, Eddie Burke, Beryl Matthews, John Newton, Margherita Young and all those whose anniversary occurs at this time. *May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

Pat Brooks RIP: Pat will be received into church this evening at 5.00pm and her Requiem Mass will take place tomorrow (Monday) morning at 9.30am. May she rest in peace.

THE BUZZARD BAT and BUMBLEBEE

THE BUZZARD: If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet long by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

THE BAT: The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

THE BUMBLEBEE: A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exist, until it completely destroys itself.

PEOPLE: In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realising that all we have to do is look up! Sorrow looks back. Worry looks around. But Faith looks up! Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly and trust in our Creator who loves you.

Double Bedroom to Let in Spalding. Close to the town centre.
Enquiries: 07427 073017

flight from East Midlands Airport, transfers in France, full board at hotels adjacent to the domain and Grotto area, together with the necessary badges, scarves and prayer book. We have a full compliment of medical staff and an army of young people from diocesan universities and schools. The atmosphere is electric and the opportunity is there for a pilgrimage that is both memorable and full of grace'. **Application forms are available from the parish office, or phone: 0161 820 8790 for further details.**

A Reflection: The annual week of prayer for Christian Unity ends of this Thursday, 25th January on the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul; the assigned readings for this Sunday also speak strongly to the theme of conversion.

Jonah calls Nineveh to repent and the whole city is converted. Paul suggests that the present world is passing away, so we should focus on the Lord over everything else. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his first disciples to be fishers of people, a vocation Paul certainly lived out in his life and ministry.

By tracking his journey's in the Gospels, someone once concluded that during the years of his ministry Jesus walked 3,125 miles. However many miles it was, in today's Gospel, Jesus begins his ministry and calls the first of his disciples to follow him. Our journey has traversed the dimensions of time for more than 2,000 years. The journey now includes the lives of more than 2 billion Christians, representing one-third of the world's population. And who can count the lives of those followers who have gone before us?

Let us join with Christians all over the world and pray for those who most need our prayers.

Let us pray for the Church: for all Christians who gather today; for Christians of every nation, race and language, who are our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Funeral Arrangements for Eric Ormond RIP: Eric's Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday, 15th February at 10.30am. May he rest in peace.

PARISH FINANCE: Last weekend you gave: £781.26. The second collection for our sick and retired priests realised £292.17.

Forthcoming 2nd Collections in January:

Next weekend: The Parish Maintenance Fund

Counter's Rota—This week's counters: Joe & Anna; **next week:** Anita & Fr. Jim

CAR PARK: Parishioners can use the car park when attending services—**and at other times, but we simply ask that you inform us that you are parking there, and you will be given a permit to display on your front window screen.** If in doubt, please ask!

Altar Servers: Would those servers who need to be re-measured for their new cassocks please see Eric or Deacon Dennis as soon as possible, please.

Flower Arrangers: At this moment we do not have a list of flower arrangers. If you could spare some time to join a rota, please put your contact details on the list provided in the entrance to the church; alternatively, just let Katherine, our Administrator, or either Fr. Jim or Deacon Dennis know. Thanking you in anticipation!

Parish Mission 2018: Mary Hurst, Deacon Dennis & Fr. Jim will be attending the 'Priest's & People Forum' at the Sion Community's HQ in Brentwood, Essex on this week. They will be taking part in a pre-mission seminar along with representatives from all the other parishes around the UK who have booked a parish mission with the Sion Community this year. They will meet some members of the team who will be leading our mission, and (hopefully) they will be finalising the programme of our own mission.

(Repeated from last week) Fr. Jim will be spending a little more time in

the office in the coming weeks, one of the tasks he has been set is to plan various routes for the visiting team to follow, and also to bring, as far as possible, our parish database up to date—which will be time consuming, but very necessary.

Preparing in Prayer for the Parish Mission: The next prayer service, prepared by Sharon Amess, will be on Monday 29th January at 7.00pm, and repeated on Tuesday 30th January at 1.30pm.

In February the service will be prepared by Judith Martin, and will be held on Monday 26th February at 7.00pm, repeated on Tuesday 27th February at 1.30pm.

Please try to attend one or other of these services and join with other parishioners in prayerful preparation for our Parish Mission. Many thanks. (Anne).

Fr. Jim launched the Mission during the Christmas Masses; and he told us that our Mission has already begun! If you would like to become more involved in the various activities/actions we have been set, please contact our Mission Co-ordinator, Mary Hurst, on 01775 680598, or Katherine, our Parish Administrator, on 01775 722056 (option '1') or by email: admin@stnorberts.org.uk

Remember to let us know if a) you would like a visit from the Visiting Team; or, b) if you would prefer not to have a visit. Obviously, it will be impossible to visit every home in the parish in just one week, so if we know in advance we can try and ensure that those who would welcome a visit will get one.

THE WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER: Preparation Day will be at Swan Street Baptist Church on Friday, 2nd February from 9-45am to 12-45pm. It will be led by Mrs. Muriel Stonehewer, the regional co-ordinator. All welcome.

School News: Bishop Patrick has appointed Anthony Grunwell a Foundation Governor of St. Norbert's School. We offer Anthony our congratulations and thank him for accepting this important role within the school community.

Headteacher: The Board of Governors are still seeking to appoint a new Headteacher for St. Norbert's. The applicant must be a practising Catholic—please contact the school for more details and an application pack. In the meantime, our Acting Head and Acting Assistant Head, Mrs. Withers and Mr. Morton, are doing an excellent job in leading and taking the school forward. Fr. Jim was present at the most recent Governors Meeting and was delighted to see the school still flourishing on many levels—this is due to the strong leadership and our excellent members of staff throughout the school.

100 CLUB: Mike van der Weyden would like to step down from organising the 100 Club and overseeing the monthly draw. Mike has been at the helm of the draw since it began a number of years ago, and we thank him for his commitment to raising thousands of pounds for our parish and for Holbeach too, when it was being looked after from here—he now deserves a 'little' rest!! We would like to find someone to take up the reigns from Mike—please feel free to speak to him about the commitment involved. Mike has given us until the 15th April to find someone to take over, please consider it.

The results of the January Draw are as follows: 1st '20' Tony Bray (£25); 2nd '97' Mark Pinnick (£15); 3rd '60' Joanna Shardlow (£10); 4th '69' Mary Doran (£5). Congratulations to our prize winners!

LENT 2018: (*Repeated from last week*) We are putting together our Lenten programme, which begins on Ash Wednesday (14th February). Fr. Jim will be happy to celebrate Lenten House Masses on Thursday's during Lent—if you would like to host a Mass in your home, please put your details on the list provided in the entrance to the church or contact Fr. Jim or Katherine directly—thank you.

Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2018: *Fr. Gregory Tobin (Lourdes Pilgrimage Director) writes:* 'Why not come this year on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes? The dates are **16th - 20th July 2018**. The price includes the full pilgrimage package with a chartered