

Accommodation: This is required for Sion Community members, one group for the first week, different people for the second week. Single rooms are required. No family member is to be displaced from a room to offer accommodation! Details on what will be required are available from the Mission Coordinator, Mary Hurst.

The requirements of the Sion Community are minimal:

- ◇ A bedroom with some storage space for clothes
- ◇ Only one team member per room
- ◇ Access to the kitchen to make their own breakfast
- ◇ Access to bathroom facilities
- ◇ A door key

On week one (16th to 23rd June) hosts meet their guests after the vigil Mass and take them to their accommodation. A cooked supper will be provided by the parish.

Your guest will require a simple 'self-help' breakfast each day. They will be away by 7.30am and will not return until approximately 9.00pm. They will depart after the morning Mass on Saturday, 23rd June.

For further details and offers of help please contact Mary Hurst by phone 01775 680598 or e-mail maryehurst2@gmail.com

Messages from Anne Darragh: Mission Prayer Services: The monthly service will be this Monday 26th March at 7.00pm, repeated on Tuesday 27th March at 1.30pm for those who can't be at the Monday service. If you haven't been to one of these services before, please come and support our parish in prayer. The services this month will be based on some of the Stations of the Cross, with love and forgiveness as the theme.

Children's Stations of the Cross in church at 10 o'clock on Good Friday morning, followed by refreshments in the hall. All are welcome.

*With our prayers,
Fr. Jim & Deacon Dennis*

PARISH OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION &
SAINT NORBERT

25th March 2018

Passion Sunday (B)

Psalter 2

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

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

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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 IS HOLY WEEK

Saturday 24th March Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday	4.00pm Confessions 4.30pm Children's Mass: (Rasa Vasiliauskiene RIP)
Sunday 25th Palm Sunday	8.00am Mass: (Doris Barrado RIP) Confessions 10.30am Blessing of Palms & Solemn Procession followed by Mass: (People of the Parish)
Monday 26th	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (Private Intention) Confessions 5.00pm (approx.) Student's Cross arrive for evening meal in the Hall
Tuesday 27th	8.00am Mass: (Anthony Simmons RIP)
Wednesday 28th	6.30am Mass: (Holy Souls) (11.30am Chrism Mass with Bishop Patrick & the priests & deacons of the Nottingham Diocese in St. Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham) 7.00pm Confessions
THE EASTER TRIDIUM	
Holy Thursday 29th	No morning Mass today 7.30pm The Mass of The Lord's Supper (English & Polish Community) Watching before the Altar of Repose until 10.00pm
Good Friday 30th	A Day of Fast & abstinence from all meat dishes 10.00am Children's Way of the Cross 10.00am Ecumenical Walk of Witness (Spalding) 11.00am Ecumenical Walk of Witness (Crowland) 3.00pm Solemn Proclamation of The Passion
Holy Saturday 31st	No Mass or Confessions this morning 8.00pm The Service of Light & Easter Vigil (English & Polish Community)
Easter Sunday 1st April	8.00am Mass: (Natalina RIP) 11.00am Mass: (Francis Michie RIP)

Easter Prize Draw/Easter Egg Tombola/Cake Stall taking place after the 11.00am Mass today

- 2nd Easter Bank Holiday
10.00am Mass
- 3rd The Parish Office Re-opens today
- 6th 7.30pm Mass
- 8th Divine Mercy Sunday
- 9th The Annunciation of the Lord (transferred from the 25th March)
- 15th 11.00am First Holy Communion Children's Mass
- 22nd Good Shepherd Sunday – 2nd collection for the Clergy Formation Fund
- 27th 6.00pm Fr. Jim & Elizabeth Haines meeting with the young people of the parish in preparation for the Parish Mission.

More dates to follow.

MISSION 2018: We still have copies of the booklet prepared by Mary Hurst following her recent visit to the HQ of the Sion Community in Brentwood, Essex. It provides an interesting introduction and explanation of the mission process – please do take a copy.

Weekly Prayer Intention: As explained in last week's newsletter, as the Mission draws nearer, we have introduced a weekly prayer intention for you to pray at home as well as in our daily Masses. **This week's intention:** We pray for missionaries, that through their work they may bring the unbeliever to faith, the friendless to friendship and the ignorant to knowledge of the salvation which Jesus promises.

VISITING: (*Repeated from last week*) **This is an important appeal.** We are looking for volunteers to accompany Sion Community visitors during the first week of the (church based) Mission. Volunteers will be trained for the visiting, there is not a necessity to be the speaker, prayerful listening is a valuable part of the visit. You can offer half a day, whole days or all six days, at your convenience. the more time you share has prayerful benefits to you the volunteer. Hopefully, with your local knowledge, it will mean that the Sion Community will be able to visit more homes in the parish. Please, help if you can.

Restaurant, Spalding.

12th Family Boat Tickets courtesy of Spalding Water Taxis

Grateful thanks to those who have donated or contributed to these fantastic prizes.

The Draw will take place after the 11.00am Mass on Easter Sunday – everyone welcome to attend.

EASTER EGG TOMBOLA: This is always a popular event every Easter Sunday (1st April) where you donate an Easter Egg and then you buy a ticket and hope to win it, (or something similar!) back! The box is in the narthex waiting for you to fill it up! Thank you for your support.

There will also be a **Cake Stall** for which donations can be handed in over the Easter weekend! (Norma)

St. Thomas's Road Methodist Church Community: The final Sunday service is taking place in the chapel this afternoon, and from next weekend the St. Thomas's Road congregation will become part of the Broad Street community. We lament their going away – we could not have wished for better neighbours, and we assure them of our prayers in this time of transition – and thank them for their kindness to us over many years. Special mention must be made of Revd. David Curran who opened the doors of the chapel to us whilst the new church was under construction; and to Revd. Frances Ballantyne, the current minister – who, we believe, is leading this difficult transition admirably.

As we have previously mentioned, the chapel will be eventually sold and we hope to be amongst those hoping to acquire the property – but, obviously, there is no guarantee that we will be successful – please pray that whoever purchases the chapel, that the right decision will be made.

Some Dates for your diaries in April.

1st Easter Sunday

Palm Sunday is the sixth and last Sunday of Lent and the beginning of Holy Week. Holy Week is the week before Easter, commemorating events in the last days of Christ's life. It begins on Passion Sunday and ends on Easter Monday. Holy Week is the last week of Lent.

Palm Sunday is a time of celebration as well as sadness because Jesus died on a cross less than a week after he had entered Jerusalem.

What is Palm Sunday? The Sunday before Easter is known as Passion Sunday. It marks the end of Lent and celebrates Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem for the Jewish festival of Passover. Great crowds of people lined the streets waving palm branches to welcome him. The people were very excited. They spread branches on the road – and even laid down their clothes. They shouted "Hosanna!" which means "Save us now!"

Why is it called Palm Sunday? The Sunday before Easter is called Palm Sunday because the crowds waved palm branches as they followed Jesus' procession into Jerusalem.

Why did they go to Jerusalem? It was the time of the Jewish feast of Passover. Many Jews travelled to Jerusalem to celebrate this feast together.

Traditionally, many churches will have a procession in or around the church while people sing songs of praise and wave palms. This is to help them imagine what Jesus' entry into Jerusalem might have been like.

What happens to any palms left over? Any palms left over is kept and burned to make ashes to bless and distribute for next year's Ash Wednesday.

The second collection taken this weekend is for 'Julia's Fund' all your contributions during Lent will be presented as our 'Gifts for the Poor' during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners: Marie Tooke, 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 & Laurence Connell.

Please also remember: Terrence Stuart, Eileen Hayward, Francis Michie, James Toal, David Cleary, Jose Abadia Marmolejo and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

PARISH FINANCE: Last weekend you gave: £774.84. Second collection Easter Flowers: £358.40 -Thank you.

Next weekend: The second collection taken at the Easter Masses is your personal gift to Fr. Jim.

NEW ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FROM TODAY! For those who are members of our planned giving/Gift Aid scheme, your new envelopes are available from today.

If you are willing to join the planned giving/Gift Aid scheme please take one of the extra sets of boxes and put your contact details on the list provided. If you are a tax payer, the government allows us to reclaim an additional 25p for every £1 you donate ***at no cost to the tax payer.*** Please do consider joining the scheme. If you wish to receive details of how to pay your offering by Direct Debit or by a Standing Order, please contact Katherine in the parish office and she will give you all the information you will need. Telephone: 01775 722056 (option '1' or email: admin@stnorberts.org.uk – thank you.

Counter's Rota—This week's counters: Teresa & Martin; **next week:**

Fr. Jim & Anita.

A new rota has been produced, please make sure you have a copy – thank you.

100 CLUB: The results of the March Draw: 1st No 99 Sue Drew (£25); 2nd No 61 Frances Manning (£15); 3rd No 5 Doris Whitwell (£10) & 5th 74 Mike van der Weyden (£5). Congratulations to all our prize winners and thanks to all who support our monthly draw.

PARISH OFFICE: Please note that the parish office will be closed on Good Friday and will re-open on Tuesday, 3rd April at 9.30am.

FLOWER ARRANGERS: Fr. Jim is appealing for **Flower Arrangers**—it would be nice to have a regular team again. If we have any volunteers, please place your name on a list at the back of church. If anyone would like to learn more about flower arranging, we could consider arranging a short number of classes??? There is another list for those who may be interested in this.

EASTER BIG PRIZE DRAW: It is not too late to get your tickets for our Easter Prize Draw. Tickets are £1 each or £5 per book. All proceeds from the raffle and draw will go towards our parish mission expenses. Those tickets sold through St. Norbert's School will be put towards the cost of the school mission. Here is the list of prizes:

1st. NESPRESSO Lattissima Plus Coffee Machine

2nd Amazon 2nd Generation Speaker with Alexa Voice Recognition

3rd Family Photoshoot with Veena Cornish

4th 6 Bottles of Wine – 3 X Shiraz & 3 X Pinot Grigio

5th Waitrose Hamper

6th Cut & Style at Image International, Spalding

7th £30 Meat Voucher

8th Bottle of Remi Martin Brandy

9th Bottle of Whisky

10th Bottle of Champagne

11th £20 Voucher towards a meal at The Crystal Inn Chinese