

CATHOLIC LOUTH AND MABLETHORPE

S. Mary's Church

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S. Joseph's Church

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Second Week of Advent

Year B, Psalter Week II
(10th December – 16th December 2023)

MASS TIMINGS AND INTENTIONS

Sunday the 10 th	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
18.15	<i>Peace in the Holy Land</i>	S. Mary's	
9.00	<i>The People</i>	S. Mary's	
11.30	<i>Father Lynch</i>	S. Joseph's	
Monday the 11 th	S. Damasus I, pope		
Tuesday the 12 th	Our Lady of Guadalupe		
10.00	<i>Holy Souls</i>	S. Joseph's	
18.00	<i>Scripture Studies</i>	S. Mary's	
Wednesday the 13 th	S. Lucy, virgin and martyr		
10.00	<i>Peter Dunn (+)</i>	S. Mary's	
Thursday the 14 th	S. John of the Cross, priest & doctor		
10.00	<i>Religious vocations</i>	S. Joseph's	
Friday the 15 th	Advent FERIA		
7.00	<i>Elizabeth Bridget Weir (+)</i>	S. Mary's	
15.00	<i>Divine Mercy Chaplet</i>	S. Mary's	
Saturday the 16 th	Advent FERIA		
10.00	<i>Peace in the Holy Land</i>	S. Mary's	
10.45	<i>Holy Hour of Adoration w/ the Holy Rosary</i>	S. Mary's	
18.15	<i>The sick and dying</i>	S. Mary's	
Sunday the 17 th	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
9.00	<i>Father Younger</i>	S. Mary's	
11.30	<i>The People</i>	S. Joseph's	

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

S. Mary's Saturday, 10.45 – 11.45
S. Joseph's last Sunday of the month, 10.30-11.25

SECOND COLLECTION

This Sunday **Poor and Needy Parishes**

Next Sunday **NONE**

NOTE. The monthly **CAFOD** collection at **S. Mary's, Louth** takes place on the first Sunday. The next one will be on **7th January**.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those who are ill

S. Mary's: Patricia Kerr, Peter Endean, Lea Small, Elizabeth Melling, Shirley Kirkham, Paddy Shillington, Ann Selby, Margaret & Robert Gwynne, Kevin Keeley, Mary & Roger Norburn, Jim Ellison, Judith Brook, Sally Shillington, Catherine Keeley, Pam Stephens, Diane Benton, Patricia & Spencer Harvey. **S. Joseph's:** Maddie Owens, Joseph Wilson, Laura Guest, Odessa Louise-Therese, John Thompson, Shaun Hewson, Bill Smith, Winnie Copp, Owen Jenkinson and Thecla Domici.

Those who have died recently (++)

S. Mary's:
Ann Selby, Anthony Stanford Taylor, Fredrick Weir, Michael Leary, Roger Dygas.
S. Joseph's:
William 'Bill' Smith, Irene Bray, Joan Gowling, Patrick Geoghegan.

Those with anniversaries this week (++)

Emily Caroline Halligan, Maria Abell, Maria Emily Charlton, Anna Fall, Emily Drakes, Thomas Benedict Fitzgerald, Julia Ellett, Margaret Bridget Davis, Elizabeth Bridget Weir, Peter Dunn, Anna Tanzy.

NOTICES

- ❖ If you are a **Gift Aid Declaration Holder** please advise the parish office, or the Diocesan Gift Aid Department (parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk) of any change in your circumstances (name/address change, no longer a taxpayer, death of a spouse).
- ❖ **CAFOD's Online Advent Calendar** with daily prayer and reflection: <<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar>>.
- ❖ **The Diocese of Nottingham daily podcast 'Encounter Prayer' for the Year of Prayer** is available on Amazon, Apple, Spotify and Google and on the diocesan website.
- ❖ The next **Churches Without Walls** meeting is on Thursday, **14th December at 19.00 at St. James' Church House, Louth.**

S. Mary's, Louth

- ❖ **PLEASE NOTE.** The timing of our Sunday morning Mass has changed from 9.30 to 9.00 AM.
- ❖ Join us for a **Christmas Ploughman's** in the Parish Hall today, Sunday, 10th December, after the Mass. All proceeds go towards the refurbishment of the Lady Altar in the church.
- ❖ If you **would like to be a Reader**, please fill in one of the forms available in the narthex, sign and return it to Fr Kevin or through the letterbox of the presbytery.
- ❖ We are urgently looking for a **Health and Safety Officer**. This is a voluntary position, yet vital to the functioning of the parish. If interested, please contact the parish office.
- ❖ **Teas and coffees:** after the **Wednesday** and **Sunday** Masses.
- ❖ The takings from the **Christmas Fair** totalled £590. Many thanks to all involved in donating, organising, and manning the stalls, and to all those who attended the event.
- ❖ Please return any **red Missio boxes** for collection.

S. Joseph's, Mablethorpe

- ❖ **Heartfelt thanks** to all who have donated to the **Food Bank** collection at the back of the church in either cash or kind.
- ❖ Any contribution towards **flowers for the Church this Christmas** would be welcomed and greatly appreciated.
- ❖ We are looking for a **new flower arranger/s**, starting from Christmas Day. Please get in touch with Deacon Roger.
- ❖ Donations for the **Christmas Raffle** would be greatly appreciated. Tickets are on sale at the back of the Church.
- ❖ **Teas and coffees:** on **Thursdays** after the 10.00 Mass.
- ❖ **Saint Joseph's Repository** Now available. Greeting Cards for all occasions, Christmas Cards, Diary's, Calendars, Advent Calendars (big and small). Do come and browse our new Christmas stock and please support our little shop.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The King appointed himself a herald | A joyful messenger | Behold your God, He declared

John, an angel of God

"The Forerunner of Christ, therefore, is call an angel, on account of his angelic life and lofty reverence. Again, where he says, "Before Thee," it is as if he said, Thy messenger is near Thee: whence is shewn the intimate connection of the Forerunner with Christ; for those walk next to kings who are their greatest friends. There follows, "Who will prepare a way before thee." For by baptism he prepared the minds of the Jews to receive Christ." - Theophylact of Ohrid

John, an apostle of purity

"The dress and food of John may also express of what kind was his inward walk. For he used a dress more austere than was usual, because he did not encourage the life of sinners by flattery, but chid them by the vigour of his rough rebuke; he had a girdle of skin round his loins, for he was one, "who crucified his flesh with the affections and lusts." - S. Bede

Time and repentance

"God predestines no one to go to hell; for this, a willful turning away from God (a mortal sin) is necessary, and persistence in it until the end. In the Eucharistic liturgy and in the daily prayers of her faithful, the Church implores the mercy of God, who does not want 'any to perish, but all to come to repentance...' - Catechism, §1037"



The herald of the King

"This weekend, we have new images of the Shepherd King in the prophecy of Isaiah. Isaiah lived some seven hundred years before Christ, and in the interval between his prophecy, and the arrival of the Child in a stable in Bethlehem, the people God loved would fall into dissolution and be almost completely destroyed by a sequence of political moves against their nation and capital, leaving the people in both spiritual squalor and national devastation and calamity. What would sustain them for hundreds of years until their Redemption should appear? Only a promise. The promise of that Child born in the cave-stable. And the promise would arrive with a voice crying in the wilderness. Elijah returned, at last, if only in spirit: John the Baptist, the joyful messenger that announced to all who would listen, 'Here is your God.' Behold the Lamb of God, coming with power, subduing all before Him, victory won over sin and death, His trophies before Him (His Cross, the nails that held Him, the crown of suffering that named Him King of all things). As Isaiah says, He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in His arms. And they had to wait hundreds of years for the intervention of God, for the arrival of the Shepherd King. And we have waited twenty centuries for His return, and we may have to wait twenty more. But, as S. Peter says in the second reading, it's all in a day for the Holy One, Who lives without time. That doesn't mean that God is careless of time. Time is a gift. Time, as S. Peter says, allows men and women to change. Change can only occur within time, and so God proposes to purify us within time, drawing us towards perfection before we enter eternity, eternal life, so that nobody may be lost, everybody allowed to convert to Christ. So, let us live holy and saintly lives, as the Apostle says, following the Way to Perfection, imitating Christ, before the great Day of the Lord, the Day of Judgement, when we hope that the Shepherd King coming as Judge will find us at peace."

