CATHOLIC LOUTH AND MABLETHORPE

S. Mary's Church

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S. Joseph's Church

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Third Week of Ordinary Time

Year B, Psalter Week III (21st January – 27th January 2024)

MASS TIMINGS AND INTENTIONS

Sunday the 21st	THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	
18.15	The People	S. Mary's
9.00	Those in need of prayer	S. Mary's
11.30	Rev. J. G. M.	S. Joseph's
Monday the 22nd	S. Vicent	
Tuesday the 23rd	Feria	
18.00	Scripture Studies	S. Mary's
Wednesday the 24th	S. Francis de Sales	
10.00	Increase in devotion	S. Mary's
Thursday the 25th	THE CONVERSION OF S. PAUL	
10.00	F. & R. M.	S. Joseph's
Friday the 26th	Ss. Timothy & Titus	
15.00	Divine Mercy Chaplet	S. Mary's
Saturday the 27th	S. Angela Merici	
10.00	Intentions of the Immaculate	S. Mary's
	Heart	
10.45	The Holy Rosary	S. Mary's
18.15	1	S. Mary's
Sunday the 28th	FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	
9.00	Joan Hussey	S. Mary's
10.30	Holy Hour of Adoration w/	S. Joseph's
	Benediction, Confessions	
11.30	The People	S. Joseph's

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

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

SECOND COLLECTION

This Sunday NONE 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 4th February.

NOTICES

- This Sunday is the **Sunday of the Word of God**.
- A reflection from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer, Third Sunday of the Year: If during prayer we feel sluggish and empty, we must at that moment beg that Jesus' prayer also become our own. "I cannot pray today, I don't know what to do: I don't feel like it, I am unworthy". In this moment Jesus is before the Father, praying for us; let us trust in this! If we are trustful, we will then hear a voice from heaven, "You are God's beloved, you are a child, you are the joy of the Father in heaven".
- Transform Ministries is holding a Healing Retreat on Saturday, 27th January from 9.30 AM to 9.30 PM at Our Lady of Lincoln Catholic Church, Laughton Way, Lincoln LN2 2HE, with Fr. Gladson Dabre, OSA presiding. This will include Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, Praise and Worship, Talks and Testimonies and Prayer Ministry. Lunch is not provided.
- The next Churches Without Walls meeting is this Thursday, 25th January from 19.00 to 21.00 at S. James' Church House, Louth.

S. Mary's, Louth

- The date for the next Parish Council meeting is Thursday, 25th January at 6PM in the Parish Hall. Those interested in supporting the running of the parish are invited to attend.
- Teas and coffees: after the Wednesday and Sunday Masses.

S. Joseph's, Mablethorpe

- Please return old Palm Crosses to Deacon Roger for burning and turning into ashes for Ash Wednesday.
- Teas and coffees: Thursdays after the 10.00 Mass.
- Do come and browse Saint Joseph's Repository. Gifts and Cards for all occasions, especially Mass Intentions.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

S. Mary's: Patricia Kerr, Peter Endean, Lea Small, Elizabeth Melling, Shirley Kirkham, Paddy Shillington, Margaret & Robert Gwynne, Kevin Keeley, Mary Norburn, Jim Ellison, Judith Brook, Sally Shillington, Catherine Keeley, Pam Stephens, Diane Benton, Patricia & Spencer Harvey.

Those who are ill

S. Joseph's: Joseph Wilson, Laura Guest, Odessa Louise-Therese, John Thompson, Shaun Hewson, Winnie Copp, Owen Jenkinson and Thecla Domici.

Those who have died recently (++)

Fr. Peter Peterken S. Mary's:

Roger Norburn, Ann Anthony Stanford Taylor, Fredrick Weir, Michael Leary, Roger Dygas. S. Joseph's:

Richard Crean,

Margaret Ovens, Mountain. Madeleine William 'Bill' Smith, Irene Bray, Joan Gowling, Patrick Geoghegan.

Those with anniversaries this week (++)

Maureen O' Leary, Amanda Joan Connaughton, Henry Wilford, Patrick Foy, Joanna Wilson, Gertrude Monica Randle, Connor Lea Archer, Anthony Charles Bentley, Michael Flemming, Austin Prendiville, Jesse Bannister, Charles Bratley, James Alexander Fleming, Bridget Gibbons, Catherine Stinson, Bridget Matchlett, John Malone, Cyril Charlton, Phoebe Ester Swaby, Margarita Maria Corrigan, Margaret Ryan, Bridget Prendergash, James Prendergash.

21 January 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

We are called to be prophets | Bring the Gospel to people | Conquer your fears

The penitence of Nineveh

"...dost thou, who hast had so great experience of facts and of teaching, make light of what is told thee? The contrary then will be thy fate. For as they through fear of the words had not to undergo the vengeance in act, so thou who despisest the threatening by words, wilt have to undergo the punishment in very deed. And if now what thou art told seems a fable to thee, it will not, however, seem so when the very things convince thee, in that Day." - S. John Chrysostom

God changes His mind?

"and the saying... 'Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be destroyed,' that is to say, 'Its merits demand that it should be destroyed.' God is said 'to repent,' metaphorically, inasmuch as He bears Himself after the manner of one who repents, by 'changing His sentence, although He changes not His counsel..." - S. Thomas Aquinas

Fear of punishment

"...imperfect contrition, which is called attrition, since it commonly arises either from the consideration of the baseness of sin or from fear of hell and its punishments, if it renounces the desire of sinning with the hope of pardon... not only does not make a person a hypocrite and a greater sinner but is even a gift of God and an impulse of the Holy Spirit..." - Denzinger on doctrine



Reluctant prophets

"Last weekend, we had readings about vocation and calling - in the case of the boy Samuel, to prophecy and priesthood. And indeed Samuel went forth, a brave young soul. But not everybody is happy to respond to the calls, and in our first reading today, we have the reluctant prophet Jonah, who had to take a message from the God of the Israelites to an enormous and faraway city of non-Hebrew Assyrians. Why would they listen to his message? We know how Jonah fled from God in a direction opposite to Nineveh, and was only forced to return by a dreadful storm at sea, and after three days of meditation in the belly of a sea monster. But, as we see in our reading, he eventually got down to it, and the people of Nineveh received it! They actually took up a fast and humbled themselves before Whom to them was a foreign God, but Who is truly the Lord of all. This episode should be an encouragement to all of us reluctant prophets, we who to keep the peace do not wish to bring the Gospel to the people around us, even those nearest to us. For, as Paul says in the second reading, time is growing short. How many years do we have in these short lives of ours? Eighty? Ninety if we're lucky? The time is always growing short, to mend both our own wills and the wills of those around us. Paul says that we should dedicate ourselves utterly to God, in abstinence, in sobriety, in humility and detachment from the business of this world. That has never meant that we should all leave off our families and businesses and join monasteries. Rather, it means conducting the business of this world, but not setting our minds and hearts upon it, as if it were an end in itself. Our only end as Christians is spiritual union with God our Lord, alertness to His inspirations within our hearts and hearts brimming over with the charity, the love of Christ. In our gospel message this weekend, Christ prepares new prophets and apostles, to send out as once He had sent Jonah. Unlike Jonah, they jumped to it; like Jonah, they would be sent to non-Jews and would receive mixed responses to their message."