

# CATHOLIC LOUTH AND MABLETHORPE

## S. Mary's Church

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## S. Joseph's Church

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## Fourth Week of Ordinary Time

Year B, Psalter Week IV  
(28<sup>th</sup> January – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024)

### MASS TIMINGS AND INTENTIONS

Sunday the 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b>	
18.15	<i>The People</i>	S. Mary's
9.00	<i>Joan Hussey</i>	S. Mary's
10.30	Holy Hour of Adoration w/ Benediction, Confessions	S. Joseph's
11.30	<i>The People</i>	S. Joseph's
Monday the 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Feria</b>	
Tuesday the 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Feria</b>	
18.00	Scripture Studies	S. Mary's
Wednesday the 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>S. John Bosco</b>	
10.00	<i>Catholic Education Service</i>	S. Mary's
Thursday the 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Feria</b>	
10.00	<i>Deceased members of the Cleary family</i>	S. Joseph's
Friday the 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)</b>	
10.00	<i>In honour of the BVM</i>	S. Mary's
15.00	Divine Mercy Chaplet	S. Mary's
Saturday the 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>S. Blaise</b>	
10.00	<i>Persecuted Christians</i>	S. Mary's
10.45	The Holy Rosary	S. Mary's
18.15	<i>Holy Souls</i>	S. Mary's
Sunday the 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b>	
9.00	<i>Pamela Gerety (+)</i>	S. Mary's
11.30	<i>Deceased members of the Murphy family</i>	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 **4<sup>th</sup> February**.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

S. Mary's Saturday, 10.45 – 11.45 upon request

S. Joseph's last Sunday of the month, 10.30-11.25

### NOTICES

- ❖ The Diocese of Nottingham is currently recruiting for a **Land and Buildings Officer** and for a **Compliance and Support Property Officer**. Details can be found on the posters at the back of church, or by visiting [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers). For more information contact Rachael Oxspring on 0115 953 9845. The closing date is Monday 12th February.
  - ❖ As part of **Nottingham's annual Light Night trail**, come and experience the Cathedral like never before. Its breath-taking gothic revival architecture will be illuminated, there will be live choral and organ performances throughout the evening, and the opportunity for families to make lanterns thanks to a new collaboration with Nottingham Playhouse. All are welcome on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd February, 5.30 – 10.00pm.
  - ❖ The next **Churches Without Walls** meetings are on 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 19.00 to 21.00 at S. James Church House, Louth.
  - ❖ There is an **ecumenical prayer service** being held on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30 AM at St. Peter's Methodist Church, 88 Victoria Rd, Mablethorpe LN12 2AF.
- #### S. Mary's, Louth
- ❖ We are starting up a small **parish repository** in the coming weeks to make religious items such as rosaries, Mass cards, crucifixes, prayer cards, books etc. more readily available to anyone who may be looking to purchase them. **If there is anything specific you are looking for**, please let Ellie or Fr Kevin know, or send us an email, and we could perhaps add it to our stock.
  - ❖ **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.

#### Those who are ill

**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.

**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 (++)

Sr. Anne Maria Doyle, Fr. Peter Peterken

S. Mary's: **Richard Crean**, Roger Norburn, Ann Selby, Anthony Stanford Taylor, Fredrick Weir, Michael Leary, Roger Dygas.

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

#### Those with anniversaries this week (++)

Bernard John Gibbons, Margarita Wilson, Hilda Paradine, James Tracey, Thomas Kelly, Gladys Mary O'Dea, Rita Mary Vanson, Agnes Fowler Kayes, Charlotte May Cooke, Ernest Edward Bentley, Arthur A. J. McNabb, Anna Bellamy, Nicolaus Corrigan, Carol Naylor, Pamela Gerety, Francis Hegarty, Frederick Robinson, Patrick Joseph Powell, Janet Wilbourne, Francis Jones, John Hugh Cusworth, Joan Duggan, Elizabeth Robinson, Pat Hagan.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Christ our Teacher | O that today we would listen to his voice | Christ the Guide to right living

## The gift of virginity

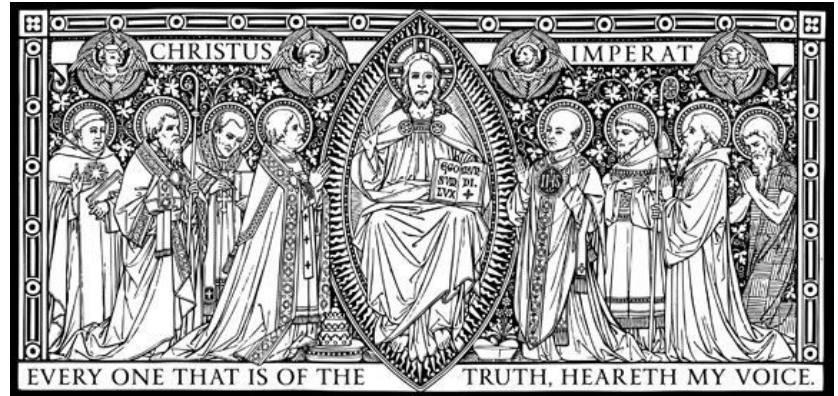
“An eminent position among [the counsels of the Lord to His Apostles] is held by virginity or the celibate state. This is a precious gift of divine grace given by the Father to certain souls, whereby they may devote themselves to God alone the more easily, due to an undivided heart...” - *Lumen Gentium* 42, of the documents of the Second Vatican Council

## The end of consecrated virginity

“[Virginal chastity] not only symbolizes in a singular way the heavenly goods but also the most suitable means by which Religious dedicate themselves with undivided heart to the service of God and the works of the apostolate. In this way, they recall to the minds of all the faithful that wondrous marriage decreed by God and which is to be fully revealed in the future age in which the Church takes Christ as its only spouse.” - *Perfectae caritatis* 12, of the Holy Father Paul VI (1965)

## But still... marriage!!

“Virginity or celibacy for the sake of the Kingdom of God not only does not contradict the dignity of marriage but presupposes it and confirms it. Marriage and virginity or celibacy are two ways of expressing and living the one mystery of the covenant of God with His people. When marriage is not esteemed, neither can consecrated virginity or celibacy exist...” - *Familiaris consortio* 16, of the Holy Father John Paul II (1981)



## The Teacher above all teachers

“We heard some Sundays ago of how, when S. John the Baptist very daringly established a ritual baptism of repentance for sin, he was accosted by priests and zealots from the Jerusalem Temple. On that occasion they asked John in sequence: Are you Elijah, Are you Christ, Are you the Prophet? Jewish people of the first century were looking for these three figures to emerge out of the distant light of prophecy to redeem them from their enslavements. In terms of their expectations, we know a little of the fiery prophet Elijah who had a reputation for defending the Hebrew religion. And we know something of the expectations of the Messiah: the great shepherd-king who would lead the people back to their covenant relationship with God. In our first reading today, we learn about the third figure: the mysterious Prophet-Teacher who Moses had said would one day replace him (Moses) as the teacher and law-giver to the people, as even modern Jews still insist he is. But Moses was aware that another and greater Prophet would replace him. We can hear Christ's voice of authority in the gospel story this weekend. As we say in refrain for the psalm this weekend, O that today we should listen to His voice, our Teacher, our Rabbi, God Almighty in the flesh. And to what end? In order that we may have peace. We who are poor and lowly should not have to think and decide for ourselves the right way to live, and what is good and what is evil, what we should do and what we should not do. All this should be plain to us, either by the light of reason or by God's revelation to us. But we Christians are a wretchedly divided people, endlessly prey to confusion and ambiguity, with endless churches and ecclesial communities fighting each other over basic moral teachings, mostly because of our pride, and often our rejection of the structures of authority Christ left behind. We must always remember that Christ is the Way, the Way is narrow and difficult, so that he has left us teachers to guide us along the way; but we must keep our eyes on Christ, and not worry.”