CATHOLIC LOUTH AND MABLETHORPE

Saint Mary's Church 69 Upgate, Louth LN11 9HD



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PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those who are ill: Dorothy Howard, Pat Tiger, Sylvia Saxby, John Dean, Patricia Kerr, Peter Endean, Lea Small, Shirley Kirkham, Paddy Shillington, Margaret & Robert Gwynne, Kevin Keeley, Mary Norburn, Judith Brook, Sally Shillington, Catherine Keeley, Pam Stephens, Diane Benton, Patricia & Spencer Harvey. Fr. James Lynch, Joseph Wilson, Laura Guest, Odessa Louise-Therese, John Thompson, Shaun Hewson, Winnie Copp, Owen Jenkinson, Thecla Domici.

Those who have died recently: **S. Mary's:** David Peter Stubbs, Edwin Wrigley, Elizabeth Melling, Christopher John Adlard, Ann Lavarack, Edward Noble, Kerry Ashby, Jim Ellison, Thomas Gallagher, Rev Dom Adrian Convery OSB, Stephen Curley, **S. Joseph's:** Sandra Watkinson, Brenda Smith, Joyce Kerswell, Pamela Ogden, Larry Walsh.

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Jane Scholefield, Sllwynne Davis, Anna Maud Booth, Nicholas Hamilton Piff, John Rice, William Kelly, Anthony Michael Price, John Francis McArdle, Richard Patrick Crean, Father Scully, Edith Svierczok, William Rice, Eleanor Fermellow, James Henry, Thomas Herringshard, Thomas Pethinger, Patrick Cummings, Roluitt Marriott, Stanislaw Paulin Keycha, Mary Letitia Williamson, Patrick Casey, James Curran, Catherine Wells, George Musson, George William Ling, Kathleen Janet Bartlett, Michael Tearick, Bridget Curran, Kathleen May Bannister, Maria Ryan.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

First Week of Ordinary Time

13th - 18th January 2025, Year C, Psalter Week I

MASS TIMINGS AND INTENTIONS		
Sunday, 12 th Jan		The Baptism of the Lord
18.15 (Vigil) 9.00 11.30	S. Mary's S. Mary's S. Joseph's	The People The People The People
Monday, 13th Jan		S. Hilary
		NO MASS
Tuesday, 14th Jan		Feria
		NO MASS
Wednesday, 15 th Jan		Feria
10.00	S. Mary's	Stanislaw Keycha (+)
Thursday, 16 th Jan		Feria
10.00	S. Joseph's	Pamela & Maxwell Ogden (+)
Friday, 17 th Jan		S. Anthony
15.00	S. Mary's	Divine Mercy devotion & the Holy Rosary
Saturday, 18 th Jan		Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00	S. Mary's	Christian Unity followed by the Holy Rosary & Confessions
*18.15(Vigil)	S. Mary's	Michelle S's intentions
Sunday, 19 th Jan		The Baptism of the Lord
* 9.00 * 11.30	S. Mary's S. Joseph's	Gregorio Ataide (intentions) Ditosa Clara Da Cruz (+)

Please Note.

Confessions may be heard after all Masses upon request.

Teas & Coffees: Wednesdays, Thursdays & Sundays after Mass.

^{*} Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: For a half hour before all three Sunday Masses.

NOTICES

- ◆ The Second Collection this weekend is for Sick and Retired Priests.
- ◆ Introduction to Catholicism w/ Fr Kevin, Mondays at 6 PM on Microsoft Teams. Please email if you would like to attend.
- ◆ All applicants for Sacraments, viz. Baptism, FHC, Confirmation, to apply to Father Kevin in person, OR by e-mail or telephone.
- ◆ The Diocesan Youth Service is looking to appoint a Business Manager. 37.5 hrs/week, salary: £38k-£42k, deadline: Friday 31st January. More details at: www.ndcys.com/job-vacancies/

Saint Mary's, Louth

- ◆ The **January CAFOD Collection** raised a total of £199.30. Many thanks for your continued generosity and support.
- ◆ The New Parish Signboard by the traffic lights was created by Spire Windows and generously donated to the parish. It is intended to: (A) Draw attention to our church at the busy junction and point to information concerning Mass timings (B) Provide a safety barrier at the corner of the property and prevent falls to the pavement and road.
- ◆ Following a recent assessment of the parish buildings, it has been ascertained that we will need to spend approximately £40,000 on essential repairs. We will be running a number of fundraisers over the next several months to meet this need. In the meantime, any donations would be welcomed most gratefully:

Account name St Marys Louth RCP; Account number 00108605; Sort code 30-95-22

◆ S. Mary's repository: Holy water bottles are now available to buy. Find us in the conservatory of the presbytery.

Saint Joseph's, Mablethorpe

- ◆ Crib Offerings: The bishop has asked that monies collected as "Crib Offerings" this season be given to 'Friends of the Holy Land' for the use by children who are suffering because of the current situation in the Holy Land. We shall be continuing with the Crib until Candlemas on 2nd February, as is tradition.
- ◆ S. Joseph's repository: Quality greeting cards and devotional items available at very attractive prices. Please feel free to take a look after Mass and support our parish shop.

A WORD FROM FATHER KEVIN

n this feast day of the baptism of OLJC, we must bring to our minds the long history of the Jewish The rituals nation. purification and washing away of sins were given to the people by Moses as a symbolic setting-aside of the filth of sin, so that the people make suitable could offering of themselves to God. They belonged to Him



for He had declared them to be His, and for that offering to be perfect they had to set aside every other item that dominated their lives and distracted them from Him. Baptism is a little like the penitential rite at the top of Mass, which recognises personal sin and wipes the slate clean, allowing the following offertory of the rest of our lives to God more beautiful, more pure, more single-minded. Baptism is the preliminary to a daily consecration of our lives to God. And Christ Himself goes through the motions of purification at the hands of his cousin John. Did He need to do so, He Who remained without sin? Of course not. But when John protested, He replied and said that it was necessary to do all that Righteousness demanded. He wished in His sacred humanity to be a righteous Jew, and to carry out perfectly the very same Law that He had given to Moses after He spoke to Him from the burning bush. For the same reason, the Immaculate one, His mother, also obeyed every command of the Jewish Law, undergoing the rites of purification, even though she was always without sin. It is in humility that Christ bows His head and takes up the yoke that is laid upon the shoulders of sinful and mortal humanity, living every aspect of human life perfectly, and raising human life thereby to the heights of sanctity and immortality. To manage this, the sinless One undergoes ritual purification, suffers and dies for sin, is sealed in the tomb designed for mortal men, and unexpectedly walks out of it, carrying mankind with Him.

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