During the past week, on Tuesday, we celebrated the feast day of Saint Benedict, patron of Europe, and one of the first to thoroughly promote the monastic tradition within the Church. In the following extract of his Rule, Saint Benedict encourages us to ‘put Christ before everything’ in our lives.

Whenever you begin any good work you should first of all make a most pressing appeal to Christ our Lord to bring it to perfection; that he, who has honoured us by counting us among his children, may never be grieved by our evil deeds. For we must always serve him with the good things he has given us in such a way that he may never – as an angry father disinherits his sons or even like a master who inspires fear – grow impatient with our sins and consign us to everlasting punishment, like wicked servants who would not follow him to glory.

So we should at long last rouse ourselves, prompted by the words of Scripture: *Now is the time for us to rise from sleep.* Our eyes should be open to the God-given light, and we should listen in wonderment to the message of the divine voice as it daily cries out: *Today, if you shall hear his voice, harden not your hearts;* and again: *If anyone has ears to hear, let him listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.* And what does the Spirit say? *Come my sons, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Hurry, while you have the light of life, so that death’s darkness may not overtake you.*

And the Lord as he seeks the one who will do his work among the throng of people to whom he makes that appeal, says again: *Which of you wants to live to the full; who loves long life and the enjoyment of prosperity?* And, if when you hear this you say, I do, God says to you: If you desire true
and everlasting life, keep your tongue from evil and your lips from deceit; turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. And when you have done these things my eyes will be upon you and my ears will be attentive to your prayers; and before you call upon my name I shall say to you: Behold, I am here. What could be more delightful, dearest brothers, than the voice of our Lord’s invitation to us? In his loving kindness he reveals to us the way of life.

And so, girded with faith and the performance of good works, let us follow in his paths by the guidance of the Gospel; then we shall deserve to see him who has called us into his kingdom. If we wish to attain a dwelling-place in his kingdom we shall not reach it unless we hasten there by our good deeds.

Just as there exists an evil fervour, a bitter spirit, which divides us from God and leads us to hell, so there is a good fervour which sets us apart from evil inclinations and leads us toward God and eternal life. Monks should put this fervour into practice with an overflowing love: that is, they should surpass each other in mutual esteem, accept their weaknesses, either of body or of behaviour, with the utmost patience; and vie with each other in acceding to requests. No one should follow what he considers to be good for himself, but rather what seems good for another. They should display brotherly love in a chaste manner; fear God in a spirit of love; revere their abbot with a genuine and submissive affection. Let them put Christ before all else; and may he lead us all to everlasting life.

**Thanks to Father Stephen**

Sincere thanks to Father Stephen for travelling over from Oakham to celebrate our Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday evening this weekend, allowing Father Simon a little more time to return from Lourdes. With the reduced numbers of priests in our diocese the Mass time in Oakham has been changed to 4.30pm to allow one priest to celebrate both that Mass and the later Vigil in either Melton Mowbray or in Stamford, should the need arise – as this weekend.

**Thanks to our Parish Primary School**

Children and staff from Saint Augustine’s were at the Sunday 9am Mass last weekend— thanks to them as they come to the end of their school year. A special Mass of Thanksgiving will be held in school on Monday 17th July at 9.15am as we say farewell to the Head of School, Mrs Crawford, and some of the other teachers; a Leavers’ Mass will be celebrated in school on Tuesday 18th July at 9.15am as the Year Six children come to the end of their time with us. All are very welcome to either or both Masses – do come if you’re able and celebrate with our school!
Forthcoming Events in our parish, community and diocese

Lighting ‘Open House’ in church, to see what the possible light fittings look like in the dark – **Sunday 16th July and Monday 17th July**, from 9pm until 10pm. All are welcome – the more views and opinions we have, the better our choice will be.

The **Parish Finance Committee** meets on **Tuesday 18th July** at 3pm in the presbytery.

The Catholic Women’s League will be holding their annual **Garden Party** at the home of Chris Lander, 23 Exeter Gardens, Stamford, on **Thursday 20th July**, from 2pm. There will be cream teas, a bring and buy and plant stalls, and a raffle. We hope you can come and join us, the proceeds will go to the CWL end of year charity giving. For further information contact Marilyn on 01780 753094.

The **SVP** meet next on **Thursday 20th July** (nb no meeting on 6th July) at 6pm in the parish hall. All are welcome.

The **Parish Pastoral Council** meet next on **Friday 21st July** at 7.30pm in the presbytery – please forward any agenda items to Nic Allen.

The diocesan **Send Conference** will be held on **Saturday 29th July** – see the poster opposite for fuller details.

**DoCat** – Peace and Love in Action – a study day will be held at the Rosmini Centre, LE7 4SJ – from 10.30am until 1.30pm; more details from www.rosminicentre.co.uk

The centenary of the start of the **Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele)** will be remembered at Masses over the weekend of **29th and 30th July**, at the request of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales.

| Tuesday 15th August – Solemnity of the Assumption – Holy Day of Obligation |

The **31st Diocesan Rosary Rally** takes place on **Sunday 27th August** with Mass at 2pm, at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey. See the poster in the porch for further details.

**A Pilgrimage to Knock**

A fully escorted four night Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, will be held from 28th September. The cost is £649 per person sharing, to include flights from East Midlands. Contact Patricia on 01268 762278 or knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.
“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'
Isaiah 6:8

SEND
CATHOLIC CONFERENCE & HEALING SERVICE
with international catholic evangelists
On Saturday 29th July 2017
9.30am to 5.30pm

Gary Stephens & Reji Kottaram
At Trinity School Hall,
Beechdale Rd, Nottingham NG8 3EZ

“I ask God to bless with his healing love all who participate in the ‘SEND Catholic Conference and Healing Service’”
Rt Rev Patrick McKinney, Bishop of Nottingham

Lively Praise & Worship, Inspiring Talks, Healing Ministry, Healing Mass,
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Laying on of hands Healing Mass celebrated
by Canon Jonathan Cotton, Fr. Victor Dakwan & Fr. Binu Palakkapally

Admission is free, A collection will be taken to cover the costs. Please bring own packed lunch, drinks provided. All welcome.
Parish Film Night

From September we’ll have a monthly Film Night in the parish hall, now that we have the technology with our projector and sound system to show films on the ‘big screen’. Some thoughts for the first film, to be in September, are:

- Into Great Silence
- The Diving Bell and the Butterfly
- The mission
- Rome, Open City
- The Flowers of St Francis
- The Gospel According to St Matthew
- The Agony and the Ecstasy
- A Man for All Seasons
- The Scarlet and the Black
- The Passion of the Christ
- Of Gods and Men
- Silence

Please email preferences to Mary: mary.dos-santos-justo@hotmail.co.uk

Job Opportunity: Marriage Care

Marriage Care is the largest faith-based relationship support organisation in England and Wales. Drawing on our Catholic Christian tradition and contemporary research we provide marriage preparation and relationship counselling across England and Wales. We are developing our centre team for Nottingham, Derby and the surrounding area and are in need of:

- a Head of Centre to lead and support the team
- Marriage Preparation Facilitators (training is provided) and Assistants to help with running marriage prep days
- an Administrator
- Relationship Counsellors (with a recognised couples counselling qualification).

Visit www.marriagecare.org.uk for more information.

From Stamford Foodbank

Many thanks to all our parishioners for the continuing support of the Foodbank. For those who are able to give, the Foodbank is very short of:

- Long life fruit juice
- Jam
- Tinned peas
- Sweetcorn
- Tomatoes
- Pulses (mixed beans, flageolets, butter beans, kidney beans etc)
- Tins of meat casseroles (chicken, beef, curry, etc)
- Tins of processed meat (ham, corned beef, spam etc)
- Savoury rice

Donations can be left at the back of church at any time
Pope Francis – The Bread and Wine we use at Mass

Pope Francis has recently asked that bishops (and so parish priest in their turn) consider the bread and wine used in the sacrifice of the Mass. The following letter highlights the importance of the Mass in our lives by the care we must take for its preparation and celebration. Nothing we do in Stamford contravenes these requirements (including the use of low-gluten wafers for those who need them), but this letter might serve as a reminder to us of the Eucharist we celebrate each week.

CONGREGATION FOR DIVINE WORSHIP AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE SACRAMENTS

Circular letter to Bishops on the bread and wine for the Eucharist

At the request of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments is writing to Diocesan Bishops (and to those who are their equivalents in law) to remind them that it falls to them above all to duly provide for all that is required for the celebration of the Lord’s Supper (cf. Lk 22: 8,13). It is for the Bishop as principal dispenser of the mysteries of God, moderator, promoter and guardian of the liturgical life in the Church entrusted to his care (Cf. CIC can. 835 - 1), to watch over the quality of the bread and wine to be used at the Eucharist and also those who prepare these materials. In order to be of assistance we recall the existing regulations and offer some practical suggestions.

Until recently it was certain religious communities who took care of baking the bread and making the wine for the celebration of the Eucharist. Today, however, these materials are also sold in supermarkets and other stores and even over the internet. In order to remove any doubt about the validity of the matter for the Eucharist, this Dicastery suggests that Ordinaries should give guidance in this regard by, for example, guaranteeing the Eucharistic matter through special certification.

The Ordinary is bound to remind priests, especially parish priests and rectors of churches, of their responsibility to verify those who provide the bread and wine for the celebration and the worthiness of the material.

It is also for the Ordinary to provide information to the producers of the bread and wine for the Eucharist and to remind them of the absolute respect that is due to the norms.

The norms about the Eucharistic matter are given in can. 924 of the CIC and in numbers 319 – 323 of the Institutio generalis Missalis Romani and have already been explained in the Instruction Redemptionis Sacramentum issued by this Congregation (25 March 2004):

“The bread used in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice must be unleavened, purely of wheat, and recently made so that there is no danger of decomposition. It follows therefore that bread made from another substance, even if it is grain, or if it is mixed with another substance different from wheat to such an extent that it would not commonly be considered wheat bread, does not constitute valid matter for confecting the Sacrifice and the Eucharistic Sacrament. It is a grave abuse to introduce other substances, such as fruit or sugar or honey, into the bread for confecting the Eucharist. Hosts should obviously be made by those who are not only distinguished by their integrity, but also skilled in making them and furnished with suitable tools” (n. 48).
“The wine that is used in the most sacred celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice must be natural, from the fruit of the grape, pure and incorrupt, not mixed with other substances. [...] Great care should be taken so that the wine intended for the celebration of the Eucharist is well conserved and has not soured. It is altogether forbidden to use wine of doubtful authenticity or provenance, for the Church requires certainty regarding the conditions necessary for the validity of the sacraments. Nor are other drinks of any kind to be admitted for any reason, as they do not constitute valid matter” (n. 50).

In its Circular Letter to the Presidents of the Episcopal Conferences regarding legitimate variations in the use of bread with a small quantity of gluten and the use of mustum as Eucharistic matter (24 July 2003, Prot. N. 89/78 – 17498), the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith published the norms for the celebration of the Eucharist by persons who, for varying and grave reasons, cannot consume bread made in the usual manner nor wine fermented in the normal manner:

“Hosts that are completely gluten-free are invalid matter for the celebration of the Eucharist. Low-gluten hosts (partially gluten-free) are valid matter, provided they contain a sufficient amount of gluten to obtain the confection of bread without the addition of foreign materials and without the use of procedures that would alter the nature of bread” (A. 1-2).

“Mustum, which is grape juice that is either fresh or preserved by methods that suspend its fermentation without altering its nature (for example, freezing), is valid matter for the celebration of the Eucharist” (A. 3).

“The Ordinary is competent to give permission for an individual priest or layperson to use low-gluten hosts or mustum for the celebration of the Eucharist. Permission can be granted habitually, for as long as the situation continues which occasioned the granting of permission” (C. 1).

The same Congregation also decided that Eucharistic matter made with genetically modified organisms can be considered valid matter (cf. Letter to the Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 9 December 2013, Prot. N. 89/78 – 44897).

Those who make bread and produce wine for use in the Mass must be aware that their work is directed towards the Eucharistic Sacrifice and that this demands their honesty, responsibility and competence.

In order to facilitate the observance of the general norms Ordinaries can usefully reach agreement at the level of the Episcopal Conference by establishing concrete regulations. Given the complexity of situations and circumstances, such as a decrease in respect for the sacred, it may be useful to mandate a competent authority to have oversight in actually guaranteeing the genuineness of the Eucharistic matter by producers as well as those responsible for its distribution and sale.

It is suggested, for example, that an Episcopal Conference could mandate one or more Religious Congregations or another body capable of carrying out the necessary checks on production, conservation and sale of the Eucharistic bread and wine in a given country and for other countries to which they are exported. It is recommended that the bread and wine to be used in the Eucharist be treated accordingly in the places where they are sold.

From the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 15 June 2017, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

Cardinal Robert Sarah
Prefect
Clergy Moves within our Diocese

You might recall that Bishop Patrick made a first round of moves in May; he has now asked the following priests to undertake new duties, with effect from September 18th. We pray for these and all our priests, and the people to whom they’ll minister.

Vicars General:

- Canon Edward Jarosz – to replace Mgr. Thomas McGovern, after twenty years of generous and effective service to the Diocese;
- Father Joe Wheat – to replace Father John Guest, after ten years of generous and effective service to the Diocese.

Parish Appointments:

- Father Malachy Brett - Dean of the Cathedral of Saint Barnabas and Parish Priest of Saint Augustine’s, Woodborough Road.
- Father James Earley – Parish Priest of Christ the King, Alfreton and Saint Patrick’s and Saint Bridget, Clay Cross.
- Canon Geoffrey Hunton – Parish Priest of Saint. Mary’s Derby and Holy Family, Allestree.
- Canon Edward Jarosz – Parish Priest of Saints Peter and Paul, Lincoln.
- Canon Ka Fai Lee – Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Mickleover.
- Monsignor Thomas McGovern – Parish Priest of Saint Bernadette’s Scunthorpe and Saint Thomas of Canterbury, Gainsborough.
- Father Paul Nellikulam, IC. – Parish Priest of Saint Patrick’s, Forest Town, Saint George’s, Rainworth and Saint Joseph’s, New Ollerton.
- Father Gabriel Offor – Parish Priest of Mother of God, Leicester.
- Canon Timothy O’Sullivan – Assistant Priest of Saint Mary’s, Derby and Holy Family, Allestree.
- Father Neil Peoples – Parish Priest of Holy Souls, Scunthorpe and Saint Norbert’s, Crowle with Saint Joseph and Saint Dympna, Luddington.
Church Lighting

The final work to be undertaken in church is a renewal of the lighting system. The current lights are both old and inefficient, costing a significant amount more to use each time they are turned on than more modern, LED lighting would. In addition, many of the fittings are starting to wear out, causing pockets of darkness in church. A scheme is currently being considered, and trial lights have been installed on the east wall, between the windows. Please have a look at the lights! The proposed system would have different types of lights, but most (in the nave of the church) would be wall-mounted instead of the current ceiling-mounted approach. It would be good to have a variety of views before final decisions are made.

In order to see the two trial fittings in operation (ie when it’s dark outside) the church will be open from 9pm until 10pm on Sunday 16th and Monday 17th July for parishioners to see the lights more effectively. A diocesan committee are visiting to give their opinions on Tuesday 18th July – the considered views of parishioners would be very welcome before then. Feedback to Chris King or Father Simon please.

Health and Safety in our parish church and hall

Following from our annual Health and Safety audit of the church, presbytery, and hall please bear in mind a few practical considerations:

- Be careful when lighting votive candles, and make sure they’re always placed securely in the slots on the stands
- Always light the votive candles with a taper – don’t try to light a votive candle directly from another candle (the wax falls out of the plastic casing)
- Don’t turn off the lights in church, but ensure that at least some of the uplights into the roof are left on, even during the daytime
- In case of an emergency evacuation be aware that the door to the side of the Lady Chapel is always unlocked and leads outside, to the rear of the church
- During Mass and other services the emergency escape route is through the sacristy and presbytery, and outside – please ensure this route is kept clear
- Don’t block the aisles in church; if you have a pushchair, or similar, please place this at the back of Saint Joseph’s chapel, or close to the confessional
- Always follow the directions of the Vergers during Mass: for safe movement during Communion time, and in an emergency situation
- If you see anything not working properly, or potentially dangerous, please mention it to Father Simon as soon as possible.

Thank you for your help in allowing us to keep our beautiful church open each day!
Diocesan Prayer for Priestly and Religious Vocations

Almighty God, we pray, give us holy priests to strengthen us in our Christian calling, that we may be more closely conformed to Christ and share more effectively in his saving work. Through their ministry at the altar, and by their administration of the sacraments, may our lives be sanctified and become more closely associated with the redemptive sacrifice of Christ. As they preach the Gospel and teach the faith may we be inspired to dedicate ourselves to the work of evangelisation. As they serve our parishes may we be led into deeper communion of faith, hope and charity.

O God, bless our diocese also with men and women who will serve the mission of the Church by taking religious vows, inspiring us with lives consecrated to you.

Mary Immaculate – pray for us
Saint Hugh of Lincoln – pray for us
The saints of our diocese – pray for us.

Prayers for Vocations this week

Sunday 16th July – Father Peter Peterken (Ordinariate, Derby)
Monday 17th July – Deacon Keith Bunyan (Ashbourne)
Wednesday 19th July – Father Jim Burke (Spalding)
Thursday 20th July – Father Gerry Murphy (Bulwell & Bestwood, Nottingham)
Sunday 23rd July – Father Andrew Harding (Ordinariate, Southwell)

Readings at Mass this Week

Monday         Exodus 1:8-14.22; Psalm 123(124); Matthew 10:34-11:1
Wednesday     Exodus 3:1-6.9-12; Psalm 102(103):1-7; Matthew 11:25-27
Thursday       Exodus 3:13-20; Psalm 104(105):1.5.8-9.24-27; Matthew 11:28-30
Friday         Exodus 11:10-12:14; Psalm 115(116):12-18; Matthew 12:1-8
Saturday      Song of Songs 3:1-4; Psalm 62(63):2-9; John 20:1-2.11-18

A reflection from ‘Marriage Matters’

Listen to the person behind the words
The stony ground is when we are too engrossed in the telly, reading or working on the computer to listen to our partner. The thorny ground is where we disengage with such but not wanting real involvement, suggest a cuppa as a diversion. We are called to be fertile ground by real listening – hold hands, look in each other’s eyes.
Prayers For . . .

All who have died recently, and all whose anniversaries occur about this time: May they rest in peace!

All our sick and housebound parishioners and friends: especially Father Chris Hogan, John Scott, Father Michael Stappard, Mary de Santos Justos, Margaret West-Sadler, John Herd, Father Dominic O’Connor, Father Joe O’Hanlon, Jo and Bernard Raffo, Victoria Crouch, Father James O’Hanlon, Terry Carroll, Father Eamonn O’Hara, Peter Herrick, Father John Cairns, Deacon Bernard Croft, Mark Grab, Rosa Maria Santos, Kenneth Court, Veronica Hosking, Beth Coleman, Joan Middleton, Pat Dancer, Augusta Deane, Irene Mulligan, Connie Edgar, Gladys Brown, Nora Hunt, Monica Holt, Vivien Faulconbridge, Valerie Pellier, Fiona Ruddle, David Cooke, Maeve Swann, Helen Allen, Jean Maker, Anna Orme, Lucy Court, Debbie Reed, Ken Woods, Lilian Popple, Anne Woods, Father David Bingham, Daphne Wise, Deacon Bob Dawson, Father Peter Harvey.

Liturgy

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<td><strong>Psalm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Second Reading</strong></td>
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Prayers from Lourdes

During the past week, whilst on Pilgrimage in Lourdes, Father Simon offered Mass for all the people of the parish, and for those who asked for specific intentions. The petitions for Our Lady have been presented in the Grotto – may our prayers be answered; may we be strengthened through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes.
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Saturday 15th July</strong></td>
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<td>James and Nellie Penny RIP (Anniversary)</td>
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<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Vigil Mass</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday 16th July</strong></td>
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<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Mass</td>
<td>William Harrison RIP</td>
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<td><em>Children’s Liturgy; Tea and coffee after Mass</em></td>
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<td>Mass</td>
<td>Pop Populo (people of the parish)</td>
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<td>12.30pm</td>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Florence Martha Lilian Kirk</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 17th July</strong></td>
<td>Feria</td>
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<td>9.15am</td>
<td>School Mass</td>
<td>Thanksgiving for the staff, especially those leaving the school this summer (November Dead List)</td>
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<td>School Mass</td>
<td>Leavers’ Mass for Year 6 Students (November Dead List)</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 19th July</strong></td>
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<td>Mass</td>
<td>Rosemary Henson – wellbeing</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 20th July</strong></td>
<td>Feria</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 21st July</strong></td>
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<td>3.15pm</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday 22nd July</strong></td>
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<td>Winifred McCartney RIP</td>
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