

# The Catholic Church of St Peter & St Paul Lincoln

A Live Simply, Sustainably and in Solidarity Award Recipient

**Parish Clergy: Canon Geoffrey Hunton KHS STB BA and Canon Edward Jarosz STL MA VG**

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**Website:** [www.sspp-church.org.uk](http://www.sspp-church.org.uk) NRC DT – A Registered Charity number 1134449

**Parish Administrator: Tina McCarthy** 2a Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln LN6 7RB 01522 682278 Email: [tinasspp@btconnect.com](mailto:tinasspp@btconnect.com)

**Social Media:** [www.facebook.com/ssppchurchlincs/](http://www.facebook.com/ssppchurchlincs/) [www.youtube.com/channel/UCZyr7ASmSKFu2EKdfoU](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZyr7ASmSKFu2EKdfoU) ITw [twitter@ssppchurchlincs](https://twitter.com/ssppchurchlincs)

**Safeguarding Representative: Ted Coatsworth** Mobile: 07513 725461 Email: [Terence.CoatsworthPSR@dioceseofNottingham.uk](mailto:Terence.CoatsworthPSR@dioceseofNottingham.uk)

**Missio Red Box Co-Ordinators:** James and Kathryn Clarkson Email contact: [jaclarkson@icloud.com](mailto:jaclarkson@icloud.com)

**Schools:** St Hugh's Catholic Primary School Headteacher: Mr Gregory Hughes Tel: 01522 501137

St Peter and St Paul Catholic Voluntary Academy Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Hewerdine Tel: 01522 871400

Fourth Week of Advent - Psalter Week 4	INTENTIONS / LITURGIES / OTHER
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b> 6pm	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> Christmas wishes for Katie and Mick McCoy RIP (Loved and Missed Always)
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b> 9am 11am  5.30pm Carols and 6pm Vigil Mass 9.30pm Carols and Readings and 10pm Midnight Mass	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <span style="float: right;">Day of Special Prayer for Expectant Mothers</span> People of the Parish Margaret O'Boyle RIP <b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – CHRISTMAS DAY (SOLEMNITY)</b> People of the Parish Edna O'Leary RIP (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary)
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b> 10am	<b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – CHRISTMAS DAY (SOLEMNITY)</b> People of the Parish
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December</b> 12 Noon (No use of the Parish Centre due to a party)	<b>FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN</b> Bill McCarthy RIP and Peggy McCarthy (Wedding Anniversary)
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December</b> No Mass	<b>FEAST OF SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST</b> -
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December</b> No Mass	<b>FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS</b> -
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December</b> No Mass	<b>FEAST OF SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY (BECKETT) BISHOP AND MARTYR</b> -
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December</b> 11am  5.15pm 6pm	<b>SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS</b> Confessions <b>FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</b> Confessions David John Bell RIP (13 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b> 9am 11am	<b>FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</b> Ron Broomfield RIP (30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) People of the Parish

Readers	This	6pm – Y Buckingham	9am – J May, I May	11am – L Roberts
	Next	6pm – M Borman	9am – K Clarkson	11am – D Russell
Weekend Coffee	This	9am 11am		
	Next	9am 11am		
Footsteps	7 January: Mary Moore and Karen O'Connor		4 February: Eileen Cooper and Hannah Bownes	
Wednesday Coffee	This	No coffee		
	Next	Heidi		
Weekend Welcomers	This	6pm - Y Musson, T Buckley, K Collingham 6pm Christmas Eve – Yvonne Musson 10pm Christmas Eve - Lorraine Roberts	9am – K & J Clarkson, M York, M Thompson  Christmas Day 10am – Jo Briggs	11am - D Rooney, T Silva, L Roberts
	Next	6pm - Y Musson, T Buckley, K Collingham	9am – P & B Davis, M York, M Thompson	11am - D Rooney, T Silva, L Roberts

WEEKLY INCOME W/E 17/12/2023	POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER	NOTE: If you would like a loved one's name listed as sick etc in the newsletter, for GDPR reasons you need their permission first. Thank you.
Standing Orders	<b>For persons with disabilities</b> We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.	
Envelopes		
Loose Plate		
<b>TOTAL</b>		
Christmas Flowers	<b>PLEASE CONSIDER LEAVING YOUR PARISH A LEGACY IN YOUR WILL</b>  <b>IN MEMORIAM BOOK</b> Should you wish to see your loved one's name in the anniversary book, details for insertion are below the cabinet	<b>PLEASE PARK CONSIDERATELY IN THE CHURCH CAR PARK.</b> <b>SSPP SCHOOL CAR PARK IS AVAILABLE AT WEEKENDS TO PARK IF THE PARISH CAR PARK IS FULL</b>  <u><b>PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE HYMN BOOKS IN THE LADY CHAPEL RETURN THEM TO THE SHELVES AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH</b></u> <b>THANK YOU</b>
Friday Lunches		
Wednesday Coffee		
Sunday Coffee		
Repository		
Donations		
Mass Stipends		
Funeral Fees		
Wedding Fees		
Hall Fees		
Newsletters	<b>SSPP Parish Draw</b> Please consider joining. Cost - monthly £5, quarterly £15, yearly £60. Thank you.  17/12/2023 £100 Barbara Broomfield No 270	

**Parish Administrator: The Parish Office is closed from Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December to Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.**

**The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January from 9am-5pm.**

**Votive Candles: Large £0.50 Small £0.20**



***This year marks the 800th Anniversary of the First Nativity Crib, created by St Francis of Assisi in Greccio in Italy in 1223. To mark this special anniversary, and to pray for our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, we pray "a child's prayer" at Christmas. Composed by Michael Byrne KGCHS Lieutenant for England and Wales, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem***

***Dear Jesus, At this time of year, we picture you in the stable at Bethlehem, with Mary and Joseph, a picture of peace and family love, surrounded by the animals and adoring shepherds. We pray that the peace you brought into the world on that first Christmas night will return to our world, and the light of your guiding star will lead us all one day to be with you in Heaven. Amen.***

#### **CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM CANON GEOFFREY**

**A sincere and heartfelt thanks to all who have assisted in any way with the preparation and execution of our Christmas Liturgies. As those who attend SSPP over this Christmas period will witness much hard work and dedication by a dedicated group of our parishioners who have generously shared of their time and talents to ensure that we can all celebrate worthily the Birth of Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Every blessing and good wish to all. Canon Geoffrey.**

**Christmas Offerings:** Please note that the Christmas offering, including Christmas offering envelopes, does not go to Canon Geoffrey, but to the parish. If you would like to give a personal gift to Canon Geoffrey you may do so either in a card, or by placing a separate envelope clearly marked for that purpose in the collection basket at the Christmas Eve evening Masses and the Christmas Day Mass. Thank you.

**The ongoing reorganisation of the Diocese,** enabling us all to become more missionary in a way which recognises that we now have fewer clergy and fewer parishioners, continues to make steady progress. To date the 108 parishes we had in 2017 have been reduced to 88, with 32 parishes having been amalgamated to form 12 new larger parishes. Parishioners in all our parishes are on a journey of working more closely together, in a more missionary fashion, in our united effort to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ, and to put that love into practice across the East Midlands.

**An Introduction to Catholic Christianity:** In response to a number of enquiries we are proposing to run an introductory programme in the New Year for those who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith with a view to seeking initiation into the church in the future. If you would be interested in such a programme or know someone who would be, please send your contact details to the parish office so that we can ascertain the best time at which to run it.

**Confirmation:** Our Confirmation Candidates have been enrolled into the Confirmation programme and we would like parishioners to participate in this programme by being a prayer sponsor, for one or more of our candidates. Please contact the Parish Office at Our Lady of Lincoln and a name will be allocated to you. We still have 11 candidates without a prayer sponsor! Confirmation will take place in June 2024.

**Lincoln Community Grocery:** Providing affordable weekly shopping and support services in Beaumont Manor 9 top end of Beaumont Fee LN1 1UL. This is not a food bank, and no referral is needed to shop here. Anyone can sign up for year for £5. Shop each day Monday to Friday for £5 per day. Also offers access to free courses – learning new skills, meeting new people, help with finding a new job.

**A reflection from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer:** To God who blesses, we too respond by blessing - God has taught us how to bless and we must bless - through the prayer of praise, of adoration, of thanksgiving. The Catechism writes: "The prayer of blessing is our response to God's gifts: because God blesses, the human heart can in return bless the One who is the source of every blessing" (n. 2626).

**Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust** is advertising for the permanent role of Headteacher at St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Grantham. See noticeboard for details.

**Gift Aid:** If you are a Gift Aid Declaration Holder please advise your parish office, or the Diocesan Gift Aid Department of any change in your circumstances, such as name change / address change / no longer a taxpayer. If your spouse has died and the GA Declaration was in his / her name, and you wish to continue to contribute because you are a taxpayer, then a new GA Declaration Form will need to be completed. Please also advise of the date of your spouse's death. Your continued support of both parish and Diocese is always very much appreciated, thank you! If you do not Gift Aid your contributions, and you are a taxpayer, and wish to do so, please speak with your parish priest, or contact the parish office for a Gift Aid Declaration Form. [parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:parish.giftaid@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**Weddings 2024:** If you are planning to get married in 2024, and have not already spoken with Canon Geoffrey, please speak to him after Mass. Even if you are planning to get married elsewhere, if you live in our parish your first point of contact should be with the parish clergy.

#### **DIARY DATES**

**St Peter & St Paul's Prayer Group:** Next meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January from 7.30-9pm in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.

**Cake and Conversation** is taking a festive break and will resume on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January in the Parish Centre 1.30-3.30pm. All welcome.

**"Healing Retreat Day & Evening"** on 27<sup>th</sup> January with Fr Gladson Dabre, OSA. Come and join Transform Ministries to see what Jesus will do! A day and evening of inner healing, emotional, spiritual & physical healing in Jesus' name (9.30am Start, Finish at 9.30pm). Come for the whole time or just part - Mass, engaging talks, a Healing Service, praise & worship, adoration, reconciliation, testimonies, times for sharing & opportunities for individual prayer ministry. **FREE EVENT - ALL WELCOME!** Please bring a packed lunch.

**Lincoln Council for Christians and Jews Kindertransport:** International Holocaust Memorial Day - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 3pm Bailgate Methodist Church, Lincoln LN1 3AR. The Memorial Service will include poetry, blessings and prayers drawn from Christian and Jewish sources plus lighting memorial candles and laying stones in remembrance of all victims of genocide. This year we also feature a major musical contribution by Simcha, Lincoln's Klezmer Band, with their concert documentary. Poster on the noticeboard for more details

**Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages:** Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 8-11 February or a Face-to-Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

The City of Lincoln Catenians 283 are holding a Ladies night on the 24<sup>th</sup> February at Hemswell Court Hotel DN21 5TQ, 7 for 7.30pm. Dress, formal. Cost £40 per attendee. For bookings contact Philip Holme via email: [philipholmeelectrical@gmail.com](mailto:philipholmeelectrical@gmail.com), at time of booking please transfer £40 per guest to account 08-92-99 68375926 using your surname as reference and the number of guests.

#### **A Prayer for Peace in the Ukraine & the Middle East**

Gracious God, we pray for all persons suffering from war. May they be held in your loving care and protection and given the strength to endure great suffering and hardship. Transform the hearts and minds of all those who perpetuate violence and oppression. Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward world peace; may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes and in the name of your Son Jesu and The Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen