

**Isaiah 40: 1-5. 9-11**

'Console my people, console them,' says your God.  
 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'  
 A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.  
 Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.  
 Let every valley be filled in, every hill and mountain be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'  
 Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'  
 Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

**Psalm response:**

Bless the Lord my soul!  
 Lord God, how great you are.

**Titus 2: 11-14. 3: 4-7**

God's grace has been revealed and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is give up everything that does not lead to God and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this

present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.  
 When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except for his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with Holy Spirit which he so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I.  
 He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.  
 Alleluia!*

**Luke 3:15-16. 21-22**

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'  
 Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'



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Sunday 13th. January 2019  
 Baptism of the Lord  
 Eucharistic Prayer 3  
 Psalter Week 1 - Weekday Series 1

<b>SAT.</b> 12th.	<b>6.00 pm.</b> St. Mary's C of E Parish Church Horncastle	Mass	People of the Parish
<b>SUN.</b> 13th.	<b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	Private Intention
<b>MON.</b> 14th.	Feria <b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	Michael Sloan RIP
<b>TUES.</b> 15th.	Feria <b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	Christine RIP
<b>THURS.</b> 17th.	St. Anthony <b>7.00 pm.</b>	Mass	Deceased Relatives/Friends
<b>FRI.</b> 18th.	Feria <b>10.00am.</b> <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	Mass	M's Intentions
<b>SAT.</b> 19th.	Feria <b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	Vincent & Norah Conroy RIP

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Sunday 20th. January  
 Second Sunday of the Year

<b>SAT.</b> 19th.	<b>6.00pm.</b> St. Mary's C of E Parish Church, H/castle	Mass	Private Intention
<b>SUN.</b> 20th.	<b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Woodhall Spa - Sat. 10.30 am. - 11.00 am.  
 Horncastle Sat. 5.30 pm. - 5.50 pm.  
 or on request.

Baptism : By arrangement with the priest.  
 Marriage: Six months notice - at least.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Joseph Dagley, Noel Fern, Alan Padley and those whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Finance:

Envelopes: £138.30      Loose: £205.15      Standing orders: £78.92

Total: £422.37 Thank you.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity commences on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January through to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. An Ecumenical Service will be held in the Methodist chapel, Woodhall Spa, at 3.00pm on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup>. Please do try to attend.

**Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)** - Lincoln Branch Meeting.

All welcome to come and join us in our pro-life campaigns and activities.

7.30pm Thursday 19th January at the Parish Centre, Our Lady of Lincoln parish.

Further information contact Julie Rogers on 01522 415929.

### **Churches Without Walls**

#### **Centering Prayer & Contemplative Meditation: Open to All**

We will meet from 7.00pm till 9.00pm on **Tuesday 4th. Dec. only** then **Tues. 22nd. Jan.** thereafter every 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> (not 5<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month, at the **Lions Den, 26A, Silver Street, Coningsby, LN4 4SG. Free parking** available in Silver Street Car Park. Coming out onto Silver Street, driveway entrance to Lions Den bungalow is across the road, between Ginger Cow Coffee Shop and Doctor's Surgery.

**"Come and see!" (Jn 1:39,46;4:29)**

#### **"Churches Without Walls" : Programme.**

We are exploring "Centering Prayer", "Lectio Divina", and "The Cloud of Unknowing", in relation to each other, leading into a **silent** session of "Contemplative Prayer".

"Intercessory Prayer" may be offered, **on request.**

**Deacon James' email:** james.hunter200@btinternet.com

*Calendar note:*

Live every day as if it were your last  
and then some day you'll be right!

#### **Catholic paper snippets:**

- For the first time since euthanasia was formally legalised in the Netherlands in 2002, the number of cases has fallen. And for the first time since the legislation was introduced, a Dutch doctor is being prosecuted for having euthanised an elderly patient. There were 4600 cases of euthanasia in the country in the first nine months of 2018, representing a drop of 9% compared with the same period in 2017. One reason being put forward for this is the increasing vigilance on the part of the Public Prosecution Service. The case being prosecuted is the case of a 74-year old woman suffering with dementia whose doctor did not verify she still wanted to die despite having made a 'living will.' There have been a number of investigations, and though many have been dropped, there is evidence of disquiet about euthanasia in Dutch society. Also, in Belgium, the first prosecutions of doctors for an illegal act of euthanasia are being brought. Brother Stockman, superior general of the Brothers of Charity, has said that the news has come as a real surprise because there have been 'so many years of uncontrolled exercising of euthanasia. *The Catholic Times* (7/12)
- Archbishop Ivan Jurkovic, the Vatican observer to the UN, told a group of experts at the United Nations in Geneva that the development of robotic weapons or 'killer robots' will provide 'the capacity of altering irreversibly the nature of warfare, becoming more detached from human agency, putting in question the humanity of our societies. Pope Francis has, on more than one occasion, been critical of the use of drones as weapons. *The Catholic Times* (7/12)
- A Pro-life association of nurses and midwives in the Republic of Ireland is joining a growing number of concerned voices who say that many professionals are unwilling to take part in abortions and that the country is ill-prepared to begin offering abortion services on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. 'We are worried about the impact this Bill will have and the safety of women when we have not had any guidance from our professional body or our union. We have not been consulted. A survey of healthcare professionals in March found that nearly 70% of general practitioners, who will be on the frontline of services, are unwilling to perform abortions. *The Catholic Times* (14/12)
- Churches at the site along the banks of the Jordan river where Jesus is believed to have been Baptised could re-open within a year following progress on a project to clear thousands of landmines and other ordnance from the location. Around 3000 anti-tank landmines were laid by the Israeli military during its conflict with Jordanian forces during the Six Day war in 1967. While pilgrims have been able to visit a small area along the river bank, a zone of 250 acres has been off-limits for 50 years. *The Catholic Times* (14/12)
- The world's richest man has donated \$15million (£12 million) to three Catholic charities helping the homeless. The donations were among the first grants made by the Day One Fund, a \$2 billion charitable fund set up by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, and his wife, Mackenzie. *The Catholic Herald* (14/12)
- In a year marred by scandal, millions of heroic Catholics across the world have kept the faith alive. There was a time when we might casually have talked about 'the ordinary Catholic.' But increasingly there is no such thing. There is sadly an ever-increasing number of Baptised members of the Church for whom Catholic identity amounts to little more than an entry on the census form. In contrast, there are Catholics who practise their faith as cheerfully as they can manage, guided by uncorrupted priests, in the face of an unprecedented betrayal by the hierarchy. Consequently, *The Catholic Herald* has named the faithful as their 'Catholic of the Year.' (14/12)