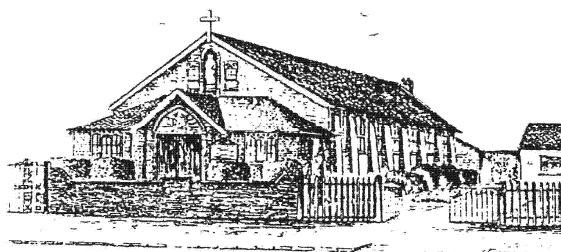


**ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR**  
**633 AYLESTONE ROAD, AYLESTONE, LEICESTER LE2 8TF**

Priest: Revd Fr Peter Coyle  
Tel: (0116) 299 7231

[www.stewardtheconfessor.co.uk](http://www.stewardtheconfessor.co.uk)

Deacon: Revd Deacon John Parker  
Tel & Fax: (0116) 291 0281



**DIARY FOR THE WEEK**

**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2009 – THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B]**

**Feast of the Conversion of St Paul \*\***

<b>Sunday:</b>	9.30am	People of the Parish Special remembrance of John Graham [Anniv]
<b>Monday:</b>	10.00am	<i>Ss Timothy &amp; Titus</i> Liturgy of the Word & Communion
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>No Service</b>	<i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>
<b>Friday:</b>	10.00am	<i>Feria</i> Liturgy of the Word & Communion

**SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2009 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B]**

<b>Sunday:</b>	9.30am	People of the Parish Special remembrance of Martin O'Donnell *****
----------------	--------	--

**\*\* The Feast of the Conversion of St Paul is celebrated today during this Year of St Paul. The readings are from the Feast with the addition of the Second Reading from the Third Sunday of the Year [B] and the Creed.**

**Masses:** Special intention (KS), Sr Norah [ints], Donnelly Family [ints], private intentions.

**REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS**

**MEMORIAL MASS:** Bishop Malcolm will be celebrating a Memorial Mass for Fr Patrick Snee, who died on 5<sup>th</sup> January this year. The Mass will be on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00pm at St Theresa, Aspley, Nottingham, where he was Parish Priest for many years. May he rest in peace.

**CYCLE OF PRAYER:** During Ordinary Time until Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on earth; Christian Unity; the sick and those who care for them; students and teachers; the unemployed.

**INTENTIONS OF POPE BENEDICT XVI FOR JANUARY: General:** That the family may become more and more a place of training in charity, personal growth and transmission of the faith. **Missionary:** That all Christian Churches give authentic witness to the Good News and move toward the full unity of all Christians.

**PRAYER FOR THE SICK:** Charlie Mulholland, Margaret Bowe, John Mullen, Mary Ginns, Mary Brown, Maureen Hobbs, Fran Kirk [hospital], Ivy Pritchard, Rose Gray, Maureen Fitzpatrick, Anne Marie Monaghan, Jimmy Flynn, Joe Anderson, Katie Kendal-Boyle, Paul Boyle, Teresa Taylor (hospital), Jane O'Mahony and also Fr Peter.

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:** Marian Watkins, Florence Lloyd, **Nicholas Maciuszke [3 months, entered into paradise]**, Fr Bernard Kevill, **Bishop Richard Roskall, [2<sup>nd</sup> Bishop of Nottingham, 1853-1874]**, Albert Hillaby, Matthew Blackburn, David O'Hara, Mavis Dean, Edward Gilmurray, Fr Louis Drury, Fr Roger Birks **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Envelopes - **£179.05**. Loose - **£65.56**. Total - **£244.61**. **Thank you!**

**PARISH QUOTA COLLECTION** Envelopes - **£60.00**. Loose - **£42.14**. Total - **£102.12**. **Thank you!** The next Parish Quota collection will be taken on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February** during the Communion hymn.

<b>Parish Ministries</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> February</b>
--------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------

<b>Ministry of Welcome:</b>	Margaret McCay	Young People
<b>Ministry of Reader:</b>	Elizabeth Gibbs	Orla Holohan
	Tim Ward	Molly Jones
<b>Offertory Collection</b>	John Collier, Frank O'Hara	Young People
	Nora Needham, C O'Donovan	
<b>Offertory Procession</b>	Margaret McCay, Tom Greene,	Young People
	Margaret Moore	
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	Dina & MeAe	Angela Fitzpatrick & Liz Jones
<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	Mary & Tony	Julie & Tony
<b>Flowers</b>	Julie	Margaret P

*Thank you to those who volunteer for ministry. If you feel you can help by doing a ministry, then please come forward at any time*

## Year of Paul 19

As soon as they arrived in Beroea, Paul and Silas went straight to the synagogue. Here the Jews were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica and they welcomed the word very readily and everyday they studied the scriptures to find out that what Paul had taught was true. Many of them became believers. When the Jews heard that Paul was preaching in Beroea, they went there to stir up the people and make trouble. So the brothers arranged for Paul to make for the coast, leaving Silas and Timothy behind. Paul's escort took him to Athens and then returned to Beroea with instructions that Silas and Timothy should follow as soon as they could. [See Acts 17: 10-15] Next week: Paul is debating in Athens.

**Today we celebrate Paul's conversion to Christianity. While on the way to Damascus with authority to arrest and imprison anyone who believed in Jesus Christ, Paul was struck down by a blinding light. In that blindness, he received the revelation of the Risen Jesus and was able to see that Jesus was indeed the fulfilment of all the prophecies – the Messiah, Redeemer, and the Son of God. With this new understanding, he was baptized and changed totally from the great persecutor to the great defender and witness of the "Way". Without doubt, he became the Apostle of the Gentiles, the one who would bring the God News of Jesus Christ to the whole pagan world. Through the Acts of the Apostles and the letters of St Paul, we are able to follow his mission and journeys. We see his perseverance in the face of so many obstacles, dangers and attacks. We also get an insight into the early church through the establishment of the various Christian communities and his nurturing of them through his letters. These letters encourage us in our faith and inspire us in our growth and relationship with Christ and with each other in our communities. In this Year of St Paul, two thousand years after his birth, we thank God**

**for the rich legacy he has left for us. It would be a great benefit to us all if we take this opportunity to re-read his Letters and the Acts of the Apostles - perhaps an idea for the Lent.**

### CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK

The week of prayer for Christian Unity is from the 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January.

At **6.30pm this Sunday** 25<sup>th</sup> January there is a Bible service at Aylestone Baptist Church, Lutterworth Road.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This year there are 4 candidates – **Megan Horley, Ciara Warner, Alec Bastian, Uwam Paul Nduka-Ozegbe.** Please keep them and Angela Holohan in your prayers. We thank Angela who has kindly taken on the task of preparing them on our behalf.

### SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND – Next Sunday

Please be sure to get a copy of the leaflet which you should find on the benches. Bishop Malcolm in his report concerning the Fund for Sick and Retired Priests of the Diocese expresses his deep thanks for the great generosity shown in response to his Pastoral Letter last year. He reminds us of the commitments the Diocese has in covering the costs in caring for our sick and retired priests. There are 35 retired priests and 4 younger priests who are unable to work in parishes because of ill health. Some are able to live independently and some, who need constant care, are in nursing homes. But they are all supported by the Fund. The care of our sick, old and retired priests is a duty for all of us in the diocese. Please be as generous as you can in the special collection next Sunday and remember our sick and retired priests in your daily prayers.

Please also read the report which shows the financial statement and perhaps you might recognize the photos of some of the priests. This year there are special envelopes to make it easier for you to Gift Aid your donation. If you pay tax, please use them and fill them out, it will add almost a third to your offering. There are also some bankers orders if you wish to donate regularly. Thank you.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Some new ideas were brought up and action will be taken on them. We

also worked out a calendar of events for this year. There should be a notice posted on the board so that you can put the dates in your diary or calendar. One interesting event we might try is -

### HAS ST EDWARD'S GOT TALENT?

We would like to think so and invite parishioners of all ages to come and entertain us. If you are interested, please give in your details – name age, and talent a.s.a.p We propose to have an evening of family entertainment of 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**What do you think?** It is hard to know what people are looking for in their spiritual development and their knowledge of the catholic faith. Please think about this and talk about it amongst yourselves. For instance, the Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament during Advent was better attended than any of the discussion evenings held previously. Do people prefer this? We are asking you to let us know what you would like and would be prepared to come during Lent, which begins on 25<sup>th</sup> February..

### ADULT FORMATION

**"All you ever wanted to know about the Bible!"** - A 4 week introductory course on the Bible has been arranged for all the parishes in our Deanery. It will be led by our Diocesan Education Team, Fr Ken O'Riordan and Paula Bailey, at St Thomas More's Parish beginning **this Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm.** Tea/Coffee and biscuits will be available on these evenings. See the poster for more details.

### PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND

You may wish to join the Blessed Sacrament Parish's to Ireland from **10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May.** Travel by coach and ferry with daily outings including Knock. We will stay at the Yeats Country Hotel, Rosses Point, Co. Sligo. **Telephone 285 8795 for a booking form.** Cost £350 (single supplement £50). See poster.

### Find the Joker

**Winner Georgie Handley picked B7 – 4 of Spades.** Tickets on sale after Mass and during coffee in the hall, when the ticket to turn over a card will be drawn. Tickets £1. Parish & Prize money- **£551.00.** Thanks to Angela and Keith for this fundraiser.

*God Bless you and yours*

*Fr Peter & Deacon John*

*NRCOT a Registered Charity*