

The Catholic Church of St Peter & St Paul Lincoln

999: If you need to call the Emergency Services to attend the Church or Parish Centre, **(please use what3words – VOTE FUNNY CRIED)**

Evacuation: Should we need to evacuate the buildings, please assemble in front of 2a by the garage and fencing and not in the car park in front of the church doors or by the gates. Please keep the front of the car park clear for emergency service vehicles to access the site.

Parish Priest: V. Rev Canon Geoffrey Hunton KHS STB BA

2a Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln LN6 7RB Tel: 01522 696838 Email geoffrey.hunton@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Website: www.sssp-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

Social Media: www.facebook.com/ssppchurchlincs/ www.youtube.com/channel/UCZyr7ASmSKFu2EKdfou_ITw twitter@ssppchurchlincs

Safeguarding Representative: Ted Coatsworth Mobile: 07513 725461 Email: Terence.CoatsworthPSR@dioceseofNottingham.uk

Missio Red Box Co-Ordinators: James and Kathryn Clarkson Email contact: jaclarkson@icloud.com

A LIVE SIMPLY, SUSTAINABLY AND IN SOLIDARITY AWARD RECIPIENT

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

PLEASE SEE NOTICES IN CHURCH AND THE PARISH CENTRE INDICATING THE DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATION: LINK WALL BY THE FIRE DOOR

First Week of Christmastide - Psalter Week 1	INTENTIONS / LITURGIES / OTHER
Saturday 27th December 5.15pm 6pm	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY Confessions Jimmy, Seamus and Philomena Williams RIP
Sunday 28th December 9am 11am	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY Sister Bernadette McGovern (Birthday Mass) People of the Parish
Monday 29th December No Mass	FEAST OF SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY (BECKET), BISHOP AND MARTYR -
Tuesday 30th December 2pm Mass at HMP Morton Hall	SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS Staff, Inmates and their Families
Wednesday 31st December No Mass	SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS -
Thursday 1st January 12 Noon	MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (SOLEMNITY) Mr Edward O'Boyle RIP
Friday 2nd January 10am	Saints Basil the Great, and Gregory Nazianzen, bishops and doctors (memorial) Requiem Mass for Patrick Wilkes RIP
Saturday 3rd January 11am 5.15pm 6pm	Christmas (Before Epiphany) Feria Confessions SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Confessions Repose of the Souls of Joe and Margaret McGuinness
Sunday 4th January 9am 11am	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS People of the Parish Ned O'Boyle RIP

Readers	This	6pm – L Wright	9am – J May / I May	11am – J Geary
	Next	6pm – H Levey	9am – T Rowlett	11am – G Hughes
Weekend Coffee	This	9am - 11am -		
	Next	9am - 11am -		
Wednesday Coffee	This	Chris and Jo		
	Next	Carol and Heidi		
Weekend Welcomers	This	6pm - Y Musson, T Buckley	9am – J May, M York, M Thompson	11am – T Silva, L Roberts, Shay
	Next	6pm - Y Musson, T Buckley	9am – K & J Clarkson, M York, M Thompson	11am – T Silva, L Roberts, Shay

WEEKLY INCOME W/E 21/12/2025		POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER	PLEASE CONSIDER LEAVING YOUR PARISH A LEGACY IN YOUR WILL THANK YOU
Standing Orders	£ 579.53 TBA	For Christians in areas of conflict Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.	
Envelopes	£		
Loose Plate	£		
TOTAL	£		
Second Collection	£		
Friday Lunches	£	IN MEMORIAM BOOK Should you wish to see your loved one's name in the anniversary book, insertion details are below the cabinet.	PLEASE PARK CONSIDERATELY IN THE CHURCH CAR PARK THANK YOU <u>PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE HYMN BOOKS IN THE LADY CHAPEL RETURN THEM TO THE SHELVES AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH THANK YOU</u>
Weds Coffee	£		
Sunday Coffee	£		
Donations	£		
Repository	£		
Mass Stipends	£		
Funeral Fees	-		
Hall Fees	£		
Newsletters	£		
Debt £178,889.10	Paying £500 p/m		
		SSPP Parish Draw Please consider joining. Cost - monthly £5, quarterly £15, yearly £60. 21/12/2025 TBA	

Parish Administrator: Office Closed

Warm Spaces and Craft and Chat: Returns on Wednesday 7th January 1.30-3.30pm in the Parish Centre.

Prayer Group: Returns on Tuesday 6th January at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

PLEASE NOTE THIS EDITION WAS PRINTED ON THE 18TH DECEMBER
MISSING INFORMATION WILL BE ADDED TO THE NEWSLETTER ON THE 10TH / 11TH JANUARY

Sincere thanks to all who have contributed in so many ways leading up to Christmas and over the Christmas period for all the hard work that was given to ensure that all our liturgies were truly joyous and welcoming to all who came to SS Peter and Paul during this time.

**My grateful thanks also for all the Christmas Cards, kind wishes, offerings and gifts that I received. May I also extend a word of thanks to those who have supported me so unstintingly over the past years as I endeavour to be your Parish Priest here at SS Peter and Paul. To you all every blessing to you and your families for the coming New Year. Sincerely,
Canon Geoffrey.**

“Peace be with you all: Towards an ‘unarmed and disarming’ peace” The theme of Pope Leo XIV’s Message for the World Day of Peace (1st January 2026) invites humanity to reject the logic of violence and war, and to embrace an authentic peace based on love and justice. This peace must be unarmed, that is, not based on fear, threats or weapons. And it must be disarming, capable of resolving conflicts, opening hearts and generating mutual trust, empathy and hope. It is not enough to call for peace; we must embody it in a way of life that rejects every form of violence, whether it be visible or systemic. The greeting of the Risen Christ, “Peace be with you” (John 20:19), is an invitation addressed to everyone — believers, non-believers, political leaders and citizens — to build the Kingdom of God and to work together to build a humane and peaceful future.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church

Weddings in 2026: If you are planning to marry next year and have not already contacted Canon Geoffrey, please do so as soon as possible as 6 months’ notice is required to marry in this parish or elsewhere.

According to Aid to the Church in Need 5.4 billion people (2/3 of the world’s population) live in countries where individuals and entire communities suffer violations of religious freedom. More than 220 million Christians are at direct risk of persecution. In response, ACN has initiated a petition calling on governments around the world to implement in full Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the gold standard of religious liberty - the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, the right to change religion and the right to manifest religion in teaching, practice, worship and observance. Parishioners are invited to stand with persecuted Christians and all those who suffer for their beliefs by signing the ACN Article 18 petition, please visit: <https://acnuk.org/article-18-petition> or alternatively religious-freedom-human-right-not-privilege. Please continue to pray for all those who suffer for their faith.

Fr Michael O’Kane, of the Commissariat of the Holy Land, has written to thank Bishop Patrick for the generosity of parishioners earlier this year when the Collection for Holy Places in the Holy Land was taken on Good Friday. Across the Diocese more than £20,000 was given to support the Christian communities in this war-torn part of the world, where Jesus himself lived and ministered. The Franciscans keep our Diocese and parishioners in their thankful prayers.

Crafty Crafters! Join Us! We are always looking for new members: We meet every Wednesday from 1:30-3:30pm in the Parish Centre Social area, alternatively, you can join our WhatsApp group to keep in touch and take part in our projects virtually. To join, simply provide your mobile number to any current member of the group. We look forward to crafting with you! Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th January 2026.

The Fundraising Circle of Friends: Building on the success of your very generous donations last year, we will be collecting for the LAT Charity in January to support their work with the resettlement of prisoners upon their release from Lincoln Prison. Your donations last year made a huge difference. There is a list of the items for donation, along with a display about the work of the resettlement charity in the narthex. Thank you for your never-ending generosity.

Second Collection for Sick and Retired Priests to be taken at all Masses over the weekend of 10th and 11th January.

Rosary for Children: Sunday 11th January at 5pm in St Hugh’s Church. Join us to pray the Rosary with a big colourful interactive Rosary with reflections on each mystery. Children of any age and their families are very welcome to attend. Please note, children must be accompanied by an adult family member at all times.

African Mass in the English language to be held at St Hugh’s Church on Sunday 18th January at 3pm. All are very welcome.

Admissions to Catholic Primary Academies (Reception Year) for Children born between 01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022: The deadline for applications for a school place is 15th January 2026. Application forms are available on your ‘home’ Local Authority website. For every Catholic school you should also complete a supplementary information form and return the form to the school by the deadline. You must also include a baptism certificate (photocopies are acceptable; contact the parish of baptism if you do not have a copy); failure to supply the required supporting evidence will mean your child is ranked in a lower criterion which may affect your chance of a place.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust is consulting regarding the proposed closure of the **Sixth Form at St Peter & St Paul Catholic School in Lincoln**. This consultation will run between **8th December 2025 and 16th January 2026**. Please visit www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk for further information including: the rationale for the proposal, future planning, considerations and next steps and a link to the stakeholder response form
Samantha Buller Governance Manager
The Diocesan Centre, Mornington Crescent, Mackworth, Derby, DE22 4BD
01332 293833 / 07386 954991 samantha.buller@nottingham-des.org.uk

White Flower Appeal: The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) Annual Appeal - at all Masses over the weekend 17th/18th January.

Diamond Jubilee of the Laying of the Foundation Stone of SSPP: 2026 sees the 60th anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation an important event in the life of our Parish. A suggestion has been made that we should record memories of that day 60 years ago. If any of you would be willing to write an article or provide photographs of the event, please contact Canon Geoffrey. Also, I would appreciate other ideas of how we may commemorate this event, likewise, please contact Canon Geoffrey.

First Holy Communions 2026: We will celebrate First Holy Communion here at SSPP on Saturday 13th June. Further information and Application Forms will be made available early in 2026.

Confirmations 2026: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at St Hugh’s next year on 2nd July. For further information contact St Hugh’s.

Peace Prayer for 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 Jesus and The Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

