

**F+AT**

“Peace I leave with you: my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, do I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled: nor let it be afraid” (John 14:27).

In the collect of today’s mass we pray for peace for our time. The first word that Jesus spoke after he had conquered sin and death and risen from the dead was “Peace.” He immediately breathed upon his apostles so they might receive the Holy Spirit and have the power to forgive sins. By showing them his wounds he showed them how he had restored peace. What is this teaching us? Peace, St Thomas Aquinas tells us, is the tranquility of order and is the creature being in the right relationship with the creator. All other peace can only flow from this. Therefore, peace is not simply the absence of war but the blessing of the Father given to us through the Holy Spirit. When Adam sinned that right relationship to the Father was lost and all sin either destroys (mortal) or damages (venial) our right relationship to the Father.

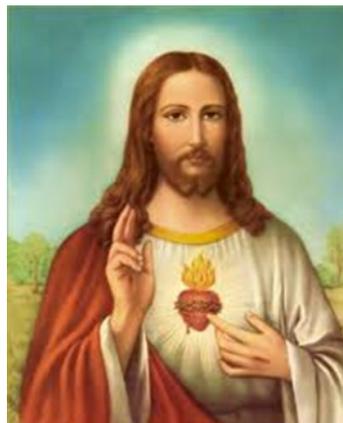
We live in an age where peace is both most lacking and yet most sought. When a person does not have inner peace, the inner peace that comes from the Father, they will seek it elsewhere, in anything that gives them relief from the turmoil in their lives. It is beyond our power to restore peace until all peoples return to the Father. Peace we could also say flows from unity. When there is unity there is peace. Jesus prayed for this in his great priestly prayer (John 17) because only in unity will the world recognise the unity of the Trinity. Where does this unity lie then? In the will of God. Dante in his great poem has an Italian noblewoman tell Dante: “In His will is our peace. It is the sea to which all things move, both what it creates and what nature makes (Paradiso 3/85)

God is preparing through the triumph of Mary a great era of peace; this is imminent. Therefore, it is no coincidence that this will coincide with the intercession of Mary and a great out pouring of the Holy Spirit which the Church has been praying for during the last hundred or so years. The primary work of the Holy Spirit will be to bring people into unity with the Will of God. For when all follow God’s will everything will be peaceful. This is also the establishment of the Kingdom on earth that we pray for in the Our Father; note the connection of the two petitions: “thy kingdom come, they will be done...” The extraordinary gift will be that in the era of peace, God’s Will will be carried out as it is in heaven; i.e. perfectly. It is this gift that we shall be looking at during the retreat day in February, so I urge you most strongly to come. For this gift of being able to carry out God’s will on earth as it is in heaven has already become available.

What do we need to do? Acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Messiah, our Saviour and our leader. We must surrender to him. This means recognising that our human will (i.e. our human desires, what we want as opposed to what God wants) needs to be put to death. We must take up the cry of the Word of God in today’s psalm and make it our own “Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.” When we take the sweet yoke of Jesus upon us, we shall find rest for our souls.(cf Mt 11) When we are united with the will of our Messiah, we shall be peacemakers in the greatest possible way and inherit the promise that we shall be children of God.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace pray for us.

**AMDG**



**Sacred Heart, Skegness**

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Day	Date	Time	Place	Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Saturday	18	6.00pm	SK	Vigil	BVM
Sunday	19	9.00am 11.00am 3.15pm	Spil SK Pol	2nd Sunday Year A Page 560	M.Flynn Sp Intn Pro Populo
Monday	20	9.00am	SK	Monthly Requiem	
Tuesday	21	12.30pm	SK	St Agnes	M.Rawlin RIP
Wednesday	22	6.00pm	Spil	Feria	NDL
Thursday	23	10.00am	SK	Adoration	
Friday	24	6.00pm	SK	St Francis de Sales	NDL
Saturday	25	TBA 6.00pm	SK SK	Conversion of Paul Vigil Mass	NDL
Sunday	26	9.00am 11.00am 3.15pm 5.00pm	Spil SK Pol SK	3rd Sunday Year A Page 564  Latin Mass	Pro populo J.Sweeney: Parishion- ers Christmas Cards

**Please note: SK = Skegness Spil = Spilsby Pol = Polish mass in Skegness**

**CONFESSIONS:** Skegness 5.30pm Saturday

Spilsby After Sunday Mass

Adoration: Spilsby 5.00pm Wednesdays

Skegness Thursdays 10.00am Friday 6.00pm

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Second Collection: This weekend Sick and Retired Priests

**Prayers:** Mgr Canon Joseph Phelan RIP

**Rosary:** 30 mins before mass weekdays.

**Refreshments after the Sunday Masses.** Please come into our hall for tea, coffee, cakes, sandwiches and repository items for sale.

**Food bank:** Tinned fruit/vegetables; tinned potatoes; instant mashed potato; biscuits; tea bags; tinned meatballs etc; pasta/pasta sauce.

**Christmas Cards:** Available at the back of Church.

**Sunday of the Word of God:** 26th Jan 3rd Sunday of Ordinary time. Next Sunday is a special day to celebrate God's word in the Scriptures.

**POST CHRISTMAS PARISH MEAL** To celebrate during the 40 days of Christmastide there will be a parish meal at the Windmill at Burgh-Le-Marsh Sat 25th January 12 for 12.30pm £15 for 2 courses £18 for 3 courses. We need numbers quite quickly. Names and deposits to Mary (Spilsby) or Sandy (SK) Sheet at back of Church.

**National Scripture Tour: Sat 22nd Feb** at Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Newalk. Visit anytime between 10.00am and 4.30pm Lots of Scripture Tents with themes; e.g. Mary & the Word; Exploring the Word, Sharing the Word etc.

**RETREAT DAY Saturday 29th February.** Bring Bible, pen and paper and lunch for shared table. The day will be lead by Derek Williams who is authorised to teach on the grace known as "Living in the Divine Will." This is the final and greatest grace that God wishes to give to us. I strongly recommend that you make attending this day a priority. This day, however, will not tackle the life and background of the Servant of God, Luisa Piccarreta. Therefore, I shall set aside an evening TBA to tackle this.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Skegness:** The various ministers in Skegness have agreed that rather than have a week of prayer when it is difficult in the dark and cold to get people to attend, like last year we shall hold it in the week leading up to Pentecost and on the evening of Pentecost Sunday there shall be a joint ecumenical service. Last year this was very successful.

**World Day of the Sick:** 11th February Pope Francis wants to mark a special day for the sick, those who work for the sick, for health care professionals. There will be a mass of healing at St. Mary's Church, Boston 12th February at 7.30pm/ Enquiries 01205 362056

## PARISH EVENTS ~at a glance

### FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

21st Jan	Prayer Group Presbytery 7.00pm
25th January	Meal at Windmill, Burgh. 12 for 12.30pm See Opp
12th February	Mass of Healing, St. Mary's Boston 7.30pm
29th February	Retreat Day Living in the Divine Will 10.00-4.00pm See Opposite Parish Hall.
29th March	Rededication of England to Our Lady as the Dowry of Mary.

### Spilsby

Tea and coffee after Sunday Mass

Church Open: Monday 10.00-12.00 noon for private prayer.

Adoration: 2nd Monday of month.

18th—25th January: Week of prayer for Christian unity. Services at 12.00. Sat (18th) OLEM; Mon (20) Methodist **11.45am**; Tues (21) New Life ; Wed (22) St. James; Thurs (23) OLEM; Fri (24) Shared Meal Methodist ; Sat (25) Christian Fellowship.

**We remember our deceased whose anniversaries occur at this time:** and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**Collections:** Skegness £ Spilsby £

If you pay tax, you can gift aid your donation to the Church.