

**The Catholic Parish  
of  
Our Lady, Star of the Sea**



**3rd Week of Ordinary Time, Year A**  
*Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week III*

“And he said to them,  
‘Follow me  
and I will make you fishers of men.’”

Matthew 4:19

Parish Priest: **Fr Pádraig Hawkins**  
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Parish Address: **The Catholic Presbytery**  
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**NR32 1NL**

Parish Web Site: [www.ourladystarofthesealowestoft.wordpress.com](http://www.ourladystarofthesealowestoft.wordpress.com)

R.C. Diocese of East Anglia:  
A Registered Charity (Charity Commission No. 278742)

**Parish Church:** Catholic Church of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Gordon Road, Lowestoft, NR32 1NL.

**Chapel of Ease:** St Nicholas' Catholic Church, Morton Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0JQ.

**Other Clergy:** Rev. Fr. Stephen Bould; Rev. Fr. Neville McClement, Rev. Mr. Stephen Pomeroy.

**Parish Newsletter:** Items for consideration need to be sent to Fr Pádraig - [frpmfoh@gmail.com](mailto:frpmfoh@gmail.com) – by Wednesday Evening please. The Completed Newsletter will be posted on the Website each Saturday.

### **Gospel Reflection**

“Today’s Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus’ public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested. The first part of today’s Gospel places Jesus’ ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfilment of Isaiah’s prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah. When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave. The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people’s diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus’ ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.”

**Please do visit the “Wednesday Word” Website each week for short Reflections on the Sunday Readings:** <http://www.wednesdayword.org/sunday-gospel.htm>

### **Invitation From Bishop Alan Hopes**

There will be a Solemn Pontifical Mass of Thanksgiving - celebrating both the Retirement of Bishop Alan Hopes as our Diocesan Ordinary and his Twentieth Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination – at Saint John the Baptist’s Cathedral church, Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PA, On Tuesday, 24th January 2023 at 11:30am; all are most welcome to attend this Mass and give thanks for Bishop Alan’s life of ministry as a Priest of God and as our Chief Shepherd.

### **Catholic Primary School**

A reminder to all our parents that the local Catholic Primary School is St Mary’s, located on Kirkley Cliff Road (NR33 0DG). For anyone who is considering a school placement for their child, from reception through to Year 6, I would recommend contacting the school and arranging either a tour or a meeting with the Head of School, Mrs Ewa Parker, Tel: 01502 565384. For more information please visit: <https://www.stmarysrcps.com>

## **Job Vacancy**

The Diocese is seeking a Deputy Director of Schools Service. Please see Diocesan Website for more details: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/vacancies/>

## **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

The United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 3pm at the Salvation Army South Church, Carlton Road, NR33 0RU. All are welcome to attend this service. All are also warmly invited to these weekday services offered during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity at the following churches:

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Jan @ 9:45am Communion Service – All Saints & St. Margaret, Pakefield.

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Jan @ 12noon Service of Prayer – St. Peter's church, Gunton Church Lane.

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan Midday Prayer Service - Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Gordon Rd.

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Jan @ 12.30pm Prayer Service, United Reformed church, London Rd North.

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Jan @ 9.30 am Communion Service, St. Mark's church, Bridge Rd, O Broad.

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Jan @ 9.30am Conversion of St Paul Com. Service, St Peter & St Paul Kirkley.

*“Nevertheless, our separated brethren, whether considered as individuals or as Communities and Churches, are not blessed with that unity which Jesus Christ wished to bestow on all those who through Him were born again into one body, and with Him quickened to newness of life - that unity which the Holy Scriptures and the ancient Tradition of the Church proclaim. For it is only through Christ's Catholic Church, which is "the all-embracing means of salvation," that they can benefit fully from the means of salvation. We believe that Our Lord entrusted all the blessings of the New Covenant to the apostolic college alone, of which Peter is the head, in order to establish the one Body of Christ on earth to which all should be fully incorporated who belong in any way to the people of God. This people of God, though still in its members liable to sin, is ever growing in Christ during its pilgrimage on earth, and is guided by God's gentle wisdom, according to His hidden designs, until it shall happily arrive at the fullness of eternal glory in the heavenly Jerusalem.” (Second Vatican Council UR:3.5)*

## **Dates for you Diary...**

**24/01/23** – Meeting of the Parish Prayer Group at 2:30pm at Our Lady, Star of the Sea. Everyone is welcome to join us to sing, pray and praise the Lord. Please bring your bible.

**02/03/23** – Parish In-Council Meeting at 7:30pm in the Stella Maris Hall (postponed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb) – Topics to be discussed and Items for the Agenda to be sent to Fr Pádraig, please, by Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

## **Weekly Collection**

Thank you for last week's collection which amounted to £386.05 (Plus the regular standing orders of c.£403). Your continued financial support for your parish, the diocese and the wider Universal Church is much needed and very much appreciated.

## **We Pray for...**

We pray for all in our Parish who are currently unwell and who are suffering from illness of one kind or another, praying especially for the housebound who are not able to join us for regular worship. We pray also for those who have recently passed away and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time; may they rest in peace. Names of the Sick and the Deceased may be written in the Parish Prayer Books and will be prayed for.

## Mass & Service Times for the Coming Week: January 22<sup>nd</sup> – January 28<sup>th</sup>

- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: Joe Summerville (RIP)
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: Ray Thompson (RIP)
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - 10:00 – Our Lady's** (Feria)  
Offered for:
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> - NO MASS TODAY** (Mem, St Francis de Sales)  
Offered for:
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Feast, The Conversion of St Paul)  
Offered for:
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> - 09:30 - St Nicholas'** (Mem, St Timothy & St Titus)  
Offered for:
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)  
Offered for:
- Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, St Thomas Aquinas)  
Offered for:
- Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (4th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for:
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (4th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (4th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for:

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**Confessions:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place every week during Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (from 9:30 to c.10am) following the 9am Mass on Saturday Morning. One may also make an appointment with Fr Pádraig for confession at another suitable time.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to have a Mass offered for someone, living or deceased, or for a particular intention (exams, interview, etc.), please collect a pre-printed envelope from the back of the church. Details of your request, including the preferred date, can then be entered on the front of the envelope (legibly please) and then your offering may be placed inside before being given to Fr Pádraig.

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