

The Catholic Parish of Our Lady, Star of the Sea



2nd Week of Lent, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week II

“There in their presence he was transfigured:
his face shone like the sun
and his clothes became as white as the light.”

Matthew 17:19

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Parish Address: **The Catholic Presbytery**
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Parish Web Site: 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 – by Wednesday Evening please. The Completed Newsletter will be posted on the Website each Saturday.

Gospel Reflection

“For the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus’ retreat to the desert to his Transfiguration. Each year on the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel tells the story of Jesus’ temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday of Lent each year, we hear the story of Jesus’ Transfiguration. The story of Jesus’ Transfiguration is told in the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In each of those Gospels, the Transfiguration follows Jesus’ first prediction of his death and his teaching about the costs of discipleship. Jesus’ Transfiguration is a promise of Jesus’ glory, his Resurrection. On a mountain in today’s reading, a voice affirms that Jesus is God’s Son in words reminiscent of the voice at Jesus’ baptism. In addition, the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the mountain connects this story with God’s relationship to the people of Israel. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, respectively. Together with Jesus, they represent God’s complete Word. The Transfiguration occurs in the presence of just three of Jesus’ disciples: Peter, James, and John. In Matthew’s Gospel, those disciples are among the first whom Jesus calls. The three men are identified as an “inner circle” among Jesus’ disciples when Jesus asks them to accompany him to the Garden of Gethsemane just before his arrest.”

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

Ave Regina Cælorum / Hail Queen of Heaven

During the Season of Lent, the Last Hymn at Mass is replaced by the Marian Antiphon:
Ave Regina Cælorum, Ave Domina Angelorum: Salve Radix, salve porta, Ex qua mundo lux es orta: Gaude Virgo gloriosa, Super omnes speciosa: Vale, o valde decora, Et pro nobis Christum exora. (*Hail, Queen of heaven, hail Lady of the angels. Hail root and gate from which the Light of the world was born. Rejoice glorious Virgin, fairest of all. Fare thee well, most beautiful, and pray for us to Christ.*) Followed by the responsory: V: Grant that I may praise thee, O holy Virgin. **R: Give me strength against thine enemies.**

Parish Lenten Alms – Aid to the Church in Need

In many parts of the world, Christianity remains under huge pressure. War, targeted violence and discrimination and the effects of economic collapse and COVID-19 means that many Christian communities are on their knees. Faith is their rock against adversity – even when life would be easier if they gave in to pressure to abandon it. This Lent, as they walk their own Way of the Cross, please join us in prayer and why not show your solidarity with a Gift of Faith– a lifeline for Christians suffering today and to build God’s church on earth. To donate a Lenten Gift of Faith and support the work of Aid to the Church in Need please use this link: [Aid to the Church in Need/Lenten Gift of Faith](#)

This Week's Lenten Devotions...

Tuesday 7th: Stations of the Cross at 11:15am, Mass at 12pm, Lent Lunch at 12:30pm.

Thursday 9th: Stations of the Cross at 5pm.

Saturday 4th: Confessions take place from 9:30-10am, during Exposition & Adoration.

Laetare Sunday / Mothering Sunday 19th March

On this Sunday we get to relax slightly from our Lenten Observances and anticipate the coming feasts of Easter. At the 11am Mass, therefore, we shall be led in the singing by our Music Group and ask that Children and Families make a special effort to come together on that day as God's Family for Mother Church's Celebration of the Eucharist.

Lent Bible Studies

Starting on Monday 6th March and running for 5 consecutive Mondays, there will be a series of 'Lent Bible Studies' taking place at the URC, London Road, from 10:30am. You may attend in person or via Zoom: Meeting ID: 776 – 044 – 1926. Passcode: 811885
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7760441926?pwd=R2k5VENDaENHVUhFakpFZnk4VDJaZz09>

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>

Dates for you Diary...

16/03/23 – Deanery Station Mass Celebrated by Bishop Peter. There will be Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 6pm followed by Mass at 7pm and then a Lenten Meal of Soup and Bread Rolls will be available for all in the Stella Maris Hall.

Upcoming Second Collections for 2023

18th/19th March – Easter Flowers for Our Lady's & St Nicholas.

1st/2nd April – Holy Land Shrines – for the Holy Places of Palestine

Weekly Collection

Thank you for last week's collection which amounted to £426.40 (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: March 5th – March 11th

- Saturday 4th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** *(2nd Sunday of Lent, Year A)*
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 5th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** *(2nd Sunday of Lent, Year A)*
Offered for: Brian Colby (RIP)
- Sunday 5th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** *(2nd Sunday of Lent, Year A)*
Offered for: Maureen Lowe (RIP)
- Monday 6th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Lent Feria)*
Offered for:
- Tuesday 7th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** *(Lent Feria)*
Offered for:
- Wednesday 8th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Feast, St Felix)*
Offered for:
- Thursday 9th - 09:30 - St Mary's School** *(Lent Feria)*
Offered for: Staff & Children of St Mary's RCPS
- Friday 10th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Lent Feria)*
Offered for:
- Saturday 11th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Lent Feria)*
Offered for:
- Saturday 11th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** *(3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A)*
Offered for:
- Sunday 12th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** *(3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A)*
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 12th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** *(3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A)*
Offered for: Glenn Francis Bowdidge

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.
