

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



**6th Week of Easter, Year A**  
*Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week II*

“Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.””

John 14:23

Parish Priest: **Fr Pádraig Hawkins**  
Parish Priest's Phone Number: **01502-572453**  
Parish Priest's E-Mail: **frpmfoh@gmail.com**

Parish Address: **The Catholic Presbytery**  
**19 Gordon Road**  
**Lowestoft**  
**Suffolk**  
**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 is a continuation of last week’s Gospel: Jesus is speaking to his disciples at the Last Supper. In today’s reading Jesus offers encouragement to his disciples, who will soon see him crucified. He reassures them that even though he will leave them, he will not abandon them. Instead he will send them the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, through whom the disciples will continue to live in union with Jesus. Jesus uses the term Advocate to describe the Holy Spirit, whom the disciples will receive. Another word used to describe the Holy Spirit is Paraclete, a legal term meaning “one who offers defence for another.” Note that Jesus says that he will send “another Advocate.” Jesus himself is the first advocate, interceding for his disciples with the Father. In today’s reading Jesus contrasts his impending departure with the permanence of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus will leave to return to the Father, but the Holy Spirit will remain with the disciples. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the disciples will come to know and appreciate the unity of the Son and the Father. They will also understand that they too participate in the communion between the Father and the Son: “On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you” (John 14:20). Today’s reading is one example of the contrast that John’s Gospel presents between the community of disciples, to whom God will reveal himself, and the unbelieving world, which will remain in darkness. The unbelieving world cannot accept the “Spirit of truth,” whom the disciples will receive. Only through the Spirit will God’s revelation and love be known.”

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

### **Dates for your Diary...**

**29/05/2023** – The community of Our Lady of Walsingham are holding an ‘Open Gardens’ event on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May from 12:30pm to 5:30pm at the House of Divine Will, Neatherd Moor, Dereham, NR20 4AZ. For more information, or to book a Cream Tea, please visit their website: <https://walsinghamcommunity.org/>

**11/06/2023** – There will be a Bring and Buy Cake Sale after the 11am Mass on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June. Donations of baked goods, in any shape or size, would be much appreciated, being brought either to the church on the morning of or to the Presbytery in advance.

**24/06/2023** – There will be a Parish Bingo Evening in the Stella Maris Hall on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June starting at 7pm. Tickets costing £5pp will go on sale soon and will include entrance and a delicious Meal of a Baked Potato and a selection of Toppings. Bingo Strips and Raffle Tickets will be on sale throughout the night. Donations of prizes for this event would be greatly appreciated; please drop them at the church at any time.

**02/07/2023** – The Parish First Holy Communion Celebration will take place at the 11am Mass on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Please continue to pray for all of our children at this time.

## **The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord – A Holy Day of Obligation**

This week, 40 days after Easter Day, we celebrate the Great Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord into Heavenly Glory. This solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation and as such the Church provides her faithful will be both a 'Vigil Mass', which we shall celebrate at 6pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>, and a 'Mass of the Day', which we shall celebrate at 12noon on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>. We all have a Baptismal duty to attend at least one of these Masses.

### **Annual Marriage Celebration Mass**

Bishop Peter invites all married couples in the Diocese to join him at the annual Marriage Celebration Mass on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 11.30 at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist. All married couples and their families are welcome! Those couples who are celebrating significant anniversaries (one year, five years and every multiple of five years thereafter, or individual years from 60 years onwards) will receive a certificate from the Bishop. If you would like to register for a certificate please visit the website <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-mass-registration/> or contact the Marriage and Family Life Coordinator, Dr Antonia Braithwaite, on [mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk) Join us after Mass for tea and cake in the Cathedral Hall. Photographs of couples with the Bishop will be available online after the day.

### **C.W.L.**

The C.W.L. offers a big thankyou to all those parishioners who generously supported their Easter Raffle - the total raised for their chosen charities was £200.

### **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.stmarysrtps.com>

### **Upcoming Second Collections for 2023**

**20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> May** – Catholic Communications Network – World Communications Day.

**26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> May** – Life Charities – Day for Life.

**1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> July** – Peter's Pence – The Holy Father's Charitable Work.

**8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> July** – Missio – Mill Hill Mission Appeal.

**29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> July** – Society of St Columban – Mission Appeal.

### **Weekly Collection**

Thank you for last week's collection which amounted to £343.30 (Plus the regular standing orders of c.£398). 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: May 14<sup>th</sup> – May 20<sup>th</sup>**

- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** *(6th Sunday of Easter, Year A)*  
Offered for: Marie Walshe (RIP)
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** *(6th Sunday of Easter, Year A)*  
Offered for: Brian Colby (RIP)
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** *(6th Sunday of Easter, Year A)*  
Offered for: Walter Shanahan (RIP)
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Easter Feria)*  
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 - Our Lady's** *(Easter Feria)*  
Offered for:
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Easter Feria)*  
Offered for:
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> - 18:00 - Our Lady's** *(Solemnity, The Vigil of The Ascension)*  
Offered for:
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 - Our Lady's** *(Solemnity, The Ascension)*  
Offered for:
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Easter Feria)*  
Offered for: The Souls in Purgatory
- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Easter Feria)*  
Offered for: Our Lady's Intentions
- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** *(7th Sunday of Easter, Year A)*  
Offered for: Frank Capaldi (RIP)
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** *(7th Sunday of Easter, Year A)*  
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** *(7th Sunday of Easter, 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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