

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



**9th Week of Ordinary Time, Year A**  
*Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week I*

“God so loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
but may have eternal life.”

John 3:16

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.

**Catholic Primary School:** St Mary's, Kirkley Cliff Road, NR33 0DG. Tel: 01502 565384. For more information please visit the school website: <https://www.stmarysrcps.com>

### **Gospel Reflection**

“This week we return to the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. This Sunday and next, however, are designated as solemnities—special days that call our attention to central mysteries of our faith. Today on Trinity Sunday we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity, one God in three persons. Today's Gospel is from the beginning of John's Gospel. The passage we read follows Jesus' conversation with a Pharisee, Nicodemus, about what it means to be born of both water and the spirit. Nicodemus approaches Jesus at night and acknowledges Jesus as a teacher from God. Jesus tells him that only those who are born from above will see the Kingdom of God. Nicodemus misunderstands and questions how a person can be born more than once. Jesus tells Nicodemus that no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. Jesus is essentially explaining Baptism, which we celebrate as a sacrament today. Yet Nicodemus, we are told, still does not understand what Jesus is saying. Jesus continues by testifying to the need to be born from above so that one might have eternal life. After the dialogue with Nicodemus, the author of the Gospel offers his own explanation of Jesus' words. This is what we read in today's Gospel, John 3:16-18. In the context of today's focus on the mystery of the Holy Trinity, the reading calls our attention to the action of God, who reveals himself in three persons: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God the Father, out of love for the world, sent his Son into the world in order to save it. Through the death and resurrection of the Son, we have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit. As three persons, God acts always as a God of love; he does not condemn the world but acts to save it. The Gospel also calls attention to the response that is required of us. God's love for us calls us to respond in faith by professing our belief in God's son, Jesus, and the salvation that he has won for us. This profession of faith is a sign of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.”

**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...**

**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 are now on sale and 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; pleased 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.

**June** – the Diocesan ‘Times, Talents & Treasures’ programme will be run in the Parish over the Four Weekends of June. More information will be made available in due course.

### **Family Enrichment Conference**

Raising a family as a couple or as a single-parent has always been challenging. Issues range from spousal relationship, social media influence, challenging behaviour at home, how to pass on the Catholic Faith and many others. Everyone is invited to attend the Family Enrichment Conference on Saturday 10th June 2023 to explore these topics and to take home practical tips and encouragement from the four guest speakers. The conference will start at 11:00am at Our Lady Immaculate and Saint Etheldreda church hall in Newmarket. To book tickets and for more details, please visit <https://familyenrichmentconference.eventbrite.co.uk> or email [fecjune2023@gmail.com](mailto:fecjune2023@gmail.com). Children’s activities and lunch are free but need booking due to limited spaces. Free parking.

### **‘Saints Alive’**

Christians Together in Lowestoft & District are supporting ‘Saints Alive’ - a Musical in a Day - by Roger Jones at the Trinity Methodist Church - Saturday 28th October at 7.30 pm. Singers are needed from all the churches with occasional rehearsals from June. For contact details see the poster at the back of Church.

### **Hope Now Ukraine**

Boxes have been provided in church for parishioners to offer specific needed donations listed on the poster - no tins, bottles or jars please. See the Poster and Knights Newsletter on the church noticeboards for further details.

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

**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 £329.37 (Plus the regular standing orders of c.£398) and £109.04 for Life Charities. 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: June 4<sup>th</sup> – June 10<sup>th</sup>**

- Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** *(Trinity Sunday, Year A)*  
Offered for: Kathleen Walshe (RIP)
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** *(Trinity Sunday, Year A)*  
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** *(Trinity Sunday, Year A)*  
Offered for: Noela Da Costa's Intention
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 - Our Lady's (Requiem Mass)** *(Mem, St Boniface)*  
Offered for: Margaret Jean Smith (RIP)
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 - Our Lady's** *(Feria)*  
Offered for:
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Feria)*  
Offered for:
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> - 18:00 - Our Lady's** *(Feria)*  
Offered for: The Souls in Purgatory
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Feria)*  
Offered for: Our Lady's Intention
- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** *(Feria)*  
Offered for: Francisco Xavier Correia (RIP)
- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** *(Corpus Christi Sunday, Year A)*  
Offered for: Joe Summerville (RIP)
- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** *(Corpus Christi Sunday, Year A)*  
Offered for: Kathleen McAteer (RIP)
- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** *(Corpus Christi Sunday, Year A)*  
Offered for: People of the Parish

---

**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.

---