

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



**14th Week of Ordinary Time, Year A**  
*Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week II*

“Shoulder my yoke and learn from me,  
for I am gentle and humble in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls.”

Matthew 11:29

Parish Priest: **Fr Pádraig Hawkins**  
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Parish Address: **The Catholic Presbytery**  
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**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**

“Today’s reading from Matthew’s Gospel comes after a discourse in which Jesus reproaches people who have witnessed his mighty deeds yet still lack belief. In this context, today’s Gospel explains the reason for this unbelief and reveals what is necessary for faith. Today’s Gospel also continues to enhance our understanding of discipleship as last week’s Gospel did. Jesus first prays in thanksgiving to God who has made himself known to Jesus’ disciples. He praises God who has made himself known to the “little ones” and not to the wise and learned. As in other recent readings from Matthew’s Gospel, a contrast is made here between the unbelieving Pharisees, who are wise and learned, and the faithful disciples, tax collectors, and sinners with whom Jesus keeps company. The second part of this reading calls to our attention the unity between the Father and the Son. God has made himself known through Jesus, and in knowing Jesus, we come to know the Father. In Jesus’ life and in his person, God reveals himself to us. In the concluding sentences of today’s Gospel, Jesus’ teaching is again contrasted to the teaching of the Pharisees. This common theme of Matthew’s Gospel probably reflects tension that existed between Jesus and the Pharisees and between the Pharisees and the community of Christians for whom Matthew wrote. Pharisaic Judaism became the predominant form of Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem about 70 A.D. Here that tension is expressed as alternative paths of holiness. The careful observance of the Mosaic law taught by the Pharisees could be experienced by some as difficult and burdensome. In contrast, Jesus’ way of holiness is presented as uncomplicated and even restful.”

**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...**

**19/08/2023** – There will be a Parish Afternoon Tea held at 2:30pm in the Stella Marris hall on the Afternoon of Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August. Tickets are on sale and cost £5 per person or £14 for a family of 4. Please speak to Mrs Caroline Langan for more information.

### **Thank you!**

A big ‘thank you’ goes to all those who made the recent Parish Bingo night such a huge success. Much fun was had by all, many prizes were won and we managed to raise over £450 for parish funds. A special thanks goes to Caroline and Tom for making sure that everyone was well fed with a hot baked potato!

**NB – Mass this Thursday is at the Earlier time of 9am in the Parish church of OLSS**

## **Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life**

There will be a Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham On Saturday 5th August being led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. For details see the poster on the noticeboard, or go to [www.prolifepilgrimage.org](http://www.prolifepilgrimage.org)

Please join in the 'great prayer for life' asked for by Pope Saint John Paul II. There is great need for prayer. The UK Government have pressed on with their determination to impose abortion on the unwilling population of Northern Ireland. Abortions in Scotland have reached a record high. There is continued pressure to introduce Assisted Suicide, a Parliamentary Committee in England and Wales currently taking evidence. Looking more widely there is increasingly aggressive silencing of views opposed to the liberal agenda, the latest examples being the arrest of a woman for silently praying outside an abortion clinic which was not even open, and the imposition of 'buffer zones' around abortion facilities. We hope that you will be able to join the pilgrimage, if not in person then online, and through the year to come to help as many as possible to 'accept the gift' of life. More information is available at [www.prolifepilgrimage.org](http://www.prolifepilgrimage.org)

## **Parish 100 Club**

We are currently setting up a Parish '100 Club' and have produced forms for parishioners to purchase 'Numbers'. A single number for a whole year (October to September) costs just £12 and you can purchase as many 'Numbers' as you like. On the first Sunday of each month, beginning this October, a draw will be made from among all the purchased 'Numbers' producing three Winners, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, each of whom will win a cash prize. The size of the cash prize will be determined by the number of 'Numbers' in play, but as the name suggests, we hope to have at least 100 parishioners with their own. To buy your own 'Number' please collect a form from either Fr Pádraig or Mrs Caroline Langan.

## **Upcoming Second Collections for 2023**

**8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> July** – Missio – Mill Hill Mission Appeal. We welcome to our parish this weekend Fr Kevin Hughes MHM who will be speaking to us about the important work of Missio.  
**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 £680.74 (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: July 9<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup>**

- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (14th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: In Thanksgiving (Franks)
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (14th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (14th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: Alfred Stone (RIP)
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)  
Offered for:
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Feast, St Benedict)  
Offered for:
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)  
Offered for:
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)  
Offered for:
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)  
Offered for:
- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, St Bonaventure)  
Offered for:
- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (15th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for:
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (15th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)  
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (15th 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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