

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



15th Week of Ordinary Time, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week III

“And the one who received the seed in rich soil
is the man who hears the word
and understands it.””

Matthew 13:23

Parish Priest: **Fr Pádraig Hawkins**
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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.

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

Gospel Reflection

“Today’s Gospel marks the beginning of the third long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel readings will consist of the entire 13th Chapter of Matthew’s Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse. Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the parable of the Sower, which appears rather straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky ground, or are sown among other plants will not grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous yield of the seed that is sown on good soil. Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the meanings of parables are not self-evident. The hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in order to comprehend the message of a parable. In this way, the medium—the parable—models the point of the parable of the Sower. Those who are willing to engage themselves in the effort to understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the message and will bear fruit. To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable of the Sower to his disciples. The different types of soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for the disposition with which each individual hears the teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven. Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet some will receive it well, and the seed will produce abundant fruit.”

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

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, 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 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 contact Mrs Caroline Langan on email: cazyylangan_249@hotmail.com.

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 19th August. Tickets are on sale and cost £5 per person or £14 for a family of 4. For more information Please speak to Mrs Caroline Langan or contact her via email: cazzylangan_249@hotmail.com

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

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

Young Adults Formation

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Dereham for a week this summer. There are two choices of dates: 14th - 21st August or 30th August - 6th September. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham. To find out more and for an application form, please enquire by 30th July by emailing the COLW Sisters at freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

Upcoming Second Collections for 2023

29th/30th July – Society of St Columban – Mission Appeal.

Weekly Collection

Thank you for last week's collection which amounted to £c400.00 (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. We pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Violet Halnan** who passed away this last week.

Mass & Service Times for the Coming Week: July 16th – July 22nd

- Saturday 15th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (15th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: (RIP)
- Sunday 16th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (15th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 16th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (15th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Sahayamary (RIP)
- Monday 17th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Tuesday 18th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Wednesday 19th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Thursday 20th - 09:00 - St Mary's RCPS** (Feria)
Offered for: The Children and Staff of St Mary's RCPS
- Friday 21st - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for: The Souls in Purgatory
- Saturday 22nd - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feast, St Mary Magdalene)
Offered for: Our Lady's Intention
- Saturday 22nd - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (16th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:
- Sunday 23rd - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (16th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 23rd - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (16th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: A Special Intention...

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.
