

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



16th Week of Ordinary Time, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week IV

“First collect the darnel
and tie it in bundles to be burnt,
then gather the wheat into my barn.”

Matthew 13:30

Parish Priest: **Fr Pádraig Hawkins**
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Parish Address: **The Catholic Presbytery**
19 Gordon Road
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NR32 1NL

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

“In today’s Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the Sower for the disciples. This reading is a continuation of Jesus’ discourse that we began reading last Sunday. All three parables use commonplace experiences to describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The first parable is longer and more detailed than the next two, and it alerts us to the two-fold reality of the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will not be realized until the final judgment. In the meantime, as Jesus’ explanation to the disciples cautions, any effort to judge the progress of the Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward. The second and third parables call to our attention the abundance that will result from the small beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a mustard seed—the smallest of all seeds—will become a large bush, so too God will bring his Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom. Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the Sower we are warned against judging others. To judge and uproot the “weeds” prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven.”

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 Mrs Caroline Langan on email: cazzylangan_249@hotmail.com.

Dates for your Diary...

27/07/2023 - Prayer Group: Everyone is welcome to join us to sing, pray and praise the Lord on Thursday 27th July at 3pm at Our Lady, Star of the Sea. Please bring your bible.

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. Please speak to Mrs Caroline Langan on email: cazzylangan_249@hotmail.com for more information.

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 £380.10 (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 23rd – July 29th

- Saturday 22nd - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (16th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 23rd - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (16th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:
- Sunday 23rd - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (16th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: A Special Intention
- Monday 24th - 10:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Tuesday 25th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Feast, St James)
Offered for:
- Wednesday 26th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, St.s Joachim & Anne)
Offered for: Libby May's Intention
- Thursday 27th - 18:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for: Our Lady's Intention
- Friday 28th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for: The Souls in Purgatory
- Saturday 29th - NO MASS TODAY** (Feast, St.s Mary, Martha & Lazarus)
Offered for:
- Saturday 29th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (17th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 30th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (17th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:
- Sunday 30th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (17th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:

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.
