

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



17th Week of Ordinary Time, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week I

“Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.”

Matthew 13:52

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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.stmarysrcps.com>

Gospel Reflection

“Today’s Gospel concludes three weeks of readings from the 13th Chapter of Matthew’s Gospel. Throughout these three weeks we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven, and we have heard Jesus interpret some of his teachings for the disciples. In this week’s Gospel, Jesus offers three more short parables. The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God. The third parable that Jesus proposes in today’s Gospel is different from the first two, but it is reminiscent of the parable of the Sower heard in last week’s Gospel. The kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated. Today’s Gospel concludes with a curious statement about the scribe who understands the kingdom of heaven. Here a metaphor is offered: this scribe is like the head of a household who “brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.” The scribes referred to here are experts of Mosaic law. It is possible that Jesus is here instructing the early Christian community on how to proceed in the interpretation of Jewish law with respect to Jesus’ “new” teaching. Jesus’ teaching about the kingdom of heaven does not replace the Jewish tradition; it interprets it in a different light.”

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

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

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

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.

75th Anniversary Exhibition

Commemorating the great 1948 Cross Carrying Pilgrimage to Walsingham

From July until the end of October 2023, the Shrine is holding an exhibition to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Cross Carrying "Pilgrimage of Prayer and Penance for Peace", between 10.00 and 16.00, in the Welcome Centre at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady, the Slipper Chapel at Houghton St Giles. The Exhibition contains details of the pilgrimage together with excerpts from reminiscences of the cross carriers, together with news clippings and photographs from the papers of the time. Entry is free.

Upcoming Second Collections for 2023

16th/17th September – Home Mission Sunday.

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.

Mass & Service Times for the Coming Week: July 30th – August 5th

- 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:
- Monday 31st - 11:45 - St Nicholas' (*Requiem Mass*)** (Mem, St Ignatius of Loyola)
Offered for: Violet Halnan (RIP)
- Tuesday 1st - NO MASS TODAY** (Mem, St Alphonsus Liguori)
Offered for:
- Wednesday 2nd - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (*Feria*)
Offered for:
- Thursday 3rd - 18:00 - Our Lady's** (*Feria*)
Offered for: The Souls in Purgatory
- Friday 4th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, St John Vianney)
Offered for: Our Lady's Intention
- Saturday 5th - NO MASS TODAY** (*Feria*)
Offered for:
- Saturday 5th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (18th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:
- Sunday 6th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (18th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 6th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (18th 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.
