

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



19th Week of Ordinary Time, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week III

“ ‘Man of little faith’
he said,
‘why did you doubt?’ ”

Matthew 14:32

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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 directly follows last week’s account of Jesus feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. For the sake of the crowds, Jesus had postponed his time of solitude. Now, at last, Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends his disciples ahead of him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray. The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves, making little progress in their journey. We are reminded of a previous story in Chapter 8 of Matthew’s Gospel, when Jesus calms the seas. This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus walking toward them on the water. In this story it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom they mistake for a ghost. Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples’ growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. In continuity with last week’s Gospel about the feeding of the multitude, today’s Gospel is also about what the disciples’ faith in Jesus will enable them to do. In last week’s Gospel, when the disciples see the crowds, they ask Jesus to send the crowds away. Jesus turns the situation around, telling the disciples to feed the crowd with the provisions that they have. Both of these Gospels tell us much about ministry. Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter seeks proof that the person is indeed Jesus. He asks Jesus to call him out onto the water, and Jesus grants this request. Peter’s fear and doubt overtake him, however, once he is walking on the water. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. When Jesus and Peter enter the boat, Matthew reports that the wind ceases, and the disciples confess that Jesus is the Son of God. Faith in Jesus will enable the disciples to do the work that Jesus has done. Peter walks on water. The five loaves and two fish feed a multitude of people. The disciples can and will participate in the work of the kingdom of heaven. When Peter fears and doubts the person of Jesus, however, he falters. Peter’s example teaches us that true Christian ministry emerges from the faith that Jesus is the Messiah, God’s only Son.”

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

The Assumption

The Gospel for this holy day recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the Angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. Mary responds to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favour upon the people of Israel. Mary's Magnificat, in particular, echoes the song of praise offered by Hannah, the mother of Samuel. The Gospel for this day reminds us that Mary's Assumption into heaven is best understood with regard for the full spectrum of Catholic beliefs about the person of Christ and the person of Mary. Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Christ, who is fully God and fully human.

Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that her son has won for all of humanity. The Church, therefore, recognizes Mary as the sign of the salvation promised to all. Today's Gospel highlights Mary's faith. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan of salvation.

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 for more information 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.

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.

Upcoming Second Collections for 2023

16th/17th September – Home Mission Sunday.

Weekly Collection

Thank you for last week’s collection which amounted to £449.01 (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: August 13th – August 19th

- Saturday 12th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (19th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 13th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (19th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Alister De Cruz (RIP)
- Sunday 13th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (19th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Sean Lawless (RIP)
- Monday 14th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, St Maximillian Kolbe)
Offered for:
- Monday 14th - 18:00 - Our Lady's** (Solemnity, Vigil of The Assumption
of the B.V.Mary)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Tuesday 15th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Solemnity, The Assumption of the B.V.Mary)
Offered for:
- Wednesday 16th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Thursday 17th - 18:00 - Our Lady's** (Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit)
Offered for:
- Friday 18th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Saturday 19th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Saturday 19th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (20th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:
- Sunday 20th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (20th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 20th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (20th 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.
