

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



21st Week of Ordinary Time, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week I

“ ‘But you,’
he said,
‘who do you say I am.’ ”

Matthew 16:14

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

“It is important to read today’s Gospel and next week’s Gospel as two parts of a single story. These readings are a turning point in Matthew’s Gospel. This week we hear Jesus name Simon Peter as the rock upon which he will build his Church. Next week we will hear Jesus call this same Simon Peter "Satan" when he reacts negatively to Jesus’ prediction about his passion and death. In today’s Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about his identity. The disciples indicate that most people believe that Jesus is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks his disciples who they believe that he is. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. Jesus commends Simon Peter for this profession of faith, indicating that this insight has come from God. Because of Simon Peter’s response, Jesus calls him the "rock" upon which Jesus will build the Church. This is a word play on the name Peter, which is the Greek word for "rock." Peter is then given special authority by Jesus, a symbolic key to the Kingdom of Heaven. Peter will play an important role in the early Christian community as a spokesperson and a leader. In today’s Gospel, Peter’s recognition of Jesus’ identity is credited to a revelation by God. This will contrast sharply with Jesus’ rebuke of Peter in next week’s Gospel. When Peter rejects Jesus’ prediction of his passion and death, Peter is said to no longer be thinking as God does but as humans do. The use of the term church in today’s Gospel is one of only three such occurrences in Matthew’s Gospel. Peter in this Gospel is being credited as the foundation for the Church, a privilege granted to him because of his recognition of Jesus’ identity. The Church continues to be grounded in the faith that Jesus Christ is Lord.”

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

Thank you!

A big thank you to all who helped make the recent Parish ‘Afternoon Tea’ such a great success – fun was had by all! A particular thank you to those who baked such delicious cakes and provided mountains of food. Around £200 was raised for Parish funds.

First Holy Communion & Confirmation

Preparation Classes for First Holy Communion (Year 3 and above) and for Confirmation (Year 8 and above) are due to begin – please collect your application form for either Preparation Class directly from Fr Pádraig at the end of whichever Mass you happen to attend. Those preparing for Confirmation will meet for the first time at 3pm Saturday 23rd September. Parents and children beginning FHC preparation will meet for the first time at 3pm on Saturday 30th September. Both meetings will be in the Stella Maris Hall.

Jenny Dale (RIP)

The Requiem Mass for the late Jenny Dale takes place at Our Lady's at 11am on Thursday 14th September followed by Cremation at the Gorleston Crematorium at 12:15pm.

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: cazyylangan_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.

Vacancy with the SVP

Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) would like to recruit a Membership Support Officer (MSO) for East Anglia Diocese. 15hrs per week for 2 years, £10,475.40 per annum. The role of an MSO is to help conferences to recruit new members, set up new conferences and to give help and assistance to conferences in any way they can. This role has been successful in many other parts of the country. For more details please contact Lance Philpott: lancep@svp.org.uk or visit: <https://svp.org.uk/work-with-us>

Upcoming Second Collections for 2023

16th/17th September – Home Mission Sunday.

Weekly Collection

Thank you for last week's collection which amounted to £319.72 (Plus the regular standing orders of c.£477). 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 27th – September 2nd

- Saturday 26th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Kathryn Munden (RIP)
- Sunday 27th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 27th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:
- Monday 28th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, St Augustine)
Offered for:
- Tuesday 29th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, The Passion of St John the Baptist)
Offered for: Private Intention
- Wednesday 30th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (*Requiem Mass*) (Feria)
Offered for: Jeremy De-Mierre (RIP)
- Thursday 31st - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Feast, St Bartholomew)
Offered for: Paul Radforth's Intention
- Friday 1st - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit)
Offered for: The Souls in Purgatory
- Saturday 2nd - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Votive Mass of Our Lady)
Offered for: Our Lady's Intentions
- Saturday 2nd - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Tony Smith (RIP)
- Sunday 3rd - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 3rd - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (22nd 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.
