

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



23rd Week of Ordinary Time, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week III

“For where two or three
meet in my name,
I shall be there with them.”

Matthew 18:20

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 reading is taken from a chapter of Matthew’s Gospel, which is sometimes called the “discourse on the Church” or the “church order” discourse. In this part of Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus speaks more directly about matters of Church discipline and order. In today’s reading we find one of only three instances in which Jesus uses the word church in Matthew’s Gospel. In Matthew’s record of Jesus’ teaching, we can hear echoes of the kinds of issues faced by the early Christian community. In the first part of the “discourse on the Church” (Matthew 18:1-14), Matthew addresses the Christian community’s concerns about rank. Jesus responds to the disciples’ question about who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus indicates that those who wish to enter the kingdom of heaven must be like children, and he cautions those leaders who might lead these “little ones” astray. He also responds with the parable of the lost sheep, indicating how God will seek out and bring back those “little ones” who have strayed. In today’s Gospel reading, Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus addresses a common occurrence in the Christian community: a dispute between two members of the Church. Jesus outlines a procedure for settling such matters fairly. The victim should privately address the offender and attempt to resolve the dispute without outside involvement. If that fails, then the victim should bring two or three witnesses and confront the offender again. If the dispute is still unresolved, the matter should be brought to the attention of the entire community. If the offender refuses to adhere to the reparations prescribed by the community, then Jesus suggests that the offender may be expelled from the Church. Jesus does not discourage disagreement within the community of the Church; he acknowledges the reality of conflict and error and offers his disciples a means for addressing such matters. It is in the conclusion to this teaching that the message of hope is found: Jesus is present with the community and will guide the community in its relations. If decisions are taken in prayer, then the community can be assured of God’s assistance.”

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

Why not join the Parish ‘100 Club’?! 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. To buy your own ‘Number’ please collect a form from either Fr Pádraig or Mrs Caroline Langan on email: cazzylangan_249@hotmail.com.

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.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 16th October 2023. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268762278 / 07740175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Paul and Barbara wish to thank the whole parish for their prayers and support. Paul's operation went well and he is now safely back at home recuperating.

St Vincent de Paul Open Festival

S.V.P. East Anglia is holding two Open Festival Days, on 30th September in Norwich and 1st October in Newmarket. If anyone would like to come along and find out more about the work of S.V.P. please contact PresidentE06@svp.org.uk for more details.

Dates for your Diary...

12/09/2023 – The next CWL meeting is on Tuesday 12th September at 1:30pm in the Stella Maris Hall. All are welcome to attend.

23/09/2023 – St Mary's RCPSchool are holding a 'New to You' Sale on Saturday 23rd September from 10am to 1pm. Entry is free and there will be a collection of pre-loved stalls, local crafters and small businesses and children's activities. If you would like to book a table (£10 per table) please contact office@stmarysrcps.org.

23/09/2023 – The Parish Quiz and Supper Evening organised by the Knights of St. Columba on Saturday 23rd September from 6pm till 9pm in the Stella Maris Hall in aid of Church Funds. Payment by admission on the day - Adult meal £10; Child meal £5. Please bring a prize for the raffle. For full details and pre- booking of meals see the poster at the back of church.

Upcoming Second Collections for 2023

16th/17th September – Home Mission Sunday.

Weekly Collection

Thank you for last week's collection which amounted to £410.75 (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: September 10th – September 16th

- Saturday 9th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Simon Aspinall (RIP)
- Sunday 10th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Brian Colby (RIP)
- Sunday 10th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Derek Taplin (RIP)
- Monday 11th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for: Victims of the Terror Attacks of 9/11
- Tuesday 12th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for: A Special Intention
- Wednesday 13th - 09:00 - St Mary's RCPSchool** (Mem, St John Chrysostom)
Offered for: Children and Staff
- Thursday 14th - 11:00 - Our Lady's (Requiem Mass)** (Feast, the Exultation of the Holy Cross)
Offered for: Jennifer Dale (RIP)
- Friday 15th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Mem, Our Lady of Sorrows)
Offered for: Valerie Platt's Intention (Birthday)
- Saturday 16th - NO MASS TODAY** (Mem, St Cornelius & St Cyprian)
Offered for:
- Saturday 16th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (24th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: David & Joan (RIP) Johnson (56th Weddings Anniversary Remembrance)
- Sunday 17th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (24th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Pamela Hope (RIP)
- Sunday 17th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (24th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Stephen Langan (RIP)

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.
