

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



27th Week of Ordinary Time, Year A
Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle I, Psalter Week III

“It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.

This was the Lord’s doing and it is wonderful to see.”

Matthew 21:42

Parish Priest: **Fr Pádraig Hawkins**

Parish Priest’s Phone Number: **01502-572453**

Parish Priest’s E-Mail: **frpmfoh@gmail.com**

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.stmarysrcps.com>

Gospel Reflection

“Today's Gospel follows directly after last Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of his teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist. In today's Gospel, Jesus once again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. In this parable, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally, the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son. After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent. In telling the parable, Jesus is clearly drawing upon Isaiah 5:1-7, which is today's first reading and one that the priests and elders would have known well. Jesus doesn't, therefore, have to explain the symbolism of the parable; the Pharisees would have understood that the vineyard represented Israel, the landowner represented God, the servants represented the prophets, and the bad tenants represented the religious leaders. Yet Jesus nonetheless explains the meaning of the parable for his audience: the Kingdom of God will be taken from the unbelieving and given to the faithful. The chief priests and elders have condemned themselves with their answer to Jesus' question. Today's Gospel has a parallel in Mark 12:1-12. There are some notable differences, however. In Matthew's version, the religious leaders condemn themselves; in Mark's Gospel, Jesus answers his own question. Matthew names the religious leaders as Pharisees and chief priests. Clearly this Gospel shows the tension that was mounting between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders who thought that his message was dangerous. Matthew's Gospel was written about 70 years after Jesus' death and reflects the conflicts and tensions found in the Christian community for whom Matthew was writing. Many biblical scholars believe that the tension between Matthew's community and their Jewish neighbours can also be heard in today's reading. This Gospel reminds us of the importance of listening to God's word. God speaks to us in many ways—through Scripture, through our Church tradition, in our Church's teaching, and through modern-day prophets. Are we attentive and receptive to God's word to us through these messengers?”

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

First Holy Communion & Confirmation

Preparation Classes for First Holy Communion (Year 3 and above) and for Confirmation (Year 8 and above) have already begun. For late admittance please speak to Fr Pádraig.

Collections for Ukraine Relief

The Lowestoft outlet for the donation of goods for Ukraine has now closed. The KSC thank all donors who have responded these past months but will not hold any further collections. Any money donated to 'KSC Council 518' by mid-November to assist the Hope Now Christmas Mission 2023 will be forwarded by the Knights in time for this project. Contact Bro Chris. Brooks - Tel. (01502) 563208.

Dates for your Diary...

02/12/2023 – The Parish Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 2nd December 10am to 1pm. Any donations for raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated.

09/12/2023 – The Christmas Quiz will take place on Saturday 9th December at 7pm. Teams of 6. £5 per Ticket and will include a buffet and refreshments.

17/12/2023 – The Parish Carol Concert will take place at 2:30pm on Sunday 17th December, Gaudete Sunday, followed by Mince Pies and Mulled Wine.

100 Club Winners for September – Congratulations!

1st Prize - £20 - no.37 - Tony Ayers

2nd Prize - £10 - no.48 - Patricia Kinder

3rd Prize - £5 - no.51 - Mrs B M Corrigan

Catholic Youth Ministry Internships

Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their Youth Ministry Internship Programme. The scheme gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the English Lake District. For more information contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Upcoming Second Collections for 2023

21st/22nd October – Missio – APF – World Mission Sunday.

25th/26th November – Diocesan Youth Service – Youth Sunday.

16th/17th December – Diocesan Dependant Priests' Fund.

Weekly Collection

Thank you for last week's collection which amounted to £425.46 (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: October 8th – October 14th

- Saturday 7th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Birthday Remembrance – Margaret Morris (RIP)
- Sunday 8th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 8th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: Private Intention
- Monday 9th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feast, St John Henry Newman)
Offered for:
- Tuesday 10th - 12:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for: CWL – Special Intention
- Wednesday 11th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Thursday 12th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Friday 13th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for: Paul Blythe (RIP)
- Saturday 14th - 09:00 - Our Lady's** (Feria)
Offered for:
- Saturday 14th - 17:00 - Our Lady's** (28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for:
- Sunday 15th - 09:00 - St Nicholas'** (28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)
Offered for: People of the Parish
- Sunday 15th - 11:00 - Our Lady's** (28th 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.
