

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**NEWSLETTER**

73 NEWTOWN, THETFORD, NORFOLK, IP24 3AU

Church website <http://www.stmarysthetford.org/>

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**'PEACE SUNDAY'**

**SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022**

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**PEACE ON EARTH AND CHRISTIAN UNITY**



THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE OCCURRED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY. However, as the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God on this day, the event is transferred to 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, thus this Sunday is designated PEACE SUNDAY. The theme of this year's celebration of Peace is **"Dialogue between Generations, Education, Work and Dialogue: Tools for Building Lasting Peace"**. A summary of Pope Francis' thoughts on this theme can be found on the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales's website at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/world-peace-day-2022-education-work-and-dialogue-between-generations/>. Greater detail of the Pope's message, can be found at: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20211208-messaggio-55giornatamondiale-pace2022.html>



PAX CHRISTI UK, the UK arm of the wider International Catholic Movement for Peace, is a leading and active advocate for promoting Peace, Reconciliation and Nonviolence throughout the world. Their website suggests many ways we can all promote peace in our daily lives with. Materials and further information for Peace Sunday can be found at: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022/>. If you can support the activities of Pax Christi, please make a donation at: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/about-us/support-us/donation/>

**THE OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

This period of eight days begins on TUESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY and ends on the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul: THURSDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY. The concept was initiated in 1908 by the American Episcopalian clergyman Paul Wattson who later became a Catholic. Each year material for the Week of Prayer is prepared by Christians in different regions of the world; materials for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 have been prepared by the churches of the Middle East. The material can be downloaded from <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/>

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For much of this current liturgical cycle – Year C – we hear from St Luke but today is an exception. Instead, the gospel is drawn from St John's gospel (JOHN 2: 1 – 11), the focus of which is the WEDDING FEAST AT CANA, where Jesus performed His first recorded Miracle of converting water to wine. This event is regarded as the third 'Epiphany' (*the others – the Adoration of the Magi the Baptism of the Lord – have already been celebrated*) where, in the presence of His mother Mary, He revealed His divinity to the disciples He had gathered early in His ministry (*as an aside, St John revealed that Jesus would further provide signs as to His true persona, although these are not revealed in the gospel to demonstrate that the signs themselves were not important but what they revealed was*). Even though events at Cana represented the beginning of Jesus' active ministry, Jesus already gave indications of what was to come later in His life, when He told Mary '...that his hour has not yet come...'. This awareness of Jesus' ultimate destiny is common throughout St John's gospel. It showed that Jesus was fully aware of why He was earth – to fulfil God's promise of salvation through a New Covenant with the people on earth – and how He would dedicate His life and death to achieving this goal. Do we fully understand Jesus' offer of redemption to us through these revelations and the sufferings He had to endure on our behalf to achieve them? Let us bear some of the pain and anguish that Mary, who was at present at the key moments of Jesus life (including Cana), had to endure so her Son could bring us eternal life.



**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) ELECTIONS AT ST MARY'S**

ELECTIONS TO THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL WILL TAKE PLACE A WEEK LATER THAN PLANNED, ON THE WEEKEND OF 22<sup>ND</sup> /23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY, TO ENSURE ALL FORMALITIES ARE CORRECTLY OBSERVED. Ballots papers will be available at Masses over that weekend to allow parishioners to vote for candidates. Do please take this opportunity to support the WORK OF THE PPC.

**COVID SAFETY MEASURES CURRENTLY IN PLACE AT ST MARY'S**

**REGISTRATION** remains essential. Masses on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday are now self-regulating, in that, congregants to must register themselves on a form found in the porch (please write names legibly in block capitals). For the more tech-savvy, it is possible to register using a QR code linked to the NHS Covid app 19 found in the porch. **PERSONAL PROTECTION:** Hand sanitation, face coverings over mouth and nose, and social distancing are essential, especially in receiving Holy Communion. No missals will be available **ALTHOUGH HYMNALS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SUNDAY MASSES**. The 'one way system' remains in place - entry through the main porch, exit through the wax sacristy. Parishioners shouldn't linger in the church and should depart immediately. **VENTILATION:** heating will be on during Mass but because of Covid ventilation will be maintained despite the energy waste. The Parish Pastoral Council advises all to come in warm clothing. *These measures are in-line with the guidance on managing the threat of the omicron variant of Covid provided by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The bishops also encourage people to accept vaccination considering these recent developments.*

**THE SYNODAL PATH:** To enable us to participate in the Synodal Path, our Diocese has prepared a survey to which all are welcome to respond to: this is now online at the Diocesan website (<https://www.rcdea.org.uk/synodal-pathway/>), A link to the relevant Diocesan webpage can also be found on our parish website (<https://stmarysthetford.org/>). **If you cannot access the online questionnaire, please contact Paul Gilbert on 07759 672434. He can supply you with a paper version which can be returned to him for online submission to the Diocese. No personal details are required.**

**Caritas and the Synodal Path:** Caritas will be holding two online events for those unable to join parish listening/discernment events for the Synodal Pathway: THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY AT 1 PM & THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY AT 7.30PM. To register, email Jacinta Welch: [caritas@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:caritas@rcdea.org.uk)

**MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD**

<b>SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	<i>FERIA</i>	<b>5.30 PM MASS</b>	<p align="center"><b>PLEASE NOTE:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>ST MARY'S PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>(1) LEAVE CONTACT DETAILS FOR TRACK &amp; TRACE</b></p> <p align="center"><b>(2) WEAR A MASK DURING MASS</b></p> <p align="center"><b>(3) HAND SANITISE WHERE NECESSARY</b></p> <p align="center"><b>(4) OBSERVE THE ONE-WAY SYSTEM IN THE CHURCH.</b></p> <p align="center"><b>THANK-YOU</b></p>
<b>SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022</b> <b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>		<b>10.00 AM MASS</b>	
<b>MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	<i>ST ANTHONY</i>	NO MASS	
<b>TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	<i>FERIA – OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY BEGINS</i>	<b>10.00 AM MASS</b>	
<b>WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	<i>FERIA</i>	NO MASS	
<b>THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	<i>FERIA</i>	<b>10.00 AM MASS</b>	
<b>FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY</b>	<i>ST AGNES</i>	NO MASS	
<b>SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY</b>	<i>FERIA</i>	<b>5.30 PM MASS</b>	
<b>SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2022</b> <b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD</b>		<b>10.00 AM MASS</b>	

**THE CYCLE OF PRAYER - DURING ORDINARY TIME (WINTER) WE ARE ASKED TO PRAY FOR:** PEACE ON EARTH; CHRISTIAN UNITY; OPENNESS TO THE WORD OF GOD; THE SICK AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM; VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING; THE UNEMPLOYED

**CONFESSION:** Fr Peter is available for confessions between 5 pm and 5.20 pm on Saturdays, just before the Vigil Mass.

**ALTERNATIVE DONATION METHODS:** St Mary's has a contactless card payment machine, or payments can be made using the link on the front page of the church website (<http://www.stmarysthetford.org/>) The minimum donation in either case is £1.

**ST ANTHONY** (c. 251 – 356) was an Egyptian monk revered since his death as a saint. He is distinguished from other saints named Anthony by epithets including Anthony the Great, Anthony of Egypt, Anthony the Abbot and Anthony of the Desert. His approach to monastic life helped to spread the concept of Christian monasticism, particularly in Western Europe; as such he is also known as the Father of All Monks. Anthony is appealed to against infectious diseases, particularly skin diseases.

**ST AGNES [OF ROME] (C. 291 – C. 304)** is one of the most celebrated of Roman martyrs, and one of seven women, alongside the Virgin Mary, who are commemorated by name in the Mass. Renowned for her sanctity, she was martyred for refusing to renounce her faith during the persecution of the Christians by the emperor Diocletian. She is the patron saint of chastity, virgins and gardeners.

**ST MARY'S ROSARY GROUP:** The Rosary and Angelus are said in the **CHURCH GARDEN BETWEEN 11.30 AM & NOON ON MONDAYS.** **SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE OBSERVED WHILST THERE.** Those who are unable to attend, please join us in spirit knowing that others are saying the rosary at that time. If people wish for the rosary to be offered for a particular reason, please send your intentions to this email address: [thetfordrosary@gmail.com](mailto:thetfordrosary@gmail.com). Any requests will be acknowledged. **MANY THANKS.**

**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	<b>ALL THE EARTH SHALL BOW DOWN BEFORE YOU, O GOD, AND SHALL SING TO YOU, SHALL SING TO YOUR NAME, O MOST HIGH.</b>	
RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	<b>PROCLAIM THE WONDERS OF THE LORD AMONG ALL THE PEOPLES</b>	
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:	<b>ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! YOUR WORDS ARE SPIRIT, LORD, AND THEY ARE LIFE: YOU HAVE THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL LIFE ALLELUIA!</b>	
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	<b>YOU HAVE PREPARED A TABLE BEFORE ME, AND HOW PRECIOUS IS THE CHALICE THAT QUENCHES MY THIRST</b>	
<b>READINGS</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> READING: ISAIAH 62: 1 -5; 2<sup>ND</sup> READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12: 4 - 11; GOSPEL: JOHN 2: 1 - 11</b>	
<b>MUSIC FOR SUNDAY</b>	<b>Entrance Hymn (Introit):</b> 788 Praise to the Holiest in the height. Common: The Mass of creation.; 489 Glory to God; 490 Holy, Holy... (Sanctus); 491 Memorial Acclamation "We proclaim your death...; 495 Lamb of God... (Agnus Dei) <b>Hymn before Holy Communion:</b> 633 Sweet sacrament Divine	<i>Please collect a hymn book as you enter and place it on the trolley by the wax sacristy door as you depart.</i>

**IN MEMORIAM** PLEASE PRAY FOR **BEATRICE CANE, DENNIS KERRIGAN AND MILOSLAV MIKULIK** WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ABOUT THIS TIME

**PRAY FOR THE SICK** PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS AT THIS TIME: **PEGGY LLOYD, MADELINE TANNER, HENRIETTA CONNOLLY, MERVYN DAS, FATIMA ANJO, MARY MATTHEWS, WINNIE CLARKE, PATRICIA AND VITTORIO COCUCCIO, EILEEN MOLONEY, ANNE HOOD, EMMA WRIGHT, ANNE STANLEICK, MARIE BARBER, ALFRED ROITS**

**CHAIR OF PPC:** PAUL GILBERT (TEL: 07759 672434; [STMARYSCHAIR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STMARYSCHAIR@GMAIL.COM)); **VICE-CHAIR OF PPC & SAFEGUARDING REP:** DAVID STACEY (TEL: 01842-766953; [DSTACEY77@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DSTACEY77@GMAIL.COM)); **PCC SECRETARY:** DOM HILL; **CO-ORDINATOR OF ALTAR SERVERS:** ROBERT MURPHY (TEL: 01842 337563; [ROBERTMURPHY@AOL.COM](mailto:ROBERTMURPHY@AOL.COM)); **PARISH HALL BOOKINGS:** MARY GORMAN (TEL. 01842-754896; [PTRGORMAN@AOL.COM](mailto:PTRGORMAN@AOL.COM)); **FLOWERS:** CORINNA ROBINSON; **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** MARK LUTERBACHER (TEL: 01359-268280 [MARK.LUTERBACHER@BTINTERNET.COM](mailto:MARK.LUTERBACHER@BTINTERNET.COM))

*THE DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA IS A REGISTERED CHARITY No 278742*