

# Catholic Parish of Walsingham

ST PETER, BLAKENEY ✠ ST HENRY WALPOLE, SJ, BURNHAM MARKET ✠ OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION, WALSINGHAM ✠ OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA

(1836) Parish Mass Book, Readings & Prayers 112-115 Prayer of the Church, 3

NINETEENTH SUNDAY  
YEAR OF ST MATTHEW  
AUGUST 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Several of Jesus' miracles recorded in the gospels are referred to as 'nature miracles'. Unlike exorcisms and cures they seem to indicate a divine power over



the inanimate forces of nature; they resemble the self-aggrandising kind of miracle which Jesus refused to perform when tempted by Satan to throw himself from the pinnacle of the temple. (Matt 4:5-7) Be that as it may, Jesus walking on the water, which is one of these nature miracles, can be understood, like the cures, as a saving act. Jesus, who has spent the greater part of the night alone in prayer comes, as dawn is about to break, to the assistance of his troubled disciples. His message is clear: I'm here, "Do not be afraid," either of ghosts – which they mistook him for – or of sudden death by drowning, or of anything else. Peter says, "If it's really you, tell me to come to you." He is putting Jesus to the test. There is another echo here of the temptation story in which Jesus resists the devil by quoting scripture:

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test." (Deuteronomy 6:16) Jesus gives the invitation and Peter approaches but, when his courage fails, he begins to sink. Jesus interprets this as a lack of faith. Elsewhere in the gospel Jesus complains of his disciples' lack of faith. When they fail to cure an epileptic, for example, he tells them, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible for you." (Matt 17:20) Then Peter, his faith apparently restored, cries out, "Lord, save me," and all is well. When they are safely back in the boat, the disciples make their confession of faith, "Truly, you are the Son of God." Strangely this comes before the confession of Peter at Caesarea Philippi (16:16) Before this God himself (3:7) and the devil (4:3,6) had used this expression and Jesus had called God 'Father' on several occasions (Eg. 7:21; 10:32). The development of the first disciples' faith is one thing; the faith of the gospel reader, hearer of the Word of God, is another. These words are an expression of our faith which grows out of the gospel which has been handed down to us. At the end of the gospel the centurion who witnesses Jesus' death says, "Truly this man was son of God." (27:54) He confirms the purpose of the gospel so eloquently stated by St John: "There were many other signs that Jesus worked...these are recorded so that you may believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God." (John 20:30-31)

....from CHRISTUS VIVIT

*"to discern our personal vocation, we have to realize that it is a calling from a friend, who is Jesus. When we give something to our friends, we give them the best we have. It will not necessarily be what is most expensive or hard to obtain, but what we know will make them happy. Friends are so sensitive to this that they can already imagine the smile on their friend's face when he or she opens that gift. This sort of discernment that takes place among friends is what I suggest you take as a model for trying to discover God's will for your lives. I want you to know that, when the Lord thinks of each of you and what he wants to give you, he sees you as his close friend. And if he plans to grant you a grace, a charism that will help you live to the full and become someone who benefits others, someone who leaves a mark in life, it will surely be a gift that will bring you more joy and excitement than anything else in this world.." (287-288)*

## PARTICIPATION IN THE LITURGY

Now, once again, we are able to celebrate the Eucharist. This is a real cause for rejoicing but we must still be careful to take every precaution against Covid 19. We are not obliged to put ourselves at risk in order to take part in the Mass. There are many online liturgies.

**You can take part in the liturgy via the internet at the Catholic Shrine webpage:**

[www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

*"Truly, you are the Son of God."*



## THE YEAR OF THE WORD

**Befriending the Scriptures** cannot, of course, meet at present. We can, however, keep reading Matthew's gospel and the readings appointed for the Mass of the day even though we cannot meet.

Sunday:	1 Kings 19:9-13	Psalm 84	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:22-33
Monday:		<b>St Lawrence the Deacon</b>		
Tuesday:	2 Corinthians 9:6-10	Psalm 111		John 12:24-26
Wednesday:	Ezekiel 2:8-3:4	Psalm 118		Matthew 18:1-14
Thursday:	Ezekiel 9:1-10:22	Psalm 112		Matthew 18:15-20
Friday:	Ezekiel 12:1-12	Psalm 77		Matthew 18:21-19:2
Saturday:	Ezekiel 16:1-63	Isaiah 12		Matthew 19:3-12
	Ezekiel 18:1-32	Psalm 50		Matthew 19:13-15

### OPENING OF CHURCHES

As you know, we may celebrate the Eucharist together but must proceed carefully; there are many regulations to be observed (See ***Distanced but Together***). We are in a period of transition and things will probably change from time to time. For this week the timetable will be as follows:

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Walsingham:	Sunday 10.30 Mass
	Tuesday 9.30 Mass
	Tuesday to Friday inclusive, 10 – 11.30 Private Prayer
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wells-next-the-Sea:	Saturday 6.00 pm Mass
	Thursday 9.30 Mass
St Peter's, Blakeney:	Sunday 11.00 Mass
	Wednesday 9.30 Mass
St Henry Walpole, Burnham Market:	Friday 9.30 Mass
	Sunday 9.30 Mass

Please hand on this information to people you know who are unable to receive this newsletter via the Web site. Who'd be a steward? Please do as they ask you without question.

Hand sanitiser will be available at each church but you should provide your own mask. 'Social distancing' must be observed. There will be clear indication in each church where you may sit.

### SUNDAY OBLIGATION

I rejoice that, once again, we are able to share, even if under serious constraints, in the fundamental Christian act: the Eucharist. Under the present circumstances, however, be assured there is no obligation to attend Mass on Sundays. If you are isolating, sheltering or in any way nervous about public gatherings, just take your time.

### FR KEITH

Fr Keith had his surgery on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, and all went well. He is now recovering quietly at home. For the moment, Fr Tom and Fr Des will be answering the telephone. Please do not ask for Fr Keith, or come to visit for the moment, as he needs to rest. He would like to thank everyone for all their thoughts, prayers and good wishes.

### WELCOME, FR DES!

Fr Des Hanrahan, a Marist Father from the community in Hull, is joining the Wells community to support Fr Tom in the parish work during Fr Keith's convalescence. The warmest of welcomes!

**MISSIO:** Please see the 'Distanced but Together' section of the website.

### DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Countless people in poor countries are enduring the viral pandemic with little medical support. Donations can be made to the Disasters Emergency Committee at:

[https://www.dec.org.uk/?gclid=CjwKCAjw9vn4BRBaEiwAh0muDMUMYsBlAPM8iOjOoN1flcnx49fvVRYHcy61i5tvU8vQZ8hFlZxZ3BoCTmMQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.dec.org.uk/?gclid=CjwKCAjw9vn4BRBaEiwAh0muDMUMYsBlAPM8iOjOoN1flcnx49fvVRYHcy61i5tvU8vQZ8hFlZxZ3BoCTmMQAvD_BwE)

People could also help by writing to their MP to ask for cancellation of Third World Debt; see the Jubilee Debt website 18<sup>TH</sup> July 2020 at

<https://jubileedebt.org.uk/press-release/g20-debt-failure-will-lose-poor-countries-billions-each-month>

Peter Coates

Parish Clergy: Revv. Keith Tulloch, SM, (Parish Priest), Thomas Goonan, SM,  
Steven Leeder (Deacon)

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