

# 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 85-87 Prayer of the Church, 2

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT  
YEAR OF ST MARK  
DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

Today we hear the opening words of the gospel according to Mark: this is the good news about Jesus Christ, Son of God. The first character to appear is,



however, not Jesus but John the Baptist. We are reminded that his role in the unfolding of the good news is of great importance. Mark picks out some words of the prophet Isaiah and says to his readers: "Listen to that. Hundreds of years ago, but he could be talking about John." From what we read elsewhere in the gospel we know he was a strange, eccentric character. He was a prophet, someone chosen by God to speak on his behalf in a time of crisis. And what does he say? 'Repent': change the way you think and the way you live. He is a 'voice crying in the wilderness'. The wilderness John inhabited was a real place, largely uninhabited and hostile to human life. But it was also figurative, a society adrift from the safe harbour of God's kingdom. Far from sharing the values that fuelled the ambitions of so many of the people of his time,

John rejected them. When Jesus encountered his preaching in the desert he accepted baptism from him and began to preach the same message. It is almost as if John acted as a catalyst to activate Jesus' messianic identity. We live in John's figurative wilderness and from within it hear him cry, "Repent!" as clearly, during this Advent season, as did Jesus and the people of first century Palestine. When we hear him cry, "Prepare the way of the Lord," we understand it differently; the saving work of Jesus the messiah has already taken effect, and yet there are many in the world around us who reject or ignore the good news. We need to accept it anew and take up the challenge to share in John's mission of making the path which leads to Jesus our Lord smoother and devoid of obstacles. "The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that, "The People of God is marked by characteristics that clearly distinguish it from all other religious, ethnic, political, or cultural groups found in history" (782); we share in his prophetic office (785). Our Advent journey towards the point where we meet Christ requires us, as St Peter says, to "live lives without spot or stain, so that he will find you at peace," (2 Peter 3:14) but for a disciple of Christ this entails handing on the good news. It may feel, in this modern wilderness, as though we are wasting our sweetness on the desert air, but the Spirit of God within us will make our prophecy effective.

from FRATELLI TUTTI

*"... discarding others can take a variety of forms, such as an obsession with reducing labour costs with no concern for its grave consequences, since the unemployment that it directly generates leads to the expansion of poverty. In addition, a readiness to discard others finds expression in vicious attitudes that we thought long past, such as racism, which retreats underground only to keep reemerging. ... Some economic rules have proved effective for growth, but not for integral human development. Wealth has increased, but together with inequality, with the result that "new forms of poverty are emerging". The claim that the modern world has reduced poverty is made by measuring poverty with criteria from the past.... In other times, for example, lack of access to electric energy was not considered a sign of poverty, nor was it a source of hardship. Poverty must always be understood and gauged in the context of the actual opportunities available in each concrete historical period. (20-21)*

## FINANCE

The income from collections at Mass and fundraising is halved and there has been no income from the repository or candle sales, which amounts to around £3,000. I would ask those who do not already do so to consider supporting the parish a standing order. Please contact Terry, Dilys or Fr Keith for bank details.

*"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths"*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

It is hard to keep in touch under the present circumstances and to know who amongst us is suffering from ill health. Please pray for all of them and keep Tom and myself informed. Tim Matthewes, Mary Pegg, Brenda Winch, Fr John, Maureen and Derek Scholfield, Lem judge, Charles Butler and, I'm sure, others are in need of your prayer at this time.

## CHURCH OPENING

As the current lockdown ends on December 1<sup>st</sup> and we enter 'tier 2' restrictions, the churches will once again be open for Mass as well as private prayer at the usual times from Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Our Lady of the Annunciation, Walsingham:**

Sunday 10.30 Mass

Monday to Saturday 9.30 Mass

(followed by exposition on Monday. Confessions on Saturday)

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:**

Sunday 9.30 Mass

Friday 9.30 Mass

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1030-1130 Private Prayer

## From IGNITE

The Ignite Team are planning plenty of new online content over the coming months. Join us on YouTube for First Fridays, our NEW monthly online chat show which goes live on the First Friday of each month. And why not join young people across the Diocese for our Mass for Young People on the Second Saturday of each month? Streamed via our YouTube channel and coming in person to a church near you!

Follow us on Instagram and subscribe on YouTube to keep up to date with all we have to offer you: @igniteya

## HOMELESS BOX CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

As the colder days approach let's make a special effort to help the homeless and those in need. New socks, hats, gloves, scarves, toiletries please. Because of Covid 19 restrictions NO KNITTED ITEMS please. Thank you.

## PARTICIPATION IN THE LITURGY

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)

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

As you know, space is limited in our church buildings because of Covid 19 regulations. We would like all parishioners to have the opportunity to take part in the Christmas Masses: Blakeney, Burnham Market and Wells, 6.00 pm on Christmas Eve; Blakeney 11.00 am. Burnham Market 9.30 am, Walsingham 10.30 am on Christmas Day. There is also a vigil Mass at the Shrine

To make sure no one is left out we will have to 'book' places. There are lists in Burnham Market, Walsingham and Wells to write your name and those of family members or others who will be with you who are going to attend. You can ask someone to do this for you. For Blakeney, contact Catherine Blyth. Let's hope that by next year – even by Easter? – everything will be back to normal. In the meantime, thanks for putting up with the inconvenience.



## 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:	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 84	2 Peter 3:8-14	Mark 1:1-8
Monday:	Isaiah 35:1-10	Psalm 84		Luke 5:17-26
Tuesday:	<b><i>The Immaculate Conception of the BVM</i></b>			
	Genesis 3:9-20	Psalm 97	Ephesians 1:3-12	Luke 126-38
Wednesday:	Isaiah 40:25-31	Psalm 102		Matthew 11:28-30
Thursday:	Isaiah 41:13-20	Psalm 144		Matthew 11:11-15
Friday:	Isaiah 48:17-19	Psalm 1		Matthew 11:16-19
Saturday:	Ecclesiasticus 48:1-11	Psalm 79		Matthew 17:10-13

Due to lockdown CAFOD have postponed sending out our usual deliveries of World Gifts catalogues as they can't be displayed in churches at the moment. You can order yourself through the CAFOD website : <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/products/world-gifts-christmas-catalog> 2020?\_pos=1&\_sid=5b9089504&\_ss=r

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

Contact Parish Priest: 07538 130655; 01328 713044

Web page: [www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org](http://www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org)

[annunciation22@gmail.com](mailto:annunciation22@gmail.com)

Newsletter contributions: [annunciationnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:annunciationnewsletter@gmail.com)