

# 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 93-96 Prayer of the Church, 4

TWELFTH SUNDAY  
YEAR OF ST MATTHEW  
JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Today we return to 'Sundays in ordinary time'. The wonderful high-spots of the liturgical year have all passed by and we are free simply to reflect on the gospel reading. Jesus says to the twelve, as he sends



them out to proclaim the Kingdom, "Do not be afraid." These words occur quite often in Matthew: an angel uses them to reassure Joseph about Mary's pregnancy at the beginning; Jesus says them to his disciples as he walks toward them on the sea and to Peter, James and John after the transfiguration; and the risen Lord greets the faithful women with them as the story nears its end. On this occasion Jesus is telling, first, the twelve but also those who will come after them that they must be fearless in proclaiming the gospel. The insights they have gained, as it were 'secretly' through their intimate association with him, must be clearly proclaimed.

They will encounter opposition, but they must not be afraid of those who would persecute and kill them. To be afraid is a terrible thing. It paralyses the human spirit faced with a hostile power. Jesus reminds them that their fear can only be conquered by remembering that the power of God is greater than that of those who would kill them and charges them to, "fear him who can destroy body and soul." Many Christians are uncomfortable with the idea of fearing God. Surely, they say, we are not to be frightened of Him? Certainly not. But we must be aware of his power and respect it. The perverted power of those who would persecute us – perverted because it is capable of and perpetrates evil – is a pale imitation of the power of God; it operates only in the sphere of time and cannot create, but only destroy. The creative power of God continues as he keeps in mind all his creation, even things we may consider to be worth less than ourselves, like humble sparrows. The sparrow is, of course, every bit as much a miracle as we are, but Jesus reassures us that we are worth 'hundreds of sparrows'. If God esteems us so then, clearly, there really is no need to be afraid. We can proclaim the gospel fearlessly, no matter what the opposition, but we must never lose sight of his power: just look at the sparrows.

....from CHRISTUS VIVIT

*Young people intensely feel the call to love; they dream of meeting the right person with whom they can form a family and build a life together. This is undoubtedly a vocation which God himself makes known to them through their feelings, desires and dreams. I dwelt more fully on this theme in the Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia. I would encourage all young people to read especially the fourth and fifth chapters of that Exhortation. I like to think that two Christians who marry have recognized the call of the Lord in their own love story, the vocation to form one flesh and one life from two, male and female. The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony envelops this love in the grace of God; it roots it in God himself. By this gift, and by the certainty of this call, you can go forward with assurance; you have nothing to fear; you can face everything together." (256-257)*

PARTICIPATION IN THE LITURGY

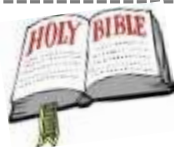
**You can take part in the liturgy via the internet at the Catholic Shrine webpage:**  
[www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

CAFOD

CAFOD launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30 April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. To find out how you can help, see the CAFOD item on the parish webpage ([www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org](http://www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org)) in the section called *Distanced but Together*.

*"There is no need to be afraid..."*

**Because of restrictions imposed by the government in response to the Covid19 virus emergency, there will be no Masses or other services in any of our churches until further notice.**



## 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:	Jeremiah 20:10-13;	Psalm 68;	Romans 5:12-15;	Matthew 10:26-33
Monday:	2 Maccabees 6:18-31;	Psalm 30;	<b>Saints John Fisher and Thomas More</b>	
Tuesday:	2 Kings 19:9-36;	Psalm 47;	Matthew 24:4-13	Matthew 7:6-14
Wednesday:	Isaiah 49:1-6;	Psalm 138;	Acts 13:22-26	Luke 1:57-80
Thursday:	2 Kings 24:8-17;	Psalm 78;	Matthew 7:21-29	
Friday:	Ezekiel 43:1-7;	Psalm 84;	Ephesians 2:19-22	Matthew 16:13-19
Saturday:	Lamentations 2:2-19;	Psalm 73;		Matthew 8:5-17

## NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST BIKE RIDE

We have supported this event by designating some churches as stations of the route. Circumstances are strange this year but we have received a letter saying: "The Bike Ride committee is planning to go ahead with this year's event on Saturday 12th September. We hope that the Bike Ride will be an great opportunity to raise some much needed funds for churches and the Norfolk Churches Trust, and we would like to make this a record year for all of us...." We need volunteers to man the station at Blakeney church. If you are able to help please contact Maureen Schofield (01263 740582). For more information see:

<https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride/taking-part/>

## NATIONAL MASSES

Each Thursday, at 7.00pm, a Catholic Bishop has been celebrating a live-streamed Mass in his Cathedral for people to join in. By visiting the Cathedral webpage, or the Bishops' Conference Webpage ([cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk)) links for the live-streaming of these Masses can be found.

25 <sup>th</sup> June	Bishop Alan Hopes	St John the Baptist Cathedral, Norwich
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Archbishop John Wilson	St George's Cathedral, Southwark
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Bishop Tom Williams	Christ the King Cathedral, Liverpool

## OPENING OF CHURCHES

The Government has decided that church buildings may be open for individual prayer from Monday June 15th. This does not mean that we may open our churches in the way we were used to before the covid 19 outbreak; there are stringent conditions attached to this permission. In order that we might comply with these I have decided that, for the time being, our churches will be open only between fixed times, as follows:

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Walsingham:	Monday to Friday inclusive, 10 – 11.30
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wells-next-the-Sea:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 - 11
St Peter's, Blakeney:	Closed for building and garden work
St Henry Walpole, Burnham Market:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 – 11.30

Hand sanitiser will be available at each church but you should provide your own mask. There will be a steward there to ensure that the various safety regulations are maintained.

## ST PAUL in ACTS

During the Easter period we have been hearing excerpts from the Acts of the Apostles at the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. It is from Scriptures such as these, which point to the priorities of Christian faith lived in the world, that we can reinvigorate our faith as we go forward from Pentecost to face new problems for the world and for the Church. Fr Adrian Graffy, Scripture scholar and parish priest of Gidea Park, has prepared a new talk 'Paul in Acts' which can be accessed by going to:

[www.whatgoodnews.org/faith-talks](http://www.whatgoodnews.org/faith-talks)

Contact Parish Priest: 07538 130655; 01328 713044

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