

Catholic Parish of Walsingham

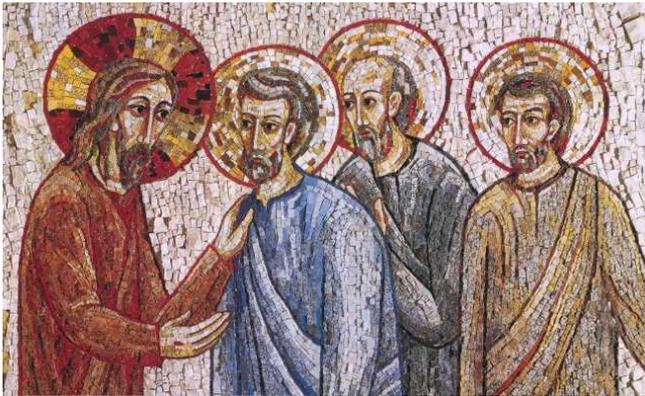
ST PETER, BLAKENEY ✕ ST HENRY WALPOLE, SJ, BURNHAM MARKET ✕ OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION, WALSINGHAM ✕ OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA

Parish Mass Book, Readings & Prayers 270-272 Prayer of the Church: 2

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER
YEAR OF ST MARK
May 5th, 2024

Masses: **Blakeney**, Sunday 11.00, Wednesday 9.30, **Burnham Market**, Sunday 9.30
Friday, 9.30; **Walsingham**, Sunday 10.30, Weekdays daily at 9.30,
Wells-next-the-Sea, Sunday, 9.00, (& Saturday, 18.00), Thursday, 9.30

The gospel today follows on from Jesus's parable of the vine we read last week. There Jesus tells his disciples, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears



much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5) Today, he says more about how to 'abide in him': we must keep his commandments. This can sound a little legalistic. Remember the young man in Mark's gospel who asks, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus reminds him of the ten commandments, and he says, "all these I have kept from my youth." But Jesus tells him that, even so, there is still something lacking: he must sell what he has and give to the poor. (cf. Mark 10:17-22) There is more to being a disciple of Jesus than keeping rules. When Jesus says, "do what I command you," what he requires is something that transcends anything which can be formulated in a law code; what he 'commands' is that we, "Love one another as I have loved you." The

man in Mark's gospel "went away sorrowful," unable to do as Jesus had asked. In the language of John's gospel, we could say that he was unable to Love as Jesus had loved. Such love would have enabled him to sell all his possessions, and more besides. The 'more besides' is encompassed in Jesus's elaboration of his command: "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends." The poignancy of this is intensified by the context of Jesus's words in the gospel of John: the night before he died. There is no commandment of any Law which states, "Thou shalt be ready to lay down your life for your friend." There are many examples in history of people who have been heroic enough to do just that in demonstration of their love. But the willingness to do so comes from within rather than from without. When Jesus tells us to "love one another as I have loved you," he is telling us to think and act as he does. We cannot do this if we are separated from him; "apart from me you can do nothing." If we are to love "as he has loved us" we must, then, abide in him and know that he abides in us." St Paul understood this and was able to say, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." (Ephesians 2:20) Some of us might be tempted to say, like the rich young man, "For me to be so close to Christ, to be so perfect a disciple, is impossible." That would be to forget that when Christ gave this commandment, he called himself *The Vine*, and us the branches. Branches of a vine are not separate from the vine; they are the vine. We are 'in Christ' and need to recall that fact when our confidence fades.

from LAUDATO SÍ

"We need to grow in the conviction that a decrease in the pace of production and consumption can at times give rise to another form of progress and development. Efforts to promote a sustainable use of natural resources are not a waste of money, but rather an investment capable of providing other economic benefits in the medium term. If we look at the larger picture, we can see that more diversified and innovative forms of production which impact less on the environment can prove very profitable. It is a matter of openness to different possibilities which do not involve stifling human creativity and its ideals of progress, but rather directing that energy along new channels. For example, a path of productive development, which is more creative and better directed, could correct the present disparity between excessive technological investment in consumption and insufficient investment in resolving urgent problems facing the human family. It could generate intelligent and profitable ways of reusing, revamping and recycling, and it could also improve the energy efficiency of cities... Such creativity would be a worthy expression of our most noble human qualities, (191-192)

"What I command you is to love one another...."

The first General Assembly of the Synod has now finished, and we are in the Present Synod's final year. Let's keep it in mind and in our thoughts and prayers.

... a 'synodal Church' is a missionary church which, whilst faithful to its tradition, is open to finding new ways of responding to the challenges of present time ...



SVP



There will be a meeting of the St Vincent de Paul Society in the Upper

Room at the Church of the Annunciation in Walsingham on **Thursday, May 9th at 6.00 pm**. All welcome.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sun:	Acts 10:25-48	Psalm 98	1 John 4:7-8	John 15:9-17
Mon:	Acts 16:11-15	Psalm 149		John 15:26-16:4
Tues:	Acts 16:22-34	Psalm 138		John 16:5-11
Wed:	Acts 17:15-18:1	Psalm 148		John 16:12-15
Feast of the Ascension				
Thurs:	Acts 1;1-11	Psalm 47	Ephesians 4:1-13	Mark 16:15-20
Fri:	Acts 18:9-18	Psalm 47		John 16:20-23
Sat:	Acts 18:23-28	Psalm 47		John 16:23-28

BEFRIENDING the SCRIPTURES

Upper Room – Church of the Annunciation – Wednesdays – After the 9.30 Mass.
Next meeting *Wednesday, May 8th, 2024.*

Currently we are reflecting on the life and letters of Saint Paul.

Young people's version on Thursday May 9th, 6.30-7.30:

CAFOD - SUDAN CRISIS APPEAL

The people of Sudan need our help urgently. Cafod is launching an emergency appeal for donations to get aid to them on the biggest scale we can muster.

The war in Sudan has forced millions of people from their homes creating one of the world's largest humanitarian crises.

There will be a collection at all Masses on **Pentecost Sunday 19th May.**

LECTIO DIVINA

Lectio Divina is a prayerful reading of the Sacred Scriptures

Meetings held on the first Friday of each month in the Upper Room at the Church of the Annunciation, Walsingham, 10;15-11.30. All welcome to take part and experience the prayerful reading of the following Sunday's Gospel. Next Meeting, May 10th.

ORTHODOX EASTER

Next Sunday, May 5th is Easter for the Orthodox Church. You are invited to take part in Solemn Vespers at the church of the Holy Transfiguration, Great Walsingham, at 3.00 pm. on that day.

QUIET GARDEN

The Garden at St Seraphim's is open daily from 9.00 am – 4.00 pm.
The SVP are providing a Drop-in Event there each Wednesday from May 1st from 10.00 am – 12.30 pm. Tea, Coffee, Biscuits, Board games, Conversation, etc.
Everyone Welcome.
Spread the word.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Sick is celebrated every month at each of our Churches as follows:

Blakeney,	First Wednesday
Wells,	First Thursday
Burnham Market,	First Friday
Walsingham,	Last Wednesday

Thursday (9th) is Ascension Day: Mass in all Churches as advertised.

Next Sunday is World Communications Day: Collection for Catholic Communications Network

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



On Tuesday, May 7th, at 7.00 p.m. Bishop Peter will celebrate Mass and five young members of the parish community will receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the Church of the Annunciation, Walsingham. Please keep them in your prayers and come to give them your support on that occasion

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please Pray for Monica White, Angela & Len Judge, Tim Charles, Jackie Charles, Zara Perry, Jill Inglis, Hazel Clarke, Brenda Jarvis, Fr Michael Johnstone, Pat Farquarson, Georgina Troughton, Julian Foord, Diana Watson, Fiona Fraser, Tessa Scott, Kathy Dow, Kathryn Relton, Barbara Scott, Jo Partridge, Bernard McGrath. Please keep us informed when someone is sick.

SANCTITY of LIFE

There is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with prayer for those suffering from the effects of abortion between 5.00 and 6.00 every Friday evening in the Church of the Annunciation.

EAST ANGLIA DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to the national shrine of OUR LADY in WALSINGHAM

The annual diocesan pilgrimage takes place on Monday, May 6th (tomorrow). This is our opportunity to show our solidarity with the rest of the diocese. People from distant parts will be putting themselves out to take part; the shrine is in our parish, just up the road. How much easier it is for us to take part: let's make our presence felt! 11.00 am Church of the Annunciation, 12.00 noon procession, 3.00 pm Mass at the Shrine.

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

Contact Parish Priest: 07538 130655; 01328 713044

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