

# 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 137-140 Prayer of the Church, 3

27<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY

YEAR OF ST MATTHEW

OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

In the gospel today Jesus is, once again, addressing, “the chief priest and elders of the people.” When they heard the parable of the vineyard would it not



have brought to mind Isaiah’s ‘Song of the vineyard’ which ends with the spine-chilling words, “The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!” (Isaiah 5:7) They realised that Jesus is taking about them; they are the treacherous tenants. We are told they would have like to arrest him, almost acting out their part in the parable. But the parable is addressed also to anyone who reads Matthew’s gospel. It has been and remains a cautionary tale for anyone exercising authority within God’s vineyard, the People of God. It highlights the difference between life in the Kingdom, whose citizens are constantly aware that

all they are or have is entrusted to them by God, and life lived by those who seek to enjoy what they have received from God as their own possession. In our own time it is becoming ever clearer that the natural environment is being damaged by our irresponsible behaviour. Unlike the people of first century Jerusalem we are able to think of the earth and all its people as God’s vineyard. All of us are its tenants and must answer for it to God. Pope Francis, at the beginning of his encyclical letter *Laudato Sí*, quotes his predecessor in reminding us of this: “With paternal concern, Benedict urged us to realize that creation is harmed “where we ourselves have the final word, where everything is simply our property and we use it for ourselves alone. The misuse of creation begins when we no longer recognize any higher instance than ourselves, when we see nothing else but ourselves”. (6) ‘Creation’ includes, of course, human beings and

he is speaking not only of the misuse of forests and rivers but also of the misuse of people, of each other. The parable of the vineyard warns against a perverted notion of freedom which is seen as applying to ‘me’ but not to ‘them’. Pope Francis teaches, together with the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, that, “As Christians, we are also called ‘to accept the world as a sacrament of communion, as a way of sharing with God and our neighbours on a global scale.’” (*Laudate Sí*, 9)

from EVANGELII GAUDIUM

“*(Jesus) promises his disciples: “You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy” (Jn 16:20). He then goes on to say: “But I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you” (Jn 16:22). The disciples “rejoiced” (Jn 20:20) at the sight of the risen Christ. In the Acts of the Apostles we read that the first Christians “ate their food with glad and generous hearts” (2:46). Wherever the disciples went, “there was great joy” (8:8); even amid persecution they continued to be “filled with joy” (13:52). The newly baptized eunuch “went on his way rejoicing” (8:39), while Paul’s jailer “and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God” (16:34). Why should we not also enter into this great stream of joy? (5)*

## FINANCE

After six months of Coronavirus, our finances are beginning to suffer. The income from collections and fundraising for the first six months of last year was approximately £50,000; this year, it’s approximately £30,000. Also there has been no income from the repository or candle sales, which amounts to around £3,000. Cash collections at Mass are considerably reduced. I would ask those who do not already do so to consider supporting the parish by setting up a standing order. Please contact Terry or Dilys for bank details.

*“The Kingdom...will be given to a people who will produce its fruit”*

## 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 5:1-7	Psalm 79	Philippians 2:1-11 4:6-9	Matthew 21:33-43
Monday:	Galatians 1:6-12	Psalm 110		Luke 10:25-37
Tuesday:	Galatians 1:13-24	Psalm 138		Luke 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Galatians 2:1-14	Psalm 118		Luke 11:1-4
Thursday:	Galatians 3:1-5	Psalm Lk 1:69-75		Luke 11:5-13
Friday:	Galatians 3:7-14	Psalm 110		Luke 11:15-26
Saturday:	Galatians 3:22-29	Psalm 104		Luke 11:27-28

## CHURCH OPENING THIS WEEK

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: Friday 9.30 Mass  
Sunday 9.30 Mass  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1030-1130 Private Prayer

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.

Under the present circumstances 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.

## THANK YOU and WELCOME

Fr Des has been with us for more than two months, and has been a wonderful help in the parish and for the Marist community. He will be leaving us on Monday to return to his duties in the Hull community. Thank you very much, Fr Des, for all you have done for us.

We now welcome Fr Kolio, a Marist Father from Tonga who has been working in Vanuatu. He attended a course in France but was unable to return to Tonga because of their Covid-19 regulations, and has come to us after a few months in Rome. Their loss, our gain! We hope he will not be too cold here. Please warm him up by your welcome.

## SOCIAL DISTANCING

Several people have drawn attention to a alx approach to social distancing and other hygiene requirements made necessary by the Covid 19 situation, especially at the Church of the Annunciation on Walsingham on Sundays.. We have revised the seating arrangement in that church and ask all participants to follow the instructions of stewards who are working to protect you and everyone participating in the Mass. Inconvenient though it may be we are obliged to follow the government's instructions. Please cooperate with them without argument

## CAFOD

Confusion reigns. Last week we were told that Cafod's Harvest Fast Day, what used to be Family Fast Day was to be Friday, October, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Now, it seems, it is this coming Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. This year Cafod is promoting a coronavirus appeal for all those facing the worst of the crisis. Envelopes should be available in each church. It would help if stewards were to place these on each seat. Let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild, heal. You can donate on line at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) .

## 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:**

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

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)