

# 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 125-128 Prayer of the Church, 3

23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY

YEAR OF ST MATTHEW

SEPTEMBER 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

In last week's gospel Jesus revealed to his disciples the unwelcome truth that to be their Messiah he must be made to suffer and be put to death. Today,



having omitted quite an amount of the narrative, including the account of the transfiguration, we hear Jesus speaking about life in the community of his disciples. The relationship between the members of this community is characterised by the word *ἀδελφος*: they are brothers and sisters. Like brothers and sisters in a family they look after one another. The brethren share a way of life which imitates that of Jesus himself: they have taken up their cross to follow him (Mt 16:24), made themselves powerless as little children in pursuit of 'greatness' (Mt 18:1-4) and understood that, should they stray from the right path, God, whom they call their Father, will rescue them (Mt 18:12-14). Jesus tells them, "If your brother or sister does something wrong, point out the fault..." Only when every effort to bring back strays to the fold has failed may they, should they, be treated, "...like gentiles or tax

collectors". This is a very severe sanction. What follows is a repetition of Jesus' words to Simon when he is told that he is the rock on which the community of disciples will be built: "whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven." (Mt 16:19) This time there is no specific mention of 'loosing' but it seems that it is not only Peter but the community he leads upon whom this responsibility is laid. Perhaps we should read this as a warning against acting hastily; it is only as the very last resort that a punishment so grave as exclusion from the community should be handed down. Before you act, remember your decision will be 'endorsed in heaven'. This section of the gospel is about correction of wayward brothers and sisters. The act of welcoming back into the community those who have forsaken it is, of course, about forgiveness, of which Jesus has more to say later. Today's gospel ends with an encouraging word about prayer of petition. If two or more ask for something in the name of Jesus or, as we more usually say, 'through Christ our Lord' then the Father will grant it. Why, because, "where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them": it is Jesus himself who petitions. It must also be because he is 'in the midst of them' that matters of discipline within the community can avoid the destructive anger or resentment to which they might otherwise give rise.

...from CHRISTUS VIVIT

*"Because 'time is greater than space', we need to encourage and accompany processes, without imposing our own roadmaps. For those processes have to do with persons who remain always unique and free. There are no easy recipes, even when all the signs seem positive, since 'positive factors themselves need to be subjected to a careful work of discernment, so that they do not become isolated and contradict one another, becoming absolutes and at odds with one another. The same is true for the negative factors, which are not to be rejected en bloc and without distinction, because in each one there may lie hidden some value which awaits liberation and restoration to its full truth'. If you are to accompany others on this path, you must be the first to follow it, day in and day out. That is what Mary did, in her own youth, as she confronted her own questions and difficulties. May she renew your youthfulness by the power of her prayers and accompany you always by her maternal presence."* (197-8)

## 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)

*"...there am I in the midst of them"*

## 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:	Ezekiel 33:7-9	Psalm 94	Romans 13:8-10	Matthew 18:15-20
Monday:	1 Corinthians 5:1-8	Psalm 5		Luke 6:6-11
Tuesday:	<i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>			
	Micah 5:1-4	Psalm 12		Matthew 1:1-23
Wednesday:	1 Corinthians 7:25-31	Psalm 44		Luke 6:20-26
Thursday:	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Psalm 138		Luke 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Corinthians 9:16-27	Psalm 83		Luke 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Corinthians 10:14-22	Psalm 115		Luke 6:43-49

## 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.

## THE SEASON OF CREATION

As the Laudato Si' anniversary year gets underway, we are encouraged to take part in the annual Season of Creation. This annual ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home began with the World Day of Prayer for Creation on 1<sup>st</sup> September and continues until the 4<sup>th</sup> October. Christians of all traditions are invited to take part by organising prayer services, litter clean-ups, or advocacy actions. A good way to celebrate would be to read Pope Francis' Laudato Si', which was published five years ago. There are more suggestions for celebration on the CAFOD website.

## REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Maureen Schofield, who was looking after the Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride, is unwell and unfortunately this means that we will not be participating this year. Please pray for her, and for all those who are sick.

## MGR PHILIP MOGER

A warm welcome to Mgr Philip as he takes up his new responsibility at the Shrine. We look forward to working with him as the Covid restrictions ease.

## IGNITE

Ciaran Losasso, Ignite team leader, writes: "With much regret, the Diocese has decided that the Ignite Youth Mission Team will not have any members based in Walsingham for the coming academic year. This is due to cutbacks resulting from the pandemic.

The Team would like to offer their heartfelt thanks for all the kindness and welcome they have received from members of the parish during the last few years and hope to see some of you again in the future!"

## FOR SALE

Ford Focus Zetec climate pack 2005. Goes well, looks tatty. £350 or near offer. Ring 01328 713044.

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

Contact Parish Priest: 07538 130655; 01328 713044

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