



THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

26th January 2025 · Year C · Weekday I · Psalter III

Cathedral House, Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PA

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Cathedral Office: 01603 624615

Cathy Casey [weekdays 9am-1pm]

TIMES OF CEREMONIES

Sunday 26th Jan	THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME		
	9am	Mass	<i>Margaret Gleeson +</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass	<i>Anna Maria Crosskill +</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass with Cantor	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday 27th	<i>Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Clare & Sarah</i>
Tuesday 28th	<i>S Thomas Aquinas</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Sybil Cushing (F) +</i>
	5pm	Vespers	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Maurice Frost (F) +</i>
Wednesday 29th	<i>Feria</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Brian Ness +</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Marilla Ness</i>
Thursday 30th	<i>Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Private Intention</i>
Friday 31st	<i>S John Bosco</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Daphne & Paddy Joyce +</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Souls in Purgatory</i>
Saturday 1st Feb	<i>Celebration of Consecrated Life & Religious</i>		
	11.30am	Pontifical Mass	<i>Consecrated Life</i>
	6pm	Mass (Anticipatory)	<i>Henry, Duke of Norfolk (F) +</i>
Sunday 2nd	PRESENTATION OF THE LORD		
	9am	Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass	<i>Desmond Dalton +</i>
	3pm	Mass [1962 Rite Latin]	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Mrs H Brown +</i>

The Cathedral Church is open daily from 7.30am until 6pm

Very Revd Alan Hodgson KHS

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Cathedral Collection

£4,358.74

Loose Plate = £2,017.62

Dona = £697.00

Envelopes = £144.12

Standing Orders = c £1,500.00 *

*Averaged out and remains the same each week



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Thank you for your regular support and ongoing generosity.

Thank you for your continued support of the parish. If you would like to set up a standing order with your bank you will need these details: Account name: St John's Cathedral Parish Offertory Account, Sort Code 60-15-31, Account Number 04911881

For any guidance on Gift Aid please contact giving.sjbcathedral@rcdea.org.uk

Confessions

Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10.30am
Saturday: 5.15pm
Sunday: 4.45pm

Rosary

The Rosary is prayed in the Lady Chapel.
Monday to Friday after the 10am Mass.

Divine Office

Lauds is prayed in the Precious Blood Chapel.
Monday to Friday at 9:40am.

HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH
Scarnell Road, Norwich NR5 8HT
parish@sjbcathedral.org.uk

Sunday 8am Holy Qurbana
 10am Mass & Confessions

A message from Fr Alan...

Christian Unity Week: This week past, throughout the Christian world, we celebrate Christian Unity Week. A time where most of the Christian faiths come together to celebrate their similarities - either through prayer (a truly common denominator), meetings and conferences or through celebratory meals. In Rome, on the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul [25 January], for many years the Holy Father has invited all of the heads of Christian faiths in Rome to gather at the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls to celebrate vespers. This is always a popular and accessible event in the Church's calendar and the enormous basilica is packed with pilgrims and onlookers.

At the seminary we used to celebrate this feast by hosting an ecumenical service for the church leaders of the city and seminaries. Our seminary staff used to look for imaginative ways to 'illustrate' the annual theme that was assigned for the week. One year we placed stones in a jar and another we were all given the link of a chain for us to keep. There was always a rather tenuous explanation as to how the illustration linked up to the annual theme and to Christian Unity Week. We did; however, all enjoy a delicious meal after the service - now THAT is certainly something we all had in common.

Holy Apostles: I am pleased to announce that the internal works have been completed at Holy Apostles except for the new disabled toilet which is on order and should be fitted in the next week or so. In the summer, our contractor will return to finish the outside and protect the woodwork and gutters. Fr Mark will celebrate Mass there this weekend and I am looking forward to seeing everybody next week.

Sadly, the UEA Chaplaincy has decided to return to campus for their regular Wednesday evening Mass as the venue was not that convenient for all the students.

Standing Orders: Many thanks to the parishioners who updated their standing order instructions or started new orders through the stewardship campaign. We have had to wait a couple of months to see the results through the bank statements and then check them off with the forms that you submitted. If you have completed a form, you will also need to instruct your bank (either at the branch or online). The bank will not accept an instruction directly from us - it must come from you. We have identified approximately thirty forms that have not been actioned through the banks and therefore are not being paid to us. A member of the finance team will be contacting you if the payment has not gone through to explain the procedure and to help if they can. Thank you very much for your generosity and for helping us to budget in a more confident manner.

A very sincere thanks to the two gentlemen who fitted a new floor in the catechists' shed last week as well as the catechists who came forward to unpack the shed and then repack it once the floor had been laid. Thank you for your time and talents!

‘They read from the book of the Law and gave the meaning.’

In those days: Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it, all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen,’ lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Ezra and the Levites read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the meaning, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, ‘This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.’ For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, ‘Go on your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 19(18):8. 9. 10. 15. R̄ John 6:63c

Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27

‘You are the body of Christ and individually members of it.’

Brothers and Sisters: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptised into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor;
to proclaim liberty to the captives.

Alleluia.

Gospel**Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21**

‘Today this Scripture has been fulfilled.’

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

At that time: Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll, and found the place where it was written, ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, ‘Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

HYMN NUMBERS FOR 9AM MASS:

471, 41, 218, 980, 858

NEWS AND EVENTS

Candlemas – Sunday 02 February – Presentation of the Lord. At the 0900 Mass we will have a simple blessing of the candles. At the 1100 Mass we will have a solemn blessing of the candles beginning at the west doors with a procession to the altar. Please gather at the west doors before Mass.

Hospital Mass - Mass is celebrated at 12 noon on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month in the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Chapel (Centre Block, Level 1). Our next Mass will be on **Monday 3rd February** and then on **Monday 17th February**.

The Duckett Library - has as display of books linked to the Jubilee Year including some CAFOD Jubilee leaflets.

School vacancy available - for a Headteacher at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Peterborough. Please see Diocesan website for more details:

<https://www.rcdea.org.uk/schools/school-vacancies/>

FLAME 2025 - The largest gathering of Catholic Youth in the UK is back - 15th March 2025 @ Wembley Arena. To book your ticket and join this year's Confirmation Group please follow the link to the online form - [FLAME 2025](#). Tickets are £30 per student and £40 per adult - includes transport. For more information, please email Jo Graham - stjohnfhc@gmail.com

St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust - which includes 11 Catholic schools in our Diocese is looking to appoint **Head of HR**. For more information please check the Trust website: www.stjohnthebaptist-cmat.org.uk or e-mail recruitment@ndhs.org.uk

For Valentine's Day - treat a loved one to an afternoon tea at The Garden Cafe. Join us on Friday 14th February to indulge in a range of freshly made sandwiches, delicious seasonal savoury and sweet treats with unlimited tea and filter coffee. £19.95 per person. Top it off with some bubbly at just £6 a glass or £19 for the whole bottle! Available between 11:30am and 1pm. Booking is essential. We require £10 non-refundable deposit. Allergens and dietary requirement can be catered for with prior notice. To book: 01603 724380 / bookings@sjbcathedral.org.uk

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of George Leverage who has recently died and for his family. His Requiem Mass will be held here in the Cathedral on Monday 3rd February at 10am.

The Garden Café –will be closed from 1pm on Monday 27th January for staff training.

This newsletter is sponsored by:

Love to Care
154 Dereham Road
Norwich
NR2 3AB



Reflections by Dr Richard Maguire

Gospel Reading today 'Why does Jesus cite Isaiah 61 while preaching in the synagogue?'

The background for Jesus' action here is the book of Leviticus. In Leviticus 25 God tells Moses that Israel is to keep a sabbath year, to occur once every seven years, when the land would lie fallow (Lev. 25:1-7). The Lord then ordains a 'Jubilee year' taking place once in every fifty years (the year after seven rounds of sabbatical years, $7 \times 7 = 49$) (Lev. 25:8-17). What is this Jubilee for?

In the Old Testament Israel, if person could not pay a debt, then they might lose their ancestral lands (when Israel was first conquered, each tribe was given a specific area of the kingdom, and each family a plot). In extreme cases, an Israelite might sell themselves into 'slavery' (which was a form of indentured servitude and not the 'chattel slavery' that we are more familiar with). It was possible, however, for a person's nearest kin to act as a 'redeemer' and buy back their relative's land or even buy back their relative from slavery. Unfortunately, such a 'redeemer' did not always act, or was not able to help. Therefore, during the Jubilee year God's people were commanded to release slaves, forgive debts, and return ancestral land.

As He always does, God was working through our brokenness to bring a measure of justice. He was acting as the ultimate 'redeemer' of Israel. Knowing this provides us with a way of thinking about Jesus' work of redemption.

Jesus is the new 'redeemer' of both Israel and Gentiles. Isaiah 61 alludes to the 'Jubilee Year' and makes it clear that this is an internal *Exodus*. Just as God released Israel from slavery to the Egyptians and returned their ancestral land in the Conquest, so each Jubilee the Israelites are to do the same for the poor and oppressed among them. In Jeremiah we learn that it became the task of the Davidic king to enact the Jubilee year, by making the proclamation of liberty (Jer 34:8-9).

So, when Jesus reads Isaiah 61, shortly after His baptism in the Jordan and overshadowing by the Spirit, Our Lord is saying, in clear terms which any of His Jewish audience would have understood, that He is the long-awaited anointed one, the Messiah and king. His first royal act is the declaration of a new Jubilee, a new Exodus, where He, as our redeemer, will free us from slavery to sin, death, and the devil.

Sources:

Tim Gray and Jeff Cavins, *Walking with God: A Journey through the Bible*

Marcellino D' Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, Edward Sri, *Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life*.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGULAR SACRAMENTS

With all sacraments, we do try to accommodate the needs of the individual or couple seeking to celebrate in our Cathedral. However, we are bound by the Rite of the Catholic Church in terms of liturgy and music. The priest or deacon assigned to work with you will guide you as much as possible. In general, eulogies are NOT part of the Catholic rite of Funerals and, as such should be deferred to the crematorium or a suitable gathering of loved ones after the funeral.

Our Director of Music will assist you with appropriate music that matches the dignity of the service and is appropriate to the Cathedral - this will be from a choice of sacred music generally played on the cathedral organ (no pre-recorded music).

All readings in the Cathedral must come from Sacred Scripture - poems and prose that do not comply with this should be used at the reception after the service.

BAPTISMS

Infant Baptisms - baptism is the joy-filled initiation into the Christian life and is celebrated as a public event within the community. The Sacrament of Baptism takes place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 11:30am. This is a joint celebration with up to three other families. Baptism preparation classes are held on the last Saturday of every month from 4.30pm - 5.15pm. This needs to be booked, in advance, through the parish office.

Adult Baptisms - generally take place at the Easter Vigil and conferred by the Bishop in his Cathedral. Candidates will need to undergo adult instruction classes for at least five months (usually starting in late September). Classes take place every Friday evening from 7pm - commencing in September.

Baptisms do not take place during the seasons of Advent and Lent. For all Baptism enquiries, please contact the parish office.

WEDDINGS

A minimum of 6 months' notice is required of any marriage taking place in the cathedral. Wedding couples should be resident within the parish boundaries or have some strong link to the cathedral. Please **do not** make any arrangements nor book any venue or make any concrete plans until you have secured a wedding date.

There is a three-fold requirement for marriage preparation; Catechetical and Liturgical preparation (a marriage instruction course at the cathedral toward the middle of January as well as a one-day course in Newmarket), Civil paperwork (through the townhall) as well as documentation required by the Catholic Church for the chancery and parish registers. This applies whether you are planning to be married in the Cathedral or if you plan to marry in a different location.

FUNERALS

At St John's Cathedral, funerals take place during the weekday 10am Mass. The Cathedral is generally booked through your funeral director - so please speak to them first about your needs and they will contact the Cathedral on your behalf.

Prayers for the Sick

Cathy Adams, Dr Michael Anibueze, Philippa Barnes, Ian Beyts, Jennifer Boland, Eleanor Bray, Amanda Caistor, Brenda Devany, Jonathon Fitzimmons, Sophia Gough-Solar, Mary Hatcher, Joe Heaney, Gill Horan, Paul Horan, Nancy Horner, David Jamieson, Joel McDonough, Anne O'Leary, Maria Osorio, Mary Newby, Gary Newton, Isobel O'Connor, Christopher Parish, Canon David Paul, Anthony Preston, Nicholle Sales, Reece Sales, Linda Sheppard, Christine Taylor, Peter Thorn, Mary Ward, Fr John Warrington, Peter Willets, Adrian Woods, the Wood Family, Patricia Woolley, Isobel Woolner, the Watson Family and Shane Wissner. [GDPR compliant]

Going into hospital? Please inform the hospital ward itself that the Catholic Chaplain is needed.