



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

30th March 2025 · Year C · Weekday I · Psalter IV

Cathedral House, Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PA

www.sjbcathedral.org.uk
parish@sjbcathedral.org.uk

Cathedral Office: 01603 624615

Cathy Casey [weekdays 9am-1pm]

TIMES OF CEREMONIES

Sunday 30th March	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Laetare Sunday)		
	9am	Mass	<i>Arnaldo Colona +</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass	<i>Stephen Taylor +</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass with Cantor	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday 31st	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Irene Hodgson +</i>
Tuesday 1st April	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Michael O'Malley (Snr) +</i>
	5pm	Vespers	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Henry, Duke of Norfolk (F) +</i>
Wednesday 2nd	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Margaret O'Connor +</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Sean Kelly</i>
Thursday 3rd	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Jackie Harney +</i>
	7pm	Lenten Station Mass	<i>for the Deanery</i>
Friday 4th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Laurence Whitehead +</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Patsy Whitehead</i>
Saturday 5th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	11.30am	Solemn Pontifical Mass	<i>for the Sick</i>
	6pm	Mass (Anticipatory)	<i>Hannah Brosnan +</i>
Sunday 6th	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT		
	9am	Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass	<i>Joan Worby +</i>
	3pm	Mass [1962 Rite Latin]	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Bridie Gleeson +</i>

Very Revd Alan Hodgson KHS*Dean of the Cathedral Church*alan.hodgson@rcdea.org.uk

01603 728 930

Charley Purves*Cathedral Manager*gm@sjbcathedral.org.uk

01603 724 380

Sarah Miller*Bookings Coordinator*bookings@sjbcathedral.org.uk**Richard Maguire***Learning & Heritage Officer*heritage@sjbcathedral.org.uk

01603 724 381

Revd Mark Ashwood*Assistant Priest*mark.ashwood@rcdea.org.uk

01603 957 655

David Grealy*Director of Music*music@sjbcathedral.org.uk

01603 957 650

Isabella Fox, Linda Harper*Safeguarding Representatives*safeguarding.sjb@gmail.com**Becci Roberts***Catering Manager*cateringmanager@sjbcathedral.org.uk

01603 957 652

Cathedral Collection**£3,871.81**

Loose Plate = £1,276.81

Dona = £974.00

Envelopes = £121.00

Standing Orders = c £1,500.00 *

*Averaged out and remains the same each week

Second Collection Walsingham Shrine - £614.55

**Scan to donate*****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

<i>Saturday</i>	5pm	Holy Qurbana
<i>Sunday</i>	8am	Holy Qurbana
	10am	Mass & Confessions
	4pm	Holy Qurbana

A message from Fr Alan...

Laetare (Rejoice). This Sunday, we celebrate Laetare Sunday - Laetare, taken from the first line of the introit (*Rejoice, O Jerusalem*). We take consolation today as we are halfway through our Lenten season, and it is a good day for us to have small break from our penitential acts (rejoice) as well as take stock as to how we are doing. Do I need to reset a few things for that last push toward Easter Sunday? Traditionally we mark this Sunday by changing the altar mantles and vestments to rose pink, as a sign that our hope is in sight and on his way. For us, this will be enhanced this year as it coincides with the clocks going forward and longer days (rejoice).

At our seminary, we marked mid-Lent by taking a break and inviting one of the other colleges in Rome to a 'Lenten Oasis', an evening where we celebrated Mass together and shared a meal together - not quite a feast but usually of a better standard than our normal fare. This oasis, for us at least, was always an exciting day as we waited for our guests to arrive and prepared to break bread with them. They were always slightly envious because the gathering happened on a Wednesday and our college enjoyed Thursdays as our weekly day-off. They all had to go to class the next day!

Happily, for us at the cathedral, the middle of Lent was marked and celebrated with us holding 24 hours of Adoration as we spent '24 Hours with the Lord' on Friday evening. This was supported mainly by our Confirmation class and youth group. We do this annually for our confirmands and it is always a night of excitement as the young people get to spend a whole night in the cathedral before the Lord. Ultimately, many of them do fall asleep, but there is always somebody on watch throughout the night to be with the Lord. Our catechists, once again, step in with great enthusiasm, commitment and care as they show their kindness to our young people as they forgo sleep themselves and keep watch. The time and talent that is given by this committed group of leaders is really awe inspiring and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Formed: Thank you to everyone who has made comment on our new parish catechetical programme (**Formed.org**) that I launched at all Masses last week. There is a full set of instructions on how to join on the cathedral website or simply ask and we will help you. This is a great opportunity for you, either as individuals, families or friends) to come together and learn more about your faith.... it's all there for you, for any age and in your own time and it is completely free to use. What are you waiting for?

I wish you all a blessed and joyful Laetare Sunday and a holy remainder of Lent.

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

READINGS AT MASS

Sunday 30th March 2025

First reading

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

**The people of God entered the promised land and there kept the
Passover.**

In those days: The LORD said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.' While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 34(33):2-3. 4-5. 6-7. R cf. 18b

Taste and see that the LORD is good.

Second reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

'God who through Christ reconciled us to himself.'

Brothers and Sisters: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ; God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him,
'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you'.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

‘Your brother was dead and is alive.’

At that time: The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, ‘This man receives sinners and eats with them.’

So, he told them this parable: ‘There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.” And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So, he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

‘But when he came to himself, he said, “How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’”

‘And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.” But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, “Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!” And he said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”’

HYMN NUMBERS FOR 9AM MASS:**211, 892, 840**

NEWS AND EVENTS

Mass for Healing of the Sick - on Saturday 5th April there will be a Solemn Pontifical Mass with the anointing of the sick. All are welcome to attend.

Are you looking for something extra to do this Lent? How about spending some time in adoration with Our Blessed Lord? Adoration for the First Fridays will take place on **Friday 4th April**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from after the 10am mass until 4pm, finishing with Benediction. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed together at 3pm. (The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed while Stations of the Cross take place at 12noon and resume again afterwards). Please add your name to the Rota at the back of Church to ensure a presence during the day. Thank you.

Prayer and Adoration for Life – dates for your diaries, as the Assisted Dying Bill reaches its report stage in Parliament on April 25th, we continue our prayers for the protection of life at both the end of life and from its conception. There will be two opportunities for Prayer and Adoration during Lent for the Sanctity of Life on **Wednesday 2nd and Wednesday 9th April** where Holy hours will take place between 5-6pm. All are welcome.

Stations of the Cross – will take place every Friday during Lent at 12pm and 5.30pm.

Hospital Mass - please note there will be no hospital Mass during April, as Fr Mark is away on both Monday 7th and Monday 21st. Masses will resume as usual in May.

Catholic Charismatic Gathering - 12th April 2025 St John the Baptist Cathedral from 10:30 until 15:00. Bishop Peter & the Charismatic Diocesan Service of Communion team invite you to our first gathering of the Catholic Charismatic Family in East Anglia. Blessed with a diverse and multicultural diocese, this is a wonderful chance to come together in faith, receive spiritual nourishment, and deepen our connection as a charismatic community. 10:30 Adoration/Confessions (organised by the Cathedral parish), 11:30 Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter. Music & praise led by Filipino band, D'Septra. In the afternoon Bishop Peter will address all those gathered. **Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and Coffee will be available.** For more details, please email renewaleastanglia@gmail.com or phone Pam Smith: 07869652115 with questions or for info on parking/arriving by public transport.

The Duckett Library – will be closed for the Easter break at 12.30pm on Thursday 3rd April and reopen after the 9am Mass on Sunday 27th April. Please email with any queries or to borrow books during this time. Returned books can be left in the box outside the Library.

This newsletter is sponsored by:

Love to Care
154 Dereham Road
Norwich
NR2 3AB



NEWS AND EVENTS

Lenten Station Mass - on Thursday 3rd April the Lenten Station Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Peter at 7pm in the Cathedral. This will be preceded by Adoration and Confessions at 6pm and followed by soup & rolls in the Narthex Hall. All are welcome.

Lenten Talks – a reminder that our fourth Lenten Talk will take place in the Narthex Hall, on Tuesday 1st April at 7pm. This week's topic will be a continuation on Gregorian Chant and the Liturgy. No tickets necessary. All welcome.

Easter Flower collection will take place as a second collection on the weekend of 5/6th April. Thank you for your generosity.

The Dominican Sisters invite you to 'A Lenten Day of Recollection' on **Saturday 12th April 2025**. The day will begin at 10.00 a.m. with coffee/tea and will include reflections on the theme. We will celebrate Mass together, and there will be a time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for Confession. The day will conclude at 4.00 p.m. with Benediction and Vespers. Light refreshments will be available. We hope you can join us for this event. Please respond to this email to book a place. Suggested donation £15.

Lenten Lunches - please join us for a hearty soup and roll every Sunday in Lent @ 12noon from 16th March to 13th April - featuring soups from around the world and in support of the Tambogrande project.

A St George's Parish Lenten Retreat will take place at St George's from 11th – 13th April starting with Mass at 6pm on 11th and concluding on 13th at 1.30pm with a parish lunch. All are welcome to attend. Please see <https://www.transformministries.uk/event-details/3-day-revive-norwich-parish-retreat> or St George's website for more details.

Thank you to everyone who attended the St Patricks event on Saturday 22nd March. Thanks to everyone's generosity in the raffle and profit from the ticket sales, you have raised an amazing **£991.37!** This money will be donated towards the building repair fund. A huge thank you to parishioners Teresa McNally and Celia McKenna for organising the event and entertainment, to everyone who brought dessert, and Becci who provided the delicious stew!

Mass Intention requests – please note that there is currently a long wait for Mass intention requests. It is advisable to place any requests in as soon as possible if a specific date/time is required. Very many thanks.

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, Mary Gledhill, 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.