



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

6th April 2025 · Year C · Weekday I · Psalter I

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 6th April	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 with Cantor	<i>Bridie Gleeson +</i>
Monday 7th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Mark Leverage</i>
Tuesday 8th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Victor Boyet Maranan +</i>
	5pm	Vespers	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Marcela S.Cruz</i>
Wednesday 9th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Souls in Purgatory</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Conсорcia Soriano +</i>
Thursday 10th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Clarke & Young families (F)</i>
Friday 11th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Fr Alan's Ministry as Cathedral Dean</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Loreta Pulmones +</i>
Saturday 12th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Hilda Scott's Intention</i>
	6pm	Mass (Anticipatory)	<i>Mr Ely Bailon +</i>
Sunday 13th	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD		
	9am	Mass	<i>Thanksgiving for Mary Grace Caasi</i>
	11am	Solemn Pontifical Mass & Procession	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Bohdan Retkovsky +</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**£4,150.77**

Loose Plate = £1,299.52

Dona = £1,167.25

Envelopes = £184.00

Standing Orders = c £1,500.00 *

*Averaged out and remains the same each week



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*Saturday*

5pm

Holy Qurbana

Sunday

8am

Holy Qurbana

10am

Mass & Confessions

4pm

Holy Qurbana

A message from Fr Alan...

Lenten station Mass: On Thursday this week, Bishop Peter visited the cathedral to celebrate his seventh Station Mass in the diocese this Lent. This is a tradition, throughout every Lent, dating from the early Church.

Station days grew out of the early Christian practice of visiting the tombs of the martyrs and celebrating the Eucharist at those sites. By the fourth century, the practice of carrying out an itinerary to various churches of the city began to develop during the days of Lent. In those days it became a tradition for the pope to visit a church in each part of the city and celebrate Mass with the congregation.

In the early centuries, the Lenten fast lasted all day, and so towards the evening, the Christians of Rome would begin to gather at a church known as the *collecta* ("gathering place"), where they would be joined by the assembled clergy of the city and the pope. The procession would then move through the streets to the station church, not far away. Having gathered at the daily *statio* ("standing place"), the pope would then celebrate a solemn Mass, and fragments of the Host were sent to the other *stationes* of the city in order to symbolize the unity of the city around its bishop. After the conclusion of Vespers, the day's fast was broken with a communal meal.

The Station Mass in our diocese is a time for all of our local (deanery) churches to come together to celebrate with our bishop and to reflect more deeply on the forthcoming mysteries of Easter. If you missed out this year, do try and make the effort next year as part of your Lenten commitment.

Assisted Suicide: That is a difficult heading to write as I don't want to give it any oxygen and, in my opinion, shouldn't even be in our vocabulary. However, if we are not careful, it could soon be on our statute books and then, eventually, a way of life for this country. The scheduled date for the reading (and ultimately the vote) of this legislation is for the 25th of April (this may be pushed back). As the letter from the Bishops' Conference this week states - '.... your MPs spent more time debating the end of fox hunting than they have spent discussing this bill' - quite a sobering thought and an indication as to how the organiser of this bill wants to rush this through parliament. Lord Alton, one of the few Catholics sitting in the House of Lords, has been robust in his condemnation of this bill and spoken out against it with great passion and without ceasing - it is good to have such a public voice. He has distributed cards throughout the country to Catholic cathedrals and churches condemning this act and pleading with us, as Catholics, to take action and to write to our MP. These cards will be distributed after every Mass this weekend alongside our own parish prayer cards. The card from Lord Alton will explain to you the easiest way to contact your MP and the prayer card is for your personal prayer time. Let us hammer parliament with our objections and storm heaven with our prayers.

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

READINGS AT MASS

Sunday 6th April 2025

First reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

‘Behold, I am doing a new thing, and I will give drink to my chosen people.’

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ‘Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. R3

*What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.*

Second reading

Philippians 3:8-14

**‘For the sake of Christ, I have suffered the loss of all things,
becoming like him in his death.’**

Brothers and Sisters: I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.
Even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart,
for I am gracious and merciful.
Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.

Gospel**John 8:1-11**

'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.'

At that time: Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and placing her in the midst they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So, what do you say?' This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.'

**MUSIC AT THE 9AM MASS THIS WEEK IS PROVIDED BY THE
AFRICAN CHOIR**

NEWS AND EVENTS

Easter Flower collection will take place as a second collection this weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

Prayer and Adoration for Life – 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 an opportunity for Prayer and Adoration for the Sanctity of Life on **Wednesday 9th April** where Holy hour 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.

The Teresian Prayer Group meets again on Tuesday 8 April at 4.30pm in the Narthex Bar to continue reflecting on the works of St John of the Cross. Everyone is welcome.

Catholic Charismatic Gathering - 12th April 2025 St John the Baptist Cathedral from **10:30** until **15:00**. Adoration/Confessions will start at 10.30am, with Mass at **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 phone Pam Smith: 07869652115 or email renewaleastanglia@gmail.com.

The Chrism Mass will take place on Tuesday 15th April at 11.30am. If you are interested in singing with the Diocesan Choir for this event, please contact the Diocesan Director of Music, David Grealy, david.grealy@rcdea.org.uk for further details. There will be a rehearsal on the day.

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.

The Duckett Library – will be closed for the Easter break until 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.

Easter Sunday Parish Lunch - 20 April 25, after the 11am Mass. There will be a 3-course parish lunch, fundraising to take 60+ teenagers to the Ignite Festival. There is a sign-up sheet at the back Cathedral to help us collate numbers. All welcome.

This newsletter is sponsored by:

Love to Care
154 Dereham Road
Norwich
NR2 3AB



NEWS AND EVENTS

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

Thank you for supporting the Mother's Day cake stall - £468 was raised for the Catechesis Programme and the children's pilgrimage to Walsingham in May 25.

Please continue to act against Assisted Dying - the vote on the Bill proposing Assisted Dying is scheduled for 25 April. In November the bill passed second reading stage with 330 MPs in favour, 275 against and 42 abstaining from the vote for one reason or another. Cross-party MPs opposing the bill that the best approach is to mobilise local engagement in the 330 constituencies.

Around 50 MPs voted in support to allow for further debate, with an expectation that concerns around coercion and strong safeguards for vulnerable groups would be addressed. Those MPs are likely to be open to voting against the bill at third reading stage since those concerns have not been addressed. You, as local constituents, carry greater influence in convincing these MPs, so make your objections to the bill loud and clear.

Over the past few weekends, many of you have signed the Care Not Killing Petition against the Bill. **If you have done so - thank you.** If you did have not yet registered your concerns with your MP, you can do so because the ONLINE version of the Petition is being kept open for the time being. Please feel free to use this website link

<https://carenotkilling.org.uk/petition/> OR the QR code [below].



Ignite Festival is back! - an invitation to ALL young people in Year 8 upwards 3rd-5th May - Come and experience your faith in a new and dynamic way at the Ignite Festival. The weekend will include powerful talks, passionate prayer, live music, and lots of fun stuff. Check out <https://sjbcathedral.org.uk/events/ignite-festival> for more information on booking with the Cathedral group as there will be transport available from Norwich via this booking. For more information, please email Jo Graham - stjohnfhc@gmail.com

The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 22nd- 27th June in London. Candidates must have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on the 20th of April. For any queries, please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

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.