



SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

15th February 2026 · Year A · Weekday II · Psalter II

Cathedral House, Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PA

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Cathedral Office: 01603 624615

Cathy Casey [weekdays 9am-1pm]

TIMES OF CEREMONIES

Sunday 15th Feb	SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME		
	9am	Mass	<i>David Winter +</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass (cantor)	<i>Emilia Pritrská +</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction (cantor)	
	5.30pm	Mass (cantor)	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday 16th	<i>Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Thomas Plane +</i>
Tuesday 17th	<i>Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>In thanksgiving</i>
	5pm	Vespers (choir)	
	5.30pm	Mass (choir)	<i>Thomas Plane +</i>
Wednesday 18th	ASH WEDNESDAY		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Rosalie & Charlotte +</i>
	10am	Mass (cantor)	<i>God's intervention & mercy</i>
	3pm	Mass [1962 Rite Latin]	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	5.30pm	Solemn Pontifical Mass (choir)	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Thursday 19th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Thomas Plane +</i>
Friday 20th	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>John Fitzmaurice (F) +</i>
Saturday 21st	<i>Lent Feria</i>		
	10am	Mass & Adoration	<i>Patricia Doroney +</i>
	6pm	Mass [Anticipatory] (sung)	<i>Special Intention</i>
Sunday 22nd	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT		
	9am	Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass (cantor)	<i>Patrick Michael Dalton +</i>
	3pm	Rite of Election – No Vespers or Confessions	
	5.30pm	Mass (cantor)	<i>Aizer Tomaro +</i>

Fr Martin Hardy*Dean of the Cathedral Church*martin.hardy@rcdea.org.uk**Rev Jonathan Callejo***Deacon*Jonathan.callejo@rcdea.org.uk**Charley Purves***Cathedral Manager*gm@sjbcathedral.org.uk**Sarah Miller***Bookings Coordinator*bookings@sjbcathedral.org.uk**Revd Anthony Asomugha***Assistant Priest*anthony.asomugha@rcdea.org.uk**David Grealy***Director of Music*music@sjbcathedral.org.uk**Richard Maguire***Learning & Heritage Officer*heritage@sjbcathedral.org.uk**Becci Roberts***Catering Manager*cateringmanager@sjbcathedral.org.uk**Cathedral Collection****£5,057.65**

Loose Plate = £1,591.60

Dona = £1,510.05

Envelopes = £136.00

Standing Orders = c £1,675.00 *

**Averaged out and remains the same each week*

Window Appeal = £45.00 + £100.00

**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
Ash Wednesday	6pm	Mass

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

A message from Fr Alan...

A warm welcome: Fr Martin joins the cathedral this Tuesday as the new Dean of the Cathedral. Fr Martin was ordained in this diocese and has now returned to serve the people of East Anglia and, in particular, the cathedral community. Fr Martin is a very experienced priest and brings many talents with him which will bear fruit in the cathedral. Please join me in welcoming Fr Martin most warmly and keeping him in your prayers, especially in these early weeks and months as he learns his way around the cathedral campus and discerns the best way forward for this community. Joining a new parish is always a bit daunting but especially at the very beginning of Lent and all the preparations required for the forthcoming celebrations of Easter. A very warm welcome, Father.

And so, Lent begins I almost had to check my calendar twice when I realised that Lent is just a few days away.... what happened to the last 365 days? The Catholic Church is divided so neatly into seasons; Advent, Lent, Eastertide and Ordinary Time, that it seems to make the weeks and months flypast all the more quickly. I pray that this Lent, as we prepare for the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, is a blessed period of preparation and anticipation for the festivities of the Resurrection. How blessed we are to be called by Christ to align ourselves with his Passion and Resurrection every year and remind ourselves of the mercy that he has shown to us so that we can be forgiven our sins and hope for eternal life.

I remind you of the Lenten talks delivered by our Learning and Heritage Officer, Dr Richard Maguire, on the 27th of February, 6th of March and 13th of March where he will lead us through 500 years of English Catholicism - a brief coverage of this period that will hopefully inspire you to read further and delve into this fascinating period of our history.

Please do take one of the purple Lenten booklets at the back of the church which highlights the times and dates of all that is happening (in terms of Lent and Easter) at the cathedral over the next few weeks.

And a fond farewell: I bid you all farewell this Sunday as I move to my new position as parish priest of North Walsham. I want to finish my time here by thanking all the parishioners of Holy Apostles and the Cathedral parish for their love, support and encouragement over the last three and a half years. I have been extremely happy here, supported by a phenomenal team of employees and volunteers as well, of course, all of the parishioners who have greeted me so warmly and contributed to the life of the mother church of the diocese. What an honour it has been for me to be part of this extraordinary place. Thank you for all you do.

'He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly.'

If you desire, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of choice. He has placed before you fire and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Life and death are in front of people, and whichever one chooses will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those who fear him, and he knows a person's every deed. He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly, and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 119(118):1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R1b

Blessed are those who walk in the law of the LORD!

Second reading

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

'A wisdom God decreed before the ages for our glory.'

Brothers and Sisters: Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him' — these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Alleluia.

'It was said to those of old; but I say to you.'

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

'You have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement." But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, "You fool!" will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn." But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply "Yes" or "No"; anything more than this comes from evil.'

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, Pam Humphries, Joel McDonough, Anne O'Leary, Mary Newby, Gary Newton, Isobel O'Connor, Christopher Parish, Canon David Paul, Anthony Preston, Nicholle Sales, Reece Sales, Linda Sheppard, Christine Taylor, Peter Thorn, Lord Adrian Tremayne, Mary Ward, Fr John Warrington, Peter Willets, Adrian Woods, the Wood Family, Patricia Woolley, Isobel Woolner, the Watson Family, Charmanee Wissner, Shane Wissner and Karen Yallop [*GDPR compliant*]

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

NEWS AND EVENTS

This Wednesday – is Ash Wednesday and a day of fasting and abstinence. Together with the Masses at the cathedral, Mass will be held at Holy Apostles at 6pm on that day.

Morning Prayer - we invite you to join us for Morning Prayer (Lauds) in the Precious Blood Chapel weekdays (Mon-Fri) to pray 'the prayer of the whole Church'. We gather together about 9:30 to pray at 9:40. It's in spoken English. As well as nourishing our spiritual lives through the Psalms and Canticles repeated throughout the year, it also helps us to become accustomed to the vocabulary of the scriptures.

Morning Prayer is the short edition, the kernel of the Divine Office and is intended primarily for lay people to join together as one voice throughout the whole church. Father Alan has kindly provided more copies of the Morning and Evening prayer book for us to use. It is a bit complicated to navigate the book, but I can assure you, we will help and support those new to the prayers. Come and join Maureen, myself (Pam), Eamon, Flora and Deacon Jonathan daily, or whenever you are able.

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 16th February** and then on **Monday 2nd March**.

The Duckett Library - will be closed for the half term break on Sunday 15th, Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th February. Plenty of Lent reading now available as well as a photo feature of the library to celebrate its 14th anniversary on Thursday 12 February (cake available on the day)!

The next **Diocesan Catechist Formation Day** will be 21st February 2026 at OLISE Newmarket 9am to 5pm. All those involved in faith formation are very welcome. For more information, please refer to the posters and email Jo Graham to book a place - stjohnfhc@gmail.com.

CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day collection - this Lent, live the Gospel call to love your neighbour. Your donation to CAFOD can help families around the world grow food in challenging conditions. Collect an or donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

2026 is the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi - St George's Parish Council have organised a mini pilgrimage to Assisi in September this year. There are still a few places available, so they are extending the invitation to the parishioners of St John's to join them. The dates are 7th-11th September. The cost for full board, basic accommodation in twin room is £650. Flights from Stansted to Perugia also need to be purchased and they are hoping to organise transport to and from Stansted. For further information please contact Paula Pearce @ paulapofs@gmail.com or 07864929573.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party - 17th Feb 2026 from 3.30pm in the Narthex - bring the family and drop in for pancakes with lashings of toppings, both savoury and sweet (though maybe not on the same pancake)! Enjoy food, friendship and support our Youth Group's fundraising efforts.

Spring into Spring and banish the Winter Blues, with St John's Walking Group! New members welcome. For details contact jjmclean44@gmail.com or John on 07977470491.

The Justice & Peace Group would like to draw your attention to the following run by our Friends at St Peter Mancroft - Peace Catalyst Norwich will be holding a special Lent version of its Introduction to Christian Peacebuilding Course online, starting the first week of Lent. An Introduction to Christian Peacebuilding will take place online every Thursday evening between 7pm and 8.30pm from February 19 to March 26. Includes Lenten Prayers & Meditations. To register or if you have questions, please contact Phil Gazley at phil.gazley@peacecatalyst.org

Pilgrimage Opportunities for Young People - Summer 2026 Lourdes and Summer 2027 World Youth Day in Seoul. Find out more at our Launch on 22nd February 2026 at Newmarket Parish Centre, 14 Exeter Road, Newmarket CB8 8LT. The afternoon starts at 1pm (please bring a packed lunch) and will end by 3:00pm. For info please visit: www.rcdea.org.uk/youth.

To commemorate the diocese 50-year Jubilee we are putting together a series of displays on our parish life, hoping to capture how we have changed over the last 50 years. So please help us by contributing your thoughts, memories and pictures of baptism, first holy communions, weddings and other events in the parish over the last 50 years. Please fill in the survey by scanning the QR code attached and send any scanned pictures to marketing@sjbcathedral.org.uk. More information will follow soon on the Cathedral website on events to commemorate the Jubilee. Thank you.



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.