

MASSSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

PLEASE NOTE: ALL OF THE MASSES EXCEPT 17:00 MASS AT WATTON METHODIST CHURCH, WILL BE STREAMED VIA THE PARISH WEBSITE ourladyofpity.org

Saturday 17th April	Vigil Mass, 3rd Sunday of Easter
17:00 Watton	Ints of Stephen & Christine Silvester
Sunday 18th April	3rd Sunday of Easter
08:30 Our Lady of Pity	Ints of Michael & Helen Shanley
10:30 Our Lady of Pity	People of the Parish
Monday 19th April	Easter Feria
CHURCH CLOSED—NO MASS TODAY	
Tuesday 20th April	Easter Feria
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Frank Gates RIP (Fndn)
<i>Live—streamed only.</i>	
Wednesday 21st April	Easter Feria
10:00 Our Lady of Pity	Ints of HM The Queen (B'day)
10:30-11:30	Private prayer & Confessions
Thursday 22nd April	Easter Feria
09:00 Convent	Ints of Sisters
<i>Live-Streamed only</i>	
12noon Mass via Zoom	Ints of Marlene Hackeson (B'day)
<i>For link, please send email to ourladyofpity@btinternet.com</i>	
Friday 23rd April	ST GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND. SOLEMNITY
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Appointment of a New Bishop
<i>Live—streamed only.</i>	
Saturday 24th April	Easter Feria
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Ernest Knights RIP (Fndn)
09:30-10:30	Private prayer & Confessions
17:00 Watton	Vigil Mass, 4th Sunday of Easter

Our Lady of Pity, 31 Station Street, Swaffham, PE37 7HP
Watton Methodist Church, 57 High Street, Watton, IP25 6EJ



Our Lady of Pity Swaffham & Watton Newsletter

Parish Priest: Canon Mark Hackeson
The Presbytery, 31 Station Street, Swaffham,
PE37 7HP Tel: **01760 721418**

ourladyofpity@btinternet.com www.ourladyofpity.org
18TH APRIL 2021 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER B

***'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in His name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'* (Luke 24: 46-48)**

Like the other Gospels, St. Luke concludes by looking forward. Having tried to lead his readers to recognise Jesus as Nazareth as the Christ, and to understand the nature of His mission, the evangelist leaves the reader with the command to evangelise that comes from the Lord Himself: that this Good News is to be preached to 'all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.'

Interestingly, Luke summarises the Good News as 'repentance for the forgiveness of sins.' Death entered the world through the sin of the first Adam, who disobeyed the command of His Creator. (Romans 5: 12) So through Christ, the second Adam who was obedient to the will of His Father, salvation which is the forgiveness of sins and participation in eternal life is revealed and made available to men and women. (Romans 5: 18) However, as with Adam, you and I have the freedom to choose life or death. God's grace is never forced upon us; we are invited to avail ourselves of its blessings.

Through our Baptism we were washed clean of sin and became members of God's household. But we remain weak and sinful. However, calling God 'Father' as Jesus taught us, we are enabled to express our sorrow in humility and seek forgiveness once more, certain that He who did not spare His Son for us, will grant what we seek in His love and mercy. (Romans 5: 6-10)

During this long period of pandemic restrictions, for so many of us, the opportunity to experience this love and mercy through the forgiveness received in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) has been limited. And certainly comparatively few people have celebrated this Sacrament in the last twelve months. During this season of Easter, as the restrictions are gradually reduced and as the vaccine programme progresses, Christ, through the Church, invites us once more to witness to our faith, firstly by repenting of our sins and opening our own lives to the joy and freedom of the Life that He has won for us and offers to us.

With the blessings of Easter, Fr Mark.

PARISH CLERGY:	Canon Mark Hackeson Rev Roger Sparks	Parish Priest Retired Deacon
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PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH

FOR OUR SICK: Ann Hodnett, Jinny Birkbeck, Brian & Margaret Nash, Jan and Margita Pivarnikovi, Sr Francis, Vic Head, Kim Wright, Margaret Maxey, Theresa Axham, Norah Reeve, Catherine Oliver, Charles Burgess, Helen Philips, Edward Hodnett, Jack Izzo, Peggy Ellis, Davida MacDonald, Christine Dryden, Sheila Morris, Anna Dawson, Maureen & Eddie Doran, Gail Double, Lina Giovoni, Klaudia James., Heather Smith, Donata Bookham, Tina Gammell.
May the Lord bring them comfort and healing.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: For HRH Prince Philip, Tadeusz Nagrodzki, William Shorter and all those who have died recently, and for Sr Mary Clare, Alan Barlow, Peggy Green, Paul Johnstone, Jane KeeneTommy Smith Catherine Fisher & Reginald Marshall whose anniversaries fall this week.
May they rest in peace.

ROTAS FOR 17TH & 18TH APRIL - 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WATTON

17:00 Mass **Welcomer:** Bill Gammell **Stewards:** Volunteer
Reader: Brian Harris **Cleaner:** Volunteer

SWAFFHAM

8.30 Mass **Welcomers:** Andrew Coe & Len Heywood
Stewards: Bridget Dumbrell & Sally Cadiramen
Reader: Catherine Riedlinger
Cleaners: Bridget Dumbrell & Sally Cadiramen

10:30 Mass **Welcomers:** Volunteers **Steward:** Sue Rogers
Reader: Charles Pettit **Cleaner:** Sue Rogers
Flowers: Mary Bedingfeld & Bridget Dumbrell
Counters: (Wednesday 21st April) Rosemary & Paul Godfrey

ROTAS FOR 24TH & 25TH APRIL - 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WATTON

17:00 Mass **Welcomer:** Bill Gammell **Stewards:** Volunteer
Reader: Terri Charman **Cleaner:** Volunteer

SWAFFHAM

8:30 Mass **Welcomers:** Bridget Dumbrell & Sally Cadiramen
Stewards: Bridget Dumbrell & Sally Cadiramen
Reader: Teresa Axham
Cleaners: Bridget Dumbrell & Sally Cadiramen

10:30 Mass **Welcomer:** Volunteer **Steward:** Sue Rogers
Reader: Henry Bedingfeld **Cleaner:** Sue Rogers
Flowers: Mary Bedingfeld & Bridget Dumbrell
Counters: (Wednesday 21st April) Sandra Stone & Chris Smith

THANK YOU FROM CAFOD

Thank you for your generous donations to **CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent**. We featured **Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe** in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well, and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide **soap and handwashing stations** in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day.



Thank you for your steadfast support.

FLOWER ARRANGERS NEEDED!

Can you help?

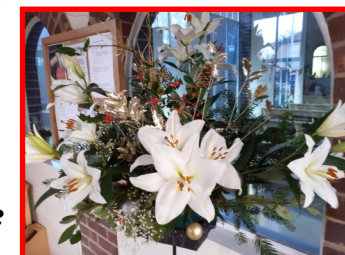
Please consider joining us!



We are a small group who are responsible for arranging the flowers in the church. We are six at the moment, but would love to have more people to join our rota.

You would not be on your own, we can arrange for you to assist one of us until you feel confident to act on your own.

For more information, please telephone Mary Bedingfeld on 01366 328269



Christmas Flowers

NEWSLETTER Please contact Glenda Boulter on 01328 838736 or gboulter@btinternet.com by **Wednesday midday** for the coming week. *Thank you.*

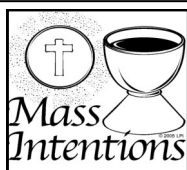
PRAYING FOR A NEW BISHOP FOR EAST ANGLIA

The process for the appointment of our new Bishop is underway. Please pray daily for a swift and wise appointment, for those involved, for the one who will be chosen, for Bishop Alan as he prepares to enter retirement and for our whole diocese.

**O God, eternal Shepherd,
who govern your flock with unfailing care,
grant in your boundless fatherly love
a pastor for your Church in East Anglia
who will please you by his holiness
and to us show watchful care.
through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.
Amen.**



*Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.
St. Felix, pray for us,
St. Edmund, pray for us.
St. Etheldreda, pray for us.
All holy martyrs and saints of East Anglia,
pray for us.*



If you would like Mass offered for your intentions, intentions of someone else, on a birthday or other celebration, or for someone who has died, simply complete one of the envelopes available in the narthex, and give it to Fr. Mark.

FOODBANK

Despite the change in church opening times, the foodbank remains open for donations.

If the church is shut, any donations can be left outside the Presbytery door. If people leaving donations could just ring the doorbell, Fr Mark will make sure the donations are passed on.

Thank you to everyone.



Living Fratelli Tutti - Our discussion group will meet next to look at the remaining chapters of the Pope's encyclical on:

Wednesday 21st April 7.00pm

Session 6: Chapter 5 A BETTER KIND OF POLITICS

EVENTS IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY 21st APRIL

- 10.30am HOLY HOUR** at Our Lady of Pity.
Church is open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions.
- 1.30pm 'ZOOMED' PARISH PRAYER GROUP MEETING**
All are welcome to join. For link please e-mail Anne Darkins at darkins873@btinternet.com by Tuesday evening.
- 7.00pm EASTER DISCUSSION GROUP**
7.00pm Session 6: Fratelli Tutti
Chapter 5 A better Kind of Politics



THURSDAY 22nd APRIL

- 12noon 'ZOOMED' MASS FROM OUR LADY OF PITY**
Join a growing group of parishioners for Mass and for the opportunity to chat and catch up afterwards. For link, please request at ourladyofpity@btinternet.com



FRIDAY 23rd APRIL

- 10.30am 'ZOOMED' PARISH COFFEE & CHAT**
Please join us with coffee & cake for a live zoomed' social! For link, please request at ourladyofpity@btinternet.com by Thursday evening.



SATURDAY 24th APRIL

- 09:30-10:30 HOLY HOUR** at Our Lady of Pity.
Church is open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.



THANK YOU for your generosity in the last week.

You gave **£209.65** in the collection from **Swaffham**, **£206.50** from **Watton** and. **£230** in standing orders. **Total £646.15**



ROTA DUTIES DURING CURRENT EMERGENCY

It is important that people do not feel pressurised to attend Sunday Mass at this time. The Rota will continue to be published each week, but if you do not feel able to fulfil the role for which you are down, please contact Fr Mark directly to let him know. If you do feel able to volunteer as a steward then please add your name to the list in the Narthex.



THE WORD OF GOD LUKE 24:35-48

35 The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. 36 They were still talking about this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' 37 In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. 38 But he said, 'Why are you so

agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? 39 Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' 40 And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. 41 Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded; 42 so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' 42 And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, 43 which he took and ate before their eyes. 44 Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' 45 He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses to this.'

Other readings: Acts 3:13-15,17-19 Psalm 41 John 2:1-5

REFLECTION

Before it concludes, the Gospel of Luke gives us an account of the appearance of Jesus to the eleven in Jerusalem and his departure from them. The two disciples who had met Jesus on the road to Emmaus have given their report. Nevertheless, when Jesus appears, the disciples are still slow to believe. They were not gullible individuals, easily deceived. They struggle to comprehend what they are seeing. Jesus demonstrates the reality of his risen body. Though transformed, he appears to them in bodily form. Jesus teaches them, as he taught the two disciples on the road, that the Scriptures can help them to grasp what has happened. The writings of the Law, Prophets and Psalms have been fulfilled. Israel's hopes and dreams of salvation have been realised. The challenge of faith invites all people to embrace a new life. The disciples are sent out as witnesses to the world. The story of the spread of the gospel begins, and still continues today. The good news of Christ Risen must be told to all, beginning from Jerusalem and extending to the ends of the earth.

Do I realise that faith is seeking to come to know the Risen Lord more fully day by day?

Do I strive for a love and deeper understanding of the Holy Scriptures?

Let us pray that the whole Church may be renewed in this Easter season.

Let us pray for the mission of the Church to the world of today.

Reflections on the Sunday Gospels, written by Fr. Adrian Graffy

25TH CELEBRATION OF FR MARK'S ORDINATION

Sunday 25th July 12.30 onwards

**Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School,
Sporle Road, Swaffham**



Fr. Mark would like as many parishioners as possible to attend the celebration of this very special milestone.

If you would like to attend, please contact any of the following people **by April 21st**, so they have an idea of numbers:

Sandra Stone 01760 724456

Louise Gayton 01760 721836

Jacinta Macris 07983 061874

Donations towards the cost of this event would be very gratefully received. Please place money donations into an envelope marked

Fr. Mark's Celebration and either place in the basket at Mass or push through Fr Mark's letterbox.



If you are able to provide an item of food, e.g. a salad or a dessert, or if you would be willing to help on the day, and haven't already been contacted, **please contact any of the people mentioned above.**



More information to be published in the coming weeks.

Thank you, *Sandra, Louise & Jacinta*

WATCH THIS SPACE!



GOING INTO HOSPITAL? If you are, **PLEASE** inform the Chaplain:

QEH at King's Lynn - Fr Gordon Adam 07721 020334

Norfolk & Norwich - Canon David Paul 01603 624615

Swaffham Community Hospital, please inform Fr. Mark.