

MASSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

Saturday 15th February	<i>(1st Mass 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time)</i>
17:00 Watton	Private Intentions DT
Sunday 16th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time A
08:30 Our Lady of Pity	People of the Parish
10:30 Our Lady of Pity	E M Hackeson † FrM
Monday 17th February	Feria
17:30 Convent	
Tuesday 18th February	Feria
No Mass today	
Wednesday 19th February	Feria
09:15 Our Lady of Pity	Sr Pia Francis OSC † SrE&SrF
Thursday 20th February	Feria
No Mass today	
Friday 21st February	Feria
09:15 Our Lady of Pity	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion
Saturday 22nd February	The Chair of St Peter. Feast
09:15 Our Lady of Pity	Dec'd of Sullivan Family F
09:45 Exposition & Benediction	
17:00 Watton	<i>(Vigil Mass 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time)</i>

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10:15 after Exposition & Benediction & by appointment

Our Lady of Pity, 31 Station Street, Swaffham, PE37 7HP
Watton Methodist Church, 57 High Street, Watton, IP25 6EJ
Sacred Heart Convent, 17 Mangate Street, Swaffham, PE37 7QW



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

SUNDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

NEWS FROM CAMBODIA WEEK 2

Our second week in Cambodia was just as busy and joyful as the previous week. It began with a very early morning start for our first-timers, who were picked up at 4.30am to be taken to witness dawn and sun-rise at Angkor Wat. It was a rewarding experience for them. Arriving in pitch black darkness, one is unaware of the scale and the majesty of this monument, and the number of people gathered within its outer court who are silenced by the darkness that envelopes them. Then with the



changing hues of dawn behind the temple, and the rise of the sun behind its lotus-shaped towers it an experience not to be forgotten. After a return to Siem Reap for breakfast, they returned for a full day tours of just a few of the hundreds of temples that stand as a witness to the genius and sophistication of a society and culture brought low in recent years, but one which is to be appreciated, admired and cherished.

Wednesday saw us journey to the village of Chomnaom, about half-way between Siem Reap and Battambang. Our visit coincided with the annual Mass and Village Blessing. It is a spiritual, joyful and boisterous celebration.

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

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH

FOR OUR SICK:

Sr Francis, Rita & Vic Head, Joan Walker, Kim Wright, Margaret Maxey, Cath Hole, Theresa Axham, Norah Reeve, Catherine Oliver, Charles Burgess, Carol Pointer, Helen Philips, Edward Hodnett, Jack Izzo, Peggy Ellis, Davida MacDonald, Christine Dryden, Sheila Morris, Anna Dawson, Maureen & Eddie Doran, Gail Double, Lina Giovoni, Sr Elizabeth Rees, Dana Lavington.

May the Lord bring them comfort and healing.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR THIS WEEK †

Sr Mary Irmgardis, Kenneth Kentleton, Bill Grisbrook, Denis Byrne, Billy Byrne, Baby Clark, Olga Angelinetta, Imelda Cadiramen,

May they rest in peace

THANK YOU for your generosity in the last week.
You gave **£205.25** the collection from **Swaffham**,
and **£145.66** from **Watton**. **£111** in standing orders **Total £461.91**



PARISH ROOM: For bookings & enquiries please contact Anne Dryden on 01760 723510

ROTAS FOR 22ND & 23RD FEBRUARY 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

WATTON 5:00

Reader: Brian Harris **Ministers:** Bill Gammell & Brian harris

SWAFFHAM 8:30

Welcomers: Anrew Coe & Len Heywood **Reader:** Frances Sparks

Ministers: John Marshall & Chris Smith

SWAFFHAM 10:30

Welcomers: Vesna Rushton & Anne Dryden **Reader:** David McPartlin

Ministers: Abe Abernathy & Mary Bedingfeld

Children's Liturgy: Denise & David McPartlin **Coffee:** Teresa & David West

Flowers: *Volunteers*

Counters: (Monday 24th February) Sean & Denise Pettit



DIOCESAN RENEWAL DAY

Saturday 29th February

10:00 to 16:00

**St Philip Howard Church, 33 Walpole Road,
Cambridge, CB1 3TH**

“A Vision and Heart for God’s Word”

Led by Duncan Mitchell

The day includes, *Prayer and Praise, Holy Mass, Adoration,
Reconciliation and Prayer Ministry*

Tea and coffee are provided, please bring a packed lunch.

For further information contact Philip Walters on 07910 157584
www.renewaleastanglia.org

CARITAS FESTIVAL CARITAS EAST ANGLIA

St George’s, Norwich, on Saturday 28th March

Caritas East Anglia is holding a Festival to celebrate sharing
God’s love with our neighbour.

The Festival is an opportunity to share God’s love, and is a
platform for parish groups involved in social outreach work to
tell others about your work.

**We would like all Norfolk parishes to be represented. To book a stall,
please email Jacinta by Sun 16th Feb: caritas@rcdea.org.uk**



EASTER PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE

Including the live Passion Play in Ballintubber Abbey.

8th April 2020.

£699.00 per person. Single supp **£100.00.**

Flight with 10kg bag,

5 nights’ Knock House Hotel with breakfast and dinner.

All excursions included. Lunches on days out.

Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or
email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages ATOL T7613.

Further details and itinerary on information sheet in the narthex.

The 33 days begin next Friday, 21st February, so please do take it today if you would like to begin the retreat. There is a reflection each day, and a prayer for that day. When possible, after weekday Masses, it may be good to have a coffee/tee in the Presbytery or Parish Room, and share a half hour together in this activity. I would like to encourage all of us to join in as we can, and ask that you also take a copy to the housebound who may be able to join with us even in their own homes.

Together let us prepare to re-dedicate ourselves as well as our country to the loving care and guidance of Our Lady.

***Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.
Our Lady of Pity, pray for us.***

Fr. Mark

A BIG THANK YOU to Carmen Sell, Ann Darkins, and all who helped to make such an enjoyable celebration on Friday evening. **WELL DONE!**



YOUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Children's Liturgy	David McPartlin
Readers	Terri Charman
Eucharistic Ministers	John Marshall
Musicians & Choir	Lissa Kinsey
Servers	Helen Phillips
Friends of Our Lady of Pity	Sandra Stone
Prayer Group	Jacinta Macris
Flower Arrangers	Lady Mary Bedingfeld
Parish Finance & Fabric	John Sorrell
Welcomers	Len Heywood
Hospitality	Anne Darkins

Representatives nominated directly by the whole community:

SWAFFHAM

Bridget Dumbrell	Louise Gayton	Christopher Madge	Charles Pettit
Maureen Postans	George Stone		

WATTON

Maria Cox	Stephen Silvester
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

15:00 CHOIR in church



WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

14:00 PRAYER GROUP Parish Room



FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

33 DAYS PREPARATION FOR DEDICATION OF ENGLAND TO OUR LADY

Begins today. Booklets are available in the narthex.

WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY—ASH WEDNESDAY

09:15 Mass and distribution of ashes

19:00 Mass and distribution of ashes.

FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

10:00 REQUIEM MASS FOR MARGARET MYLES RIP

SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY

10:00-16:00 DIOCESAN RENEWAL DAY

St Philip Howard Church, Cambridge.



SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

11.00 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN in the Parish Room

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH

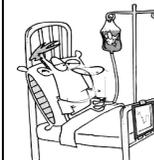
CARITAS FESTIVAL

St George's Church, Norwich

ROTAS Please collect from your pigeon hole. Thank you

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

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?



If you are, **PLEASE** inform Canon Peter Rollings at King's Lynn (01553 772220 or parishpriest763@gmail.com), otherwise the Chaplaincy Team will not know you are there. If you would like a visit at home or in Swaffham Community Hospital, please inform Fr. Mark.

THE WORD OF GOD

MATTHEW 5:17-37



17 Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. 18 I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. 19 Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 21 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. 22 But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire.' So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: *You must not commit adultery*. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: *Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal*. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord*. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

*Other readings: Ecclesiasticus 15:16-20 Psalm 118 (119)
1 Corinthians 2:6-10*

REFLECTION

We continue reading from the first great speech of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew, the Sermon on the Mount. Today's reading is very long, so that only the first few verses are given here. You are invited to read the rest in your Bible. Jesus teaches that the 'Law and

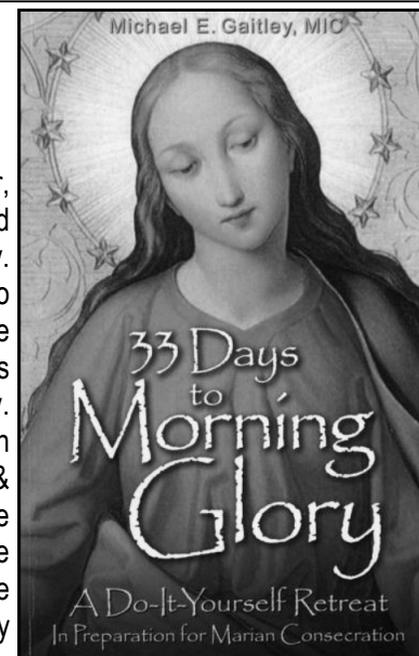
RE-DEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS THE DOWRY OF MARY

In the reign of St. Edward the Confessor, almost a thousand years ago, England was dedicated to Mary as her Dowry. This special dedication of our country to Our Lady is witnessed to in the countless churches and chapels dedicated to her throughout the country. Here in Swaffham, despite the parish church being dedicated to Ss. Peter & Paul, that devotion was apparent in the Chapel dedicated to Our Lady under the title 'Our Lady of Pity' in the South Aisle of the Church, a chapel reputedly enhanced and beautified by the

legendary Pedlar of Swaffham, John Chapman. The designation of our present parish under the same title continues in this tradition. Of course, the greatest witness was, and remains, the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, until the Reformation the major Marian shrine in Europe.

On Sunday 29th March 2020, the Catholic Church in England will be re-consecrated as Mary's Dowry at Walsingham and in Cathedrals and Parish Churches throughout the country. In order to prepare for this momentous occasion, we are invited to participate in a form of spiritual retreat for the 33 days leading up to the 29th March. A special booklet is available at Mass this weekend entitled '33 Days to Morning Glory'. Written by Fr. Michael Gaitley, a member of the Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception from the united States. It is available at no cost to you.

The booklet is self-explanatory, and be used individually at home, or together in groups. The aim, through daily reading, prayer and reflection is to become more what we are called to be – an island of saints! It draws on the spirituality of St. Simon de Montfort.



Sunday saw us travel some two hours to one of the communities served from Battambang at the village of Nikum. Here, again, we were treated to dancing by the children, before having to return the favour with some 'action songs'! Following the usual rice soup lunch and Sunday Mass, the children were delighted to receive your Christmas gifts. I hope the photographs convey their joy and gratitude.



Monday saw us make the long journey back to Siem Reap where we took the staff of the parish out for a thank you supper, before a final morning of shopping and packing before the gruelling flights back to the frozen temperatures of the United Kingdom.

I hope these notes, have given you some insight into the experience of our Diocesan twinning, and hope that we will be able to put on a presentation and discuss possibilities for future involvement during the next month or so. But once again, THANK YOU!



With every blessing, Fr. Mark

The question of a twinning between our parish and the parish of Pailin will be discussed at the forthcoming Parish Pastoral Council on Wednesday 4th March.

If you have any thoughts or questions on this subject, please talk to me or one of your council members.

the Prophets', by which he means the scriptural tradition of Jewish faith, are to be cherished. Nevertheless, these traditions are to be 'completed' or 'fulfilled'. The fulfilment brought by Jesus can be new and unexpected. Having challenged the inadequate 'virtue' or 'righteousness' of the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus presents a new way. He gives six examples of how his teaching deepens the traditional teaching of the Jews. These pieces of teaching are sometimes described as 'antitheses'. In them Jesus quotes the Jewish tradition and goes on to challenge it with the words 'But I say this to you!' The first challenge makes more radical the commandment 'You must not kill'. For those called by Christ there are deeper demands. To hurl anger and insults at another is not the behaviour of a Christian. In the following verses Jesus will offer radical new understandings of other tenets of the Law. To hate one's enemy may have been considered acceptable in the tradition, but in verse 44 Jesus says: 'But I say this to you: Love your enemies!'

Am I ready to learn new things from the teaching of Jesus?

Do I cherish the teaching of the Law and the Prophets which prepared the way for Christ?

We pray for readiness to learn from the Scriptures and from the teaching of the Church.

We pray for a new attitude to those who have offended us.

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

READINGS FOR 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

Entrance Antiphon Cf Ps 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15:16-20

Responsorial Psalm: 118 (119)

They are happy who follow God's law!

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 86:68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 77:29-30

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

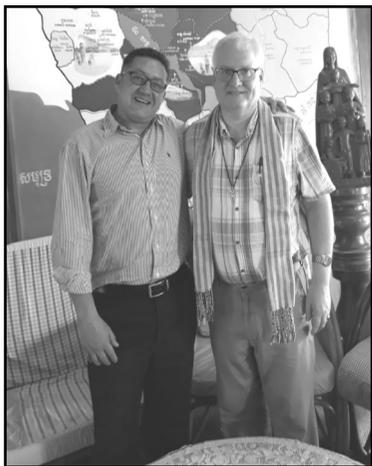
After celebrating Mass in Khmer, presided over by Bishop Kike, a shared lunch was provided for everyone. Then began the procession of tractor-powered carts around the village, blessing the people and their houses. Not the minimal sprinkling of our experience here in the United Kingdom,



but a real dousing with holy water, at least a panful over the head of each person waiting prayerfully at each house, and then a real dousing of families and houses. With children singing and dancing on carts in front and behind, both the priests and the visitors who were on another cart got well and truly soaked – immersed in the joy and hope of faith!

The following day we journeyed on to the dusty border town of Pailin. This was the last stronghold of the Khmer Rouge and is still heavily mined – so one keeps strictly to the well-trodden paths. Only a few years ago, one of the parish children discovered a live mine under a tree in the Church compound. Luckily, but shockingly, children here are trained to recognise such things and to report accordingly. No-one was hurt on that occasion. The small Catholic community here are, for the first time this year, served by a resident Parish Priest, Fr. Carlos, a Columbian priest. The Marist Brothers have been vital in this area to the establishment of the Parish and outlying communities

and works, and to the provision of a school that is impressive in the level of education given to young people. We visited, during our two day stay in Pailin, the Kindergarten, Primary-level Learning Centre and the Secondary-level English Classes, all of which are held in a building built quite some time ago with donations from East Anglia. The staff, children and young people, who are drawn from across the social scene, disabled and able-bodied, Buddhists and Catholics were impressive in their



dedication to the projects and in displaying its fruits. They received some of your many Christmas gifts, which were eagerly opened, worn, played with and used. I was also able to make a significant donation of over \$400 to the cost of training and providing a salary for one of the teachers, thanks again to your generosity. The hospitality of the



Marist Brothers was superb as usual and one cannot but be impressed by this international community that together serve their Cambodian brothers and sisters.



After two days in Pailin, we travelled to Battambang, where we spent some time visiting 'La Palloma', a centre dedicated to providing a home, education and vocational training to young people disabled as a result of landmines or polio. It is always a joyful place, full of the energy and enthusiasm one expects from all young people. One resident, Wen Pirrulo, has taught English for many years, and has been establishing a library of English, Spanish and Khmer books. Our group donated

a very heavy case of books in English, and once again I was able to make a donation of \$100 on your behalf for the purchase of much-needed Khmer books. Wen and the young people send you their thanks.

On Saturday evening we were treated to a display of classical and folk dance by the young people of Battambang Parish, who ranged from 6 years to 18. The Blessing Dance is a particular favourite and is performed at the Royal Palace for the King and visiting heads of state – and for East Anglians from Swaffham, Wymondham, Ipswich and North Walsham!

