

MASSSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

PLEASE NOTE ALL OF THE MASSES LISTED BELOW WILL BE
CELEBRATED IN CHURCH,
BUT WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF A CONGREGATION.
PLEASE JOIN IN BY FOLLOWING THE READINGS AND PRAYERS AT HOME
AND JOINING US ONLINE THROUGH THE PARISH WEBSITE

Saturday 21st November	Vigil Mass CHRIST THE KING SOLEMNITY (A)
17:00 Our Lady of Pity	People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd November	CHRIST THE KING SOLEMNITY (A)
08:30 Our Lady of Pity	Mgr Peter Moran RIP (M & PDG)
10:30 Our Lady of Pity	Alfred Austin RIP (MC)
Monday 23rd November	Feria
CHURCH CLOSED—NO MASS TODAY	
Tuesday 25th November	St Andrew Dúng-Lac P & Comps.
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Michael Prentice RIP
Wednesday 25th November	Feria
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Dec'd Clergy of Deanery RIP
Thursday 26th November	Feria
12noon	Mass via Zoom
19.00 Our Lady of Pity	Ints of Aileen Harrington (MB & ES)
Friday 27th November	Feria
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Dec'd Relatives of Friends (D&TW)
Saturday 28th November	Feria
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	An End to the Pandemic
09.30 - Our Lady of Pity	EXPOSITION—DAY OF PRAYER
16.45	FOR AN END TO THE PANDEMIC
17:00 Our Lady of Pity	Vigil Mass 1st Sunday of Advent B

PANDEMIC CHURCH OPENING TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Tues, Wed. Fri & Sat 09.30-11.00 Thurs 18.00-19.00

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
22ND NOVEMBER 2020 CHRIST THE KING SOLEMNITY (A)

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR AN END TO THE PANDEMIC Saturday 28th November 2020

Cardinal Nichols and the Bishops of England & Wales have dedicated the day before Advent begins as a National Day of Prayer for an end to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Accordingly the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in Church at the end of the 9am Mass until 4.45pm on that day for private prayer in accordance with the Government regulations. However, we need to ensure that at least one steward and one other person are in Church throughout this time. If you can offer 30 minutes during that day, then please sign up on the form available in the Church during its current opening hours or e-mail/telephone Fr Mark who will add your name to the list. The day will be divided into 30 minute sessions beginning at 9.45am.

CHRISTMAS MASSES SCHEDULE FOR 2020

*Due to the restrictions on capacity for Church services which are likely to continue to be in force at Christmas, the schedule and venue of our Christmas Masses this year will differ from previous years. Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, have offered us the use of the Sports Hall for two of our Masses which will greatly increase our capacity whilst still observing the social-distancing rules. We have yet to finalise the number of places that will be available, but will do so within the week. It will also be **NECESSARY TO BOOK WELL IN ADVANCE**, preferably using our on-line booking system at ourladyofpity.org or, if that is not possible for you, then by e-mail or booking directly with Fr Mark. Booking can be made from Wednesday of this coming week!*

CHRISTMAS EVE:

4.30pm	First Mass of Christmas	Sacred Heart Sports Hall
<i>(This Mass will be aimed mainly at families and children but will be open to all)</i>		
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Our Lady of Pity (30 places only)

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.15am	Mass of Christmas Dawn	Watton Methodist Church
		<i>(30 places only)</i>
10.30am	Mass of Christmas Day	Sacred Heart Sports Hall

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

FOR OUR SICK:

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, Sr Elizabeth Rees, Francis Bostrom, Vishal Patil Rao & Klaudia James., Heather Smith, Phyllis Cornish.

May the Lord bring them comfort and healing.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED †

For Mgr Peter Moran who died recently, and for Mervyn Dale, Myra Peters, Elizabeth Meany, Roy Mollart, Alfred Austin, Baby Pegg, Edith Bolton, John Kubiak, Tony Welding jnr, Jack Keating, Patricia Reader & Joyce Campe whose anniversaries fall this week.

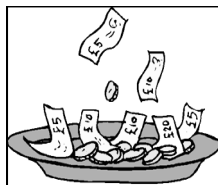
May they rest in peace.

ROTAS FOR SUNDAY MASSES ARE SUSPENDED FOR THE DURATION OF THE PRESENT LOCKDOWN

Everyone on the Rota list will be informed when the restrictions are to be lifted.

Thank you, Glenda

THANK YOU for the offertory donations for past weeks and for future weeks. A monthly total will be given at the beginning of December when we may be open for the public celebration of Mass once more.



GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

If you are, **PLEASE** inform the appropriate Chaplain:
QEH at King's Lynn - Canon Peter Rollings 01553 772220
Norfolk & Norwich - Canon David Paul 01603 624615
Swaffham Community Hospital, please inform Fr. Mark.

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

VIRTUAL 2020 LONDON MARATHON

A belated, but very big CONGRATULATIONS to Rosie Wetherall who successfully competed in this year's London Marathon. An impressive medal was well deserved!



Many of us are sporting masks made by Rosie during the first lockdown earlier in the year. Since completing the Marathon she has returned to her sewing machine. Her Christmas masks will be available in the Church Narthex.



CHRISTMAS MASKS!

I have made some seasonal masks and hope to raise some money for Asthma Research UK.

I was expecting to run the London Marathon this year for Asthma UK, but instead I completed the virtual Marathon in October 2020. (I still intend to run in April 2022!)

I suggest a donation of £5 each mask, but am happy with whatever you can give.

*Many thanks,
Rosie Wetherell.*

Zoomed Celebration of Mass Thursday 26th November, 2020

12noon (You will be able to log in from 11.45am)

'Zoom' is a web-based video conferencing tool which allows users to 'meet' online and is very easy to use. If you already access our parish Mass via the internet and you have a camera on your device then you would be able to use 'Zoom'. The only requirement needed is to download 'Zoom' to your computer, tablet or smart phone and to let Father Mark have your email address well in advance for him to send you the 'invitation' which is your link to join the celebration.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Our committed and talented team of flower arrangers need your help to decorate our Church for Christmas and to make the Sports Hall at Sacred Heart School suitable festive for the family Mass on Christmas Eve. If you can help with greenery from your garden, plants and tubs, or donations for flowers, then all will be gratefully received. Volunteers to join the team are also most welcome!



ADVENT 2020

Like most events and seasons from March 2020 onwards, Advent promises to be somewhat different to any other year! The season of school nativity plays, concerts, parish carol service and services of Preparation for Christmas will not be celebrated as they normally would be. Even Christmas shopping will be problematical this year! However, despite the desperate urge from the media to celebrate Christmas early this year, there is even more reason to observe the season of Advent. Above all, we stand in need of HOPE. Anticipating the indulgence of the Christmas season not only divorces the celebrations from their real purpose—to mark the coming of Christ our Saviour, but ultimately does not change the reality of our lives. Preparing, seeking and rediscovering the hope, love, joy and peace that the long awaited Messiah will bring, helps us to live this difficult time of pandemic and its disastrous consequences looking forward with renewed hope—that after the darkness will come light; after winter will come spring; after suffering will come relief. Advent if we keep it well, can change, if not the suffering, at least the way we view that suffering—as something that WILL pass.

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ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Thanks to those who have volunteered to help distribute them, a special CAFOD Advent Card will be distributed to all parishioners along with a copy of our weekly Newsletter. The card helps us focus on four themes associated with this special season. A short reflection is given on the card, and each Sunday, the Newsletter will carry a reflection on that theme from a different member of our community. An on-line live streamed reflection will also be available each Wednesday. Look out for further news in next week's Newsletter.



CAFOD CHRISTMAS TREE

A special Christmas Tree will be erected in the Narthex from the beginning of Advent. You are invited to decorate with Christmas tags with your greetings to your fellow parishioners. You can either provide your own tag or some will be available in the Narthex. We ask that you donate the amount you would have spent on individual cards to CAFOD's special appeal to help those afflicted by the current Pandemic.

GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

Many families in our own communities will this year struggle financially to celebrate Christmas. We are organising a special collection of Christmas gifts for children of needy families. Watch out for further details next week. We hope to support families at the local women's refuge and in the wider community.

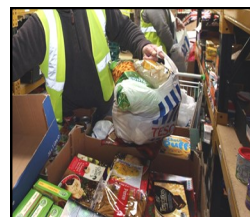


Mass continues to be celebrated very day except for Monday. These Masses are streamed via our Parish Website ourladyofpity.org The schedule is given on the back of this Newsletter.

CHURCH OPENING HOURS DURING THE NOVEMBER PANDEMIC RESTRICTIONS

Monday 23rd November	Church Closed	
Tuesday 24th November	9.00am	Mass (closed to public)
	9.30-11.00am	Open for Private Prayer
Wednesday 25th November	9.00	Mass (closed to public)
	9.30-11.15am	Open for Private Prayer
Thursday 26th November	9.30-11.10am	Open for Private Prayer
Friday 27th November	9.00am	Mass (closed to public)
	9.30-11.00am	Open for Private Prayer
Saturday 28th November	9.00am	Mass (closed to public)
	9.40am -16.45pm	Open Day of Prayer

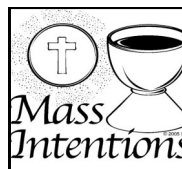
If you are able to volunteer to steward during the Church's opening hours, then please let Father Mark know. This week's draft rota is available over the page.



FOODBANK

This supplies families and individuals every day with enough food for three meals for three days. Donations of non-perishable food can be placed in the box at the back of the church and monetary donations in the **Hungry Jar**.

Thank you to everyone for your support.



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.

PARISH ROOMS Currently our Parish Rooms are **NOT AVAILABLE**. They MAY BE AVAILABLE FROM 2nd DECEMBER for restricted purposes: prayer, charitable meetings, educational purposes and catechetics. (They are not available for social gatherings). For further information, please contact Anne Dryden on 01760 723510

CHURCH OPENING FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

ROTA OF STEWARDS/WELCOMERS

Monday 23rd November 2020

CHURCH CLOSED

Tuesday 24th November 2020

09.30 – 11.00	June Reynolds	Sue Moncaster
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Wednesday 25th November 2020

09.30 – 11.00	Bridget Dumbrell	Sue Rogers
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Thursday 26th November 2020

18.00 - 19.00	Rosie Wetherell	June Reynolds
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Friday 27th November 2020

09.30 – 11.00	Stephen Silvester	
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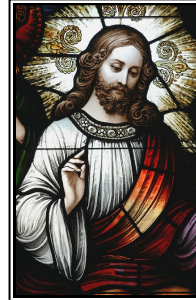
Saturday 28th November 2020

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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THE WORD OF GOD

MATTHEW 25:31-46

31 Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. 32 All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. 33 He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; 36 naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." 37 Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; 39 sick or in prison and go to see you?" 40 And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." 41 Next he will say to those on this left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; 43 I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." 44 Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" 45 Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." 46 And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

Other readings: Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17, Psalm 22 (23) 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28

REFLECTION

On this final Sunday of the liturgical year, the Solemnity of Christ the King, we come to the end of our reading of the Gospel according to Matthew. The dramatic scene of the judgement comes at the end of the fifth and last major speech of Jesus in this gospel, a speech which is focused on the final coming of the kingdom. In this passage, which is both an invitation and a warning, Jesus is presented as 'the King'. He has dominion over all. He is the judge, but the needy of the world are his brothers and sisters. We are invited to loving service of our brothers and sisters, especially of those in greatest need. The dreadful fate of 'eternal punishment' is the inevitable consequence of a refusal to love. It is only this deliberate refusal to love that can exclude us from the kingdom.

Do you see this gospel text as an encouragement or as a warning?

What lessons have you learned from hearing the Gospel of Matthew this year?

We pray for our young people, that they may respond with generosity to God's call in their lives.

We pray that the gospel will be the motivating force in our lives, year by year.

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