

WAVENEY VALLEY CATHOLIC PARISH



St Benet Beccles, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Gillingham,

St Edmund Bungay, St Thomas More Harleston

www.waveneyvalleycatholics.church Diocese www.rcdea.org.uk

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NEWSLETTER for the WEEKEND April 25th/26th 2026 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER– YEAR A

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2: 14, 36–31

‘God has made him both Lord and Christ’

Psalm Response: The Lord is my shepherd,
there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: First Letter of St. Peter 2: 20–25
‘You have come back to the shepherd of your souls’

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! I am the Good Shepherd says the Lord; I know my sheep and mine know me. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 10: 1 –10 ‘I am the gate of the sheepfold’



ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Rhoda McNamara, Muriel Salvon, John Forder, Kathy Gordon, Ludwik Olanczuk, Anne Hazell, Minneth Roberts, Kathleen Squire, Mary Giles, Ray Kavanagh, Elisabeth Ashe, Kathleen Cowgill, Jane Beadley, Dom Aelred Watkin OSB.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS

SATURDAY 25th April
St. Mark, Evangelist

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open Intention)
9.45 Confessions @ Bungay
17.30 Confessions @ Harleston
18.00 Mass @ Harleston (For the People)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) 26th April
Second Collection: Priest's Training Fund

9.15 Mass Bungay (For the People)
11.00 Mass Beccles (Gavin Ward Birthday)
18.00 Mass Gillingham (For Vocations)

MONDAY 27th April
No Mass

TUESDAY 28th April

9.15 Mass Bungay (George Shaw + AS)

WEDNESDAY 29th April

9.30 Parish Rosary @ Beccles
10.00 Mass Beccles (Patricia Knight + HH)

THURSDAY 30th April

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open Intention)
16.00 Reception of Body & Requiem Mass @
OLPS Gillingham for Shelah Parmenter

FRIDAY 1st May

11.00 Funeral Service @ Gillingham
For Shelah Parmenter

SATURDAY 2nd May
St. Athanasius Bishop

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open Intention)
9.45 Confessions @ Bungay
17.30 Confessions @ Harleston
18.00 Mass @ Harleston (For the People)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) 3rd May

9.15 Mass Bungay (First Communicants)
11.00 Mass Beccles (For the People)
18.00 Mass Gillingham (Shelah Parmenter +)

NEWS AND EVENTS

Newsletter deadline 9am Thursdays simon.blakesley@rcdea.org.uk

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS will be celebrated next Sunday at **Bungay at the 9.15 Mass**. We have seven children who have been preparing for this event, so please keep them all in your prayers.

NEW NURSERY AT ST BENET'S AND ST. EDMUND'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOLS We are delighted to share the news that we have been awarded £150,000 for each school to develop a new school-based nursery for children aged 3 and above. This exciting development will provide a nurturing start to school life and support a smooth transition into Reception.

If you are interested in a place from September, please visit our school website and click on the 'Nursery' tab for more information and to complete the expression of interest form. We would also appreciate you sharing this with others in the community. We look forward to sharing further updates as the project progresses. Thanks, Mr Patrick Kennedy

PRODUCE STALL AT BUNGAY STREET MARKET On Sunday 10th May after Mass there will be a produce stall outside St. Edmunds during the street market. Donations of items to sell would be most gratefully received – garden items, crafts, preserves, small cakes. Donations can be left at the stall before Mass or from Saturday at the presbytery – earlier if non-perishable. For further information please see Sue Altarelli, Jenny Beaugeard or Felicity Todd. Please support our parish fundraising!

THE BOHEMIAN CHOIR will be performing at St Benet's church Beccles on **Saturday the 2nd May at 16.00** Free admission, but any donations gratefully received (proceeds shared between Choir and Restoration fund St Benet's). The Bohemian University Choir is a lively group of students from the Czech Republic who love singing together and sharing their music with new audiences. Made up of future teachers from the Faculty of Education, the choir brings together students from various teaching specializations— from pre-primary and primary to senior school.

SECOND COLLECTION - PRIESTS TRAINING FUND

There are special envelopes to be used for your donations that can be processed by the diocese to claim the gift aid. Please use one of these for your donation. Please also remember in your prayers **Ben Jordan** from Beccles who is doing well in his preliminary year of formation in the English College in Vallodolid.

SCRIPTURE STUDY CONTINUES at **19.00** on every Tuesday evening in the presbytery in Bungay. We look at the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday and consider the broader issues of the day in the light of the scriptures.

GIFT AID DONATIONS If you donate under Gift Aid, HMRC require us to advise you once a year about the process. For the parish to claim tax back you need to pay UK income or capital gains tax in an amount equal to the claim. This newsletter note is to let you know that, unless the parish is informed to the contrary, tax will continue to be claimed on your behalf. Thanks Sue Allen & Paul Quinn.

HISTORIC CHURCHES CYCLE RIDE is coming up again in September and will; be linking in with the Heritage Open Days in both Beccles and Bungay. After many years of faithful stewardship in this role at St. Benet's **Paddy Hardiman** has handed over the baton (thanks for all that you have done!) and I am looking for a volunteer (or two) to carry this work on. Please speak to me ASAP.

NAME BADGES There are still badges available and although Lent has come and gone, there are still some more shy and retiring individuals who have not chosen to wear badges. While I do understand and respect free choice, I would still like to know more of you by name, so please do put your full name on a badge – Thanks!

OUR PARISH PHONE NUMBER = 07946 390060 please note that both landlines have been decommissioned (although for some reason there is still a messaging service for 713179 at Beccles, but there is no way of monitoring this. I realise that mobiles seem to be somewhat impermanent but this number will **remain the parish contact number** even if I am not around, and I do now have an entirely separate mobile phone for 'friends & family' calls.

FR. SIMON AWAY IN MAY Just to let you know that I will be away in Scotland from the 4th to the 8th of May at the Annual Conference of the Canon Law society of Great Britain and Ireland. There is also a priests retreat later in May at the Diocesan Centre of the Diocese of Lille in Merville from the 18th to the 22nd and I am grateful to Fr. Sam who will cover the weekday Masses for me while I am away. The timing of these events is based on the theory that priests are always free in May!!!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Banns, Patricia Bath, Fr Stephen Bould, Steven Brooks, Ellen Clark, Nick Clissitt, Gabriel Doll, Cilla Duckett, Deacon Tony Felton, Richard Freeland, Caroline Garland, Derek Gibson, Barbara Hammond, Carole Hunt, Sue Kerr, Alasdair Kirkpatrick, Jo Lewis, Billy Maloy, Tanya Maloy, Ita Miller, Anne Nightingale, Barbara O'Brien, Terry O'Brien, Michael Osborne, Elizabeth Page, Christine Rhodes, Kathryn Robinson, Simon Smith, Huw Spratling, Luciana Staff, Jean Vousden, Katy Wakely.