

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 May 16th / 17th 2026 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER– YEAR A

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1: 12 – 14

‘All with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer’

Psalm Response: I believe I shall see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.

Second Reading: First Letter of St. Peter 4:13–16

‘If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed’

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord. I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice’ Alleluia!

Gospel: John 17: 1–11 ‘Father, glorify your son’



ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Clare Taylor, Patricia McGrath, Mary Wolski, Eileen Ward, Josephine Pollard, Joseph Fiske, Larry Peck, Nancy Channer, Robert Strange, Andre Tracz, Martin Williams, Peter Ellwood.

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.

MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS

SATURDAY 16th May

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) 17th May

9.15 Mass Bungay (Michael Lewis +)
11.00 Mass Beccles (For the People)
18.00 Mass Gillingham (Shelah Parmenter +)

MONDAY 18th May

No Mass

TUESDAY 19th May

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open Intention)

WEDNESDAY 20th May

9.30 Parish Rosary @ Beccles
10.00 Mass @ Beccles (Robert Strange + FD)

THURSDAY 21st May

N.B. NO MASS TODAY at Bungay

FRIDAY 22nd May

11.00 Mass @ Beccles (Martin Williams + PW)

SATURDAY 23rd May

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

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST (A) 24th May

9.15 Mass Bungay (For the People)
11.00 Mass Beccles (Open Intention)
18.00 Mass Gillingham (Evisha Smith PQ)

NEWS AND EVENTS

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

SECOND COLLECTION: FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

Andrew Nash has asked me to express his sincere thanks for the very positive and generous reception that he experienced last weekend. The provisional total given was **£970.57**, which is more than he got in a stockbroker belt parish in Surrey! If you would like to make any further donations having researched the work of this important charity their bank details are **Friends of the Holy Land - Sort code: 60-05-41 Account no: 24591211** And many thanks from me too, you are such wonderfully generous people where it counts!

PRODUCE STALL AT BUNGAY STREET MARKET

also I send you sincere thanks from Sue Altarelli, Jenny Beauguard and Felicity Todd for your support of our parish fundraising! A total of **£474.50p** was given for the various goodies on sale.

FR. SIMON AWAY IN MAY

Just to let you know that I will be away at the priests retreat next week 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 most of 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!!!

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.

A DEANERY BLESSED SACRAMENT PROCESSION

will be held at **15.00** on **Sunday 7th of June** at St. Benet's Beccles. You are all invited to gather and any recent first communicants are welcome to wear their best regalia. All altar servers are also welcome to participate.

CATHOLIC LEGACY WEEK, 24-30 MAY

is a time when Parishes and Catholic charities such as CAFOD celebrate the work made possible in the life of the Church through gifts in Wills. We are also, as a parish with two grade 2* listed churches in need of gifts through legacies to carry out major repairs and restoration of the fabric. Find out more about the week using this QR code or at cafod.org.uk/CatholicLegacyWeek



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK There will be a second collection this week in support of Christian Aid at Beccles and Gillingham

PARISH SPUC GROUP The next meeting of the Waveney Valley parish pro-life branch will be held at **6pm on Wednesday, 20 May** in the Bungay presbytery. All supporters are welcome to attend. Fr. Simon gives his apologies for the meeting.

LETS GET SOCIAL! We are now aiming to grow our new & refurbished **Waveney Valley Catholic Parish** community Facebook page. A platform to stay connected with our family of faith, expand in knowledge of our faith, evangelize, and keep up to date with parish news and events. Please like, follow and share - Waveney Valley Catholic Parish! 🙏 Please do delete the previous parish facebook page from your devices.

FEED THE HUNGRY: The Waveney Foodbank needs 300kg of food everyday to continue feeding local people living with food insecurity. You can help by bringing to mass ONE thing from their urgent needs list:

- 🥫 Tinned meat
- 🍹 fruit juice - long life
- 🍲 squash
- 🍚 rice
- ☕ Coffee
- 🥔 tinned potatoes
- 🥫 and jars of cooking sauce

Items can be deposited in the collection box at the door of each church in the Waveney Valley Catholic Parish

CAR PARKING ISSUES Unfortunately, there are regular challenges with car parking at both Beccles and Bungay. At Beccles there is often double parking in Grange Road near the driveway into the presbytery and it would be marginal for fire engines or ambulances to get through, so please be careful here. On Sundays the school grounds are open for any parishioners to park in the playground areas. In addition in Bungay cars are being parked over gravestones near the calvary, so please make sure all school staff cars can get out even if you are parking just for the duration of a weekday Mass. Thankyou.

FUNERAL FOR MICHAEL LEWIS (Lily's husband) will be on Thursday 28th of May at 11.30 in Bungay.

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.