

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 June 27th / 28th 2026 SOLEMNITY OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL - PSALTER WEEK 1

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 12: 1 - 11

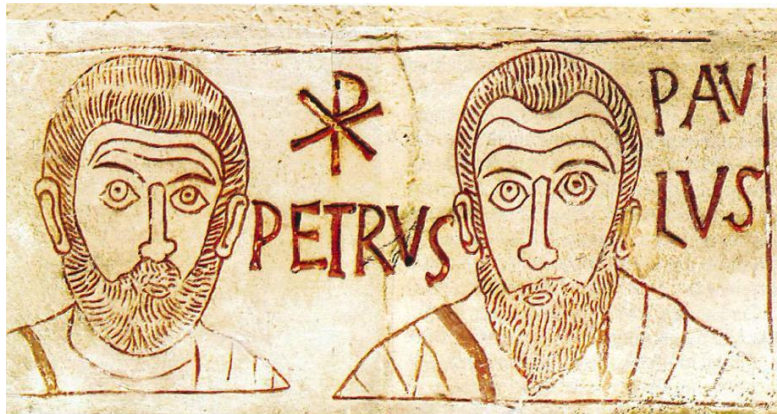
'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod.'

Psalm Response: From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

Second Reading: St. Paul - 2nd Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18 'The Lord stood by me and strengthened me'

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 16:13 - 19 'You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven'



ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Kay Richards, Charlotte Howell, Elsa Colborne, Winifred Leishman, Hugh Andrews William Radley, Christabel Mack, Francis 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 27th June

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (For the People)

9.45 Confessions @ Bungay

17.30 Confessions @ Bungay

18.00 Mass & Baptism @ BUNGAY (Oliver Duff)

SOLEMNITY OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL 28th June

SECOND COLLECTION - FOR PETER'S PENCE

9.15 Mass Bungay (Desmond Fennell + AM)

11.00 Mass Beccles (Malet Family Ints. NKS)

18.00 Gillingham (Russell Hazell +)

MONDAY 29th June No Mass

TUESDAY 30th June

First Martyrs of the See of Rome

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Special Intention)

WEDNESDAY 1st July

St. Oliver Plunkett BM

9.30 Parish Rosary @ Beccles

10.00 Mass @ Beccles (Terence Dowling + SB)

THURSDAY 2nd July

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Alice Cross +)

FRIDAY 3rd July

St. Thomas Ap

11.00 Mass @ Beccles (Marianne Thorpe +)

SATURDAY 4th July

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open Intention)

9.45 Confessions @ Bungay

17.30 Confessions @ Harleston

18.00 Mass @ Harleston (For the People)

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 5th July

9.15 Mass Bungay (For the People)

11.00 Mass Beccles (Martina O'Brien + PQ)

18.00 Gillingham (F & P Durack + AN)

NEWS AND EVENTS

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEACON TONY FELTON who celebrates thirty years of service to St. Benet's since his ordination as a deacon in 1996. Please do join him for a special celebration after the 11.00 Mass this Sunday.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH CHURCH TREASURES OF THE WAVENEY DISTRICT – A GUIDED MYSTERY TOUR

- Discover one of Norfolk's most memorable WWI war memorials.
- Explore the links to our Benedictine heritage – and discover the origin of the term 'to boycott'!
- Visit a hidden Norman treasure.

The tour will be led by one of our parishioners, Pete Johnson, a retired history teacher with a long-held passion for ancient churches. The cost will be £20, payable nearer the time, which includes minibuss transport and lunch at a local community run pub. Places are limited to 16 so book early. Regrettably, the sites are not wheelchair friendly and the tour is not suitable for children. If you would like to attend, please let Pete know at jonners43@gmail.com asap and by July 4th at the latest. Detailed info will follow later.

INDEXED-LINKED GIVING Thanks to our treasurer Neil Mayhew, extensive analysis of offertory giving across all four churches shows that we are receiving now more or less the same level of income that we were ten years ago. Of course this is mainly due to the gradual reduction in numbers of givers from parishioners going to their eternal reward. It is also notable however that many donors have kept their giving at the same level for five years or more. I do realise that we are all facing the same fiscal pressures and that across our four churches we are no longer supporting two priests. So, in theory at least, these outgoings must be less. The truth is, however, that both parishes were 'only just managing' before coming under the Diocese, and the Benedictine priests were supported by Downside in the last resort. The economic facts of life are that on its own one 'Mass community' cannot support a 'full-time equivalent' priest, and even if a priest was available, our four churches with a total Sunday attendance of about 240 **could not support two priests**. With our large buildings, the utility costs are high and regular repairs and improvements are ongoing. So, the upshot of this insert is to ask you to consider what you give and when you last adjusted this for inflation.

DAY FOR LIFE 2026 Thankyou for the generous giving for the second collection that over the 4 churches came to a very impressive total of **£388.30** Useful information can still be found on the Day for Life website: www.dayforlife.org.

MASS INTENTIONS are very few at the moment. Request forms can be found in all of our churches.

SAD NEWS FROM OUR 'MOTHER DIOCESE' You may have seen on the news that Bishop David Oakley of Northampton has been removed from his office after his arrest for alleged 'non-recent' offences against young women. Please pray for all those involved in this distressing situation.

THE CONGO SCHOOL FOR PEACE GROUP will be hosting a tea party by the river at 51, Northgate Beccles, NR34 9AU **on Tuesday 30th June from 2.30pm to 5.30pm**. There will be music including the Johnny Q Band, singers and instrumentalists. Please come and join us. Donations welcome towards the new second floor.

GARDENING DAY – SATURDAY JULY 25TH – 10am to 3pm. Please come and help with our ongoing maintenance of the wonderful presbytery garden in Bungay. We are also looking to clear and develop two new areas. We need lots of help! If you have gardening tools then please bring them, although we do have some that we can share. Coffee/tea, snacks and lunch will be provided. Help make the garden look great for the Heritage Open Days in September.

CAR-WASH at HIPPERSONS BOATYARD Young Nate Sparrow and his friend have set up a car-cleaning business. Buy four and the fifth will be given to the church restoration funds if you wish. If you would like a car clean please send the dates (evenings or weekends) you would like as text message to The CleanCar team: on 07778 966477

HEATING AT ST. EDMUND'S BUNGAY As previously notified, 22 of the 26 fan convector units are not working and it now transpires that they **cannot be replaced**. We will be looking at other options that may be feasible given the nature of a grade 2* listed building...

SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP meets as usual on Tuesdays in Bungay presbytery at **19.00**. Please keep in your prayers Jack Holden and Ken Griffith who are preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Banns, Patricia Bath, Bruno Boldrini, Fr Stephen Bould, Steven Brooks, Ellen Clark, Nick Clissitt, Gabriel Doll, Cilla Duckett, Deacon Tony Felton, Richard Freeland, 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, Jordan Scott, Simon Smith, Fr. Roger Spencer, Huw Spratling, Luciana Staff, Jean Vousden, Katy Wakely.