

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 August 1st / 2nd 2026 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - A - PSALTER WEEK 2

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-3 'Come and eat...'

Psalm Response: You open your hand and fulfil us O LORD!

Second Reading: St. Paul – Romans 8: 35, 37-39 'Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ...'

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 14: 13 – 21 'They all ate and were satisfied'



ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Graham Patrick, Paul Casey, Hector De Cavilla, Harold Forder, Michael Robertson-Young, Theresa Williams, Nigel Doyle, Audrey Hall, Peter Medley, William Clarke, John Ellwood, Cyril Leeks, Valerie Kearley.

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 1st August

St. Alphonsus Ligouri BD

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Imshi Burrell's Ints)
9.45 Confessions @ Bungay
17.30 Confessions @ Harleston
18.00 Mass @ Harleston (For the People)

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 2nd August

9.15 Mass Bungay (Dom. Charles F-L OSB +)
11.00 Mass Beccles (Graham Patrick + JP)
18.00 Gillingham (For the People)

MONDAY 3rd August

11.00 @ Beccles Requiem for Ita Miller

TUESDAY 4th August

St. John Vianney P

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Special Intention PH)

WEDNESDAY 5th August

10.30 Parish Rosary @ Beccles
11.00 Mass @ Beccles
Requiem for Marian Starak +

THURSDAY 6th August

The Transfiguration of the Lord

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (M & M Deasy + HT)

FRIDAY 7th August

11.00 Mass @ Beccles (Theresa Williams+ PW)

SATURDAY 8th August

St. Dominic PD

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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9th August

9.15 Mass Bungay (D Marshall & C Leeks + JM)
11.00 Mass Beccles (Tommy Tudor + CD)
18.00 Gillingham (Terence Dowling + SNB)

NEWS AND EVENTS

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

CHEESE AND WINE EVENING – On **Thursday 4th September**, Howard has kindly offered to host a Cheese and Wine Evening at his home, The Old Barsham Rectory, a magnificent Grade II* listed property. The house and gardens are beautiful, and guests will be welcome to wander through the grounds and enjoy the elegant ground-floor reception rooms while socialising with friends and fellow supporters.

Tickets, priced at £15.00 each, will be available from the first Sunday in August after Mass at each of our parish churches, or from Sweeties Sweet Shop, Beccles. After expenses, all proceeds from the evening will go towards the restoration of St Benet's Church, helping to preserve this much-loved place of worship for future generations. We hope you will be able to join us for what promises to be a delightful evening in beautiful surroundings while supporting an important cause.

FAREWELL & THANKS TO SAM & MIRJAM who are moving from Beccles to be nearer their family in Lincolnshire. This has been an uncertain time for them, but I am grateful for all that they have done to support and strengthen me and the parish during the last year and a half. Fr. Sam will be coming back to supply at the fourth weekend while I am away on pilgrimage in Lourdes.

MINSTER MILLION (St Benet's church restoration fund). The Minster Million fund has been given special dispensation by the Diocese which means the Gift Aid contribution rebate is enhanced by nearly 19%. We have a record of most of the donations to this fund to date and Paul Quinn (gift aid coordinator), will be contacting those who have donated and asking you to complete a separate gift aid declaration, specific to the Minster Million. Please complete this gift aid declaration form (if you are a UK taxpayer) and return it to Paul, as it will make a considerable difference to the fund balance. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR BABY SERENA ROSE ELLWOOD who is Mike Ellwood's great niece, and is in SCBU (neonatal ITU) and seriously ill.

IMPROMPTU BARBECUE! As I will be celebrating my birthday on the 10th of August I have decided to have a 'bring your own barbecue' at the presbytery on next Sunday the 9th from 13.00 onwards. We have a large gas and a charcoal barbecue and can offer to cook all offerings that you bring with you...

SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP meets on Tuesdays in Bungay at **19.00**. We are also considering studying sections of **Magnifica Humanitas**, so please come along if you would be interested.

GRAVEYARD RESERVATIONS Since my arrival in September 2024, I have been aware that both Beccles and Bungay are blessed with burial grounds, but both have limited room going forward. Although Hilary Wells has a current list for those who have asked for a plot in Beccles, I have no such list for Bungay, so I would be grateful to all parishioners if you have a genuine expectation of having reserved a burial plot to speak to me as soon as possible so that an accurate database can be set up for both of our graveyards. If you are aware of a non-practising family who still are expecting to inter family members with us then please let them know of this request.

BURIAL OF ASHES of the late Dr Michael John Heath will take place at St Edmund's Bungay on Saturday **15th August after the 9.15 am Mass**. Lisa, Xavier, Amelia and Oliver would like to open an invitation to any parishioner that remembers Mike to join them.

EXPERIMENTAL CHANGE OF VENUE for our Vigil Mass on Saturday at 18.00. I am proposing to move this Mass to Bungay from Harleston for the month of **September** to see what the response will be. Although I know that many are concluding that this means that St. Thomas More will be closing, this is still a significant matter for broader consultation including the deanery clergy, the council of priests and ultimately the bishop, so nothing is yet decided. Please check the bulletin for details in September.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (people have asked for these to be made known, but please note that this does **not** include the sums given by standing order or by the Dona terminals in the two main churches)

Beccles: £226.01
Bungay: £200.90
Harleston: £76.00

SLOW NEWS WEEKS These Summer weeks tend to light on items to put in the newsletter, so if there is something you would like mentioned or publicised please send it to me at the email address at the top of this page. Thankyou.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Banns, Patricia Bath, **Elizabeth Teresa Bedson**, Bruno Boldrini, Fr Stephen Bould, Steven Brooks, **Imshi Burrell**, Ellen Clark, Nick Clissitt, Cilla Duckett, **Serena Rose Ellwood**, Deacon Tony Felton, Richard Freeland, Derek Gibson, Carole Hunt, Sue Kerr, Alasdair Kirkpatrick, Jo Lewis, Billy Maloy, Tanya Maloy, Anne Nightingale, Michael Osborne, Elizabeth Page, Christine Rhodes, Kathryn Robinson, Jordan Scott, Simon Smith, Fr. Roger Spencer, Huw Spratling, Luciana Staff, Jean Vousden, Katy Wakely.