

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
PP: Fr Simon Blakesley JCL, JV simon.blakesley@rcdea.org.uk 07946 390060

NEWSLETTER for the WEEKEND September 5th / 6th 2026 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - A - PSALTER WEEK 3

First Reading: Ezekiel 33: 7-9 'If you do not speak to warn the wicked man, I will hold you responsible for his death'

Psalms Response: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 13: 8-10 'Love is the fulfilling of the law'

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20 'Where two or three are gathered together, there am I among them...'



ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Patrick Lowe, Dennis More, Florence Fitzgerald, Philip Cowgill, Madge Scott, Herbert Mayston, Mabel Wisker, Bob Ellwood, Charlotte Hammond, Nolan Bond.

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 5th September **St. Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin**

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Peggy Blakesley + SNB)
9.45 Confessions @ Bungay
17.30 Confessions @ Bungay
18.00 Mass @ Bungay (For the People)

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY YEAR A 6th September

9.15 Mass Bungay (Jan Martin' Ints M&JJ)
11.00 Mass Beccles (Stephen Tsang + HT)
18.00 Gillingham (Anthony Couldery + PP)

MONDAY 7th September

NO MASS

TUESDAY 8th September **Birthday of Our Blessed Lady**

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Clodagh Casolani + FD)

WEDNESDAY 9th September

9.00 Mass @ Beccles (Esperanza Iglesias + HT)
9.30 Parish Rosary @ Beccles

THURSDAY 10th September **St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor**

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Imshi Burrell + PP)

FRIDAY 11th September

11.00 Mass @ Beccles (Victims of 9/11)

SATURDAY 12th September **Most Holy Name of Mary**

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open intention)
9.45 – 10.00 & 17.30 Confessions @ Bungay
18.00 Mass @ Bungay (For the People)

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY YEAR A 13th September **EDUCATION SUNDAY**

9.15 Mass Bungay (Open Intention)
11.00 Mass Beccles (Nolan & Peggy Bond + FD)
18.00 Gillingham (John Durack + AN)

NEWS AND EVENTS

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

THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE ATTACK This occurs this week on Friday and the 11.00 Mass at Beccles will be offered for all those who lost their lives on that day. Although this happened far away there is a Catholic family I know in Thetford parish who lost two brothers on that day. I hope you will pause to pray for peace in a world that has become less stable and more hateful since that terrible day.

THANKYOU TO HOWARD TRUST for hosting a most successful Wine and Cheese evening at the Old Rectory in Barsham. The total raised is TBA!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS & CONFIRMATIONS 2027

If you have children going into year three this Autumn you may wish to consider enrolling them for our sacramental preparation programme for later this year. Please either fill in a **yellow form** at the back of the church or email me directly on the address given above. Please remember that there is just no substitute for regular attendance at Sunday Mass and taking part in the wider life of the parish, but this may also be an opportunity for you and your wider family to reconnect with the life of our parish. Over the last two years the catechists have been from the Beccles end of our parish, but we will wait to see where the majority of our candidates are from before deciding on the venue and the programme for preparation.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS - ST. EDMUND'S CHURCH AND PRESBYTERY, BUNGAY ON FRIDAY 11th AND SATURDAY 12th SEPT - 10AM - 4PM If you are available to help, please sign up on the rota which is at the back of the church. If you want any further info about what this will entail, please email Pete Johnson at jonners43@gmail.com. We are offering refreshments on each day. If you are able to bake cakes, biscuits, etc or donate items for the produce stall, then please let Pete know. Proceeds from this will go towards the church restoration fund. **Church clean** - in preparation for the Open Days, there will be a major church clean on Thursday 10th September - 10am-12pm. Please do come to help. We aim to get all the cobwebs!

SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP meets on Tuesdays in Bungay at **19.00**. New members always welcome

FALLING OFF THE RADAR.... Over the last few months I have noticed that some individuals have not been able to attend Mass in our churches with their usual regularity. Due to the fact that both Bungay and Beccles databases are in need of a major revamp into one whole parish database, I am not sure of addresses or contact details, so if you know of anyone in need of a visit, then please fill in a 'Pastoral Visit Request Form' and give it to me ASAP. Thanks.

VOTE AGAINST! The **Assisted Suicide** legislation has found new backing and will be forced through the House of Lords unless it can be defeated at the second reading stage which is on this coming Friday, so please contact your MP either using a pre-printed card or by contacting them to encourage opposition to this inhumane bill. I am glad that the Prime Minister has pointed out the inevitable link to the cost of social care and the inevitable pressure on the elderly to not 'be a burden'. We need to make our voices heard!

DEANERY YOUTH DAY at St. Peter's in Gorleston is on Saturday the 3rd of October from 11.00 to 15.00 (Mass will be at 10.00 am). Details on the posters at the back of church or contact **Hamish** and his roadies at igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk.

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: £254.60

Bungay: £205.40

Harleston: £69.21

THE SECULAR FRANCISCANS OF EAST ANGLIA invite you all to a celebration of the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi on 3rd October at St John's Cathedral at 2.30pm.

The celebration will begin in St Joseph's chapel (the sunken chapel) where you will find several companions of St Francis, including; his mother Pica, St Clare, Brothers Leo, and Ginepro and others, reminiscing about his life. This will be followed by light refreshments in the hall, where you can get to know more about Francis by taking with these companions. The afternoon will close with a Franciscan liturgical celebration of the Transitus, the passing from life to death of St Francis. The afternoon will finish in time for those wishing to, to attend the evening Anticipatory Mass at 6pm."

FAMILY FAST DAY will be on Friday October the 2nd and we will have more information on the current **CAFOD** focus next week.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Banns, Patricia Bath, Steven Brooks, Ellen Clark, Cilla Duckett, Deacon Tony Felton, Richard Freeland, Derek Gibson, Carole Hunt, Sue Kerr, Alasdair Kirkpatrick, Jo Lewis, Billy 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.