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 November 28th / November 29th 2026
First Sunday of Advent Year B - PSALTER WEEK 1

First Reading: Isaiah 63: 16c-17 64: 1, 3b-8
'O that you would rend the heavens and come down.'

Psalm Response: Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth and we shall be saved.

Second Reading St. Paul: First Corinthians 1: 3-9
'We are waiting for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ…'

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia, Show us O Lord your mercy and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 13: 33-37 'Stay awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come…'



ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Frederick Barrett, Doreen McDonald, Clara Lipscombe, Eva Duffy, Stephen Norris, Alice Radley, Marian Gracey, Dorothy Sibthorpe, William Crump, Carolyn Waters, Doris Felton, Audrey Boshell.

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 28th November

9.15 @ Bungay (Frederick & Catherine Smith +)
9.45 – 10.00 Confessions @ Bungay
17.30 Confessions @ Harleston
18.00 Mass @ Harleston (For the People)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B November 29th

9.15 Mass Bungay (Griffith Family Intention)
11.00 Mass Beccles (For the People)
16.00 Gillingham (Tony Hemming + HH)
Second Collection: Comboni Missions Appeal

MONDAY 30th November
St. Andrew Ap
NO MASS

TUESDAY 1st December

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open Intention)

WEDNESDAY 2nd December

9.30 Parish Rosary @ Beccles
10.00 Mass @ Beccles (Open Intention)

THURSDAY 3rd December
St. Francis Xavier P

9.15 Mass @ Bungay (Open Intention)

FRIDAY 4th December
St. John Damascene PD

11.00 Mass @ Beccles (Open Intention)

SATURDAY 5th December

9.15 @ Bungay (Open Intention)
9.45 – 10.00 Confessions @ Bungay

17.30 Confessions @ Harleston
18.00 Mass @ Harleston (For the People)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT B December 6th

9.15 Mass Bungay (Kathleen Gregson + DA)
11.00 Mass Beccles (T&A Keady A&M Quinn +PQ)
16.00 Gillingham (Mary & Bram Bramley + PP)

NEWS AND EVENTS

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

COMBONI MISSIONARY SISTERS APPEAL This weekend we are delighted to welcome Sr. Asmeret of the Comboni Sisters who will be making an appeal in support of her order's missionary work at all our weekend Masses.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES In consultation with our main stakeholders I have decided that our Mass times on Christmas **Eve** will be **17.00 at Beccles** and **21.00 at Bungay**. Christmas Morning will be at the usual Sunday times. In addition, due to the generosity of Fr. Stephen Bould, there will be a **10.00 Mass at Gillingham**. Please remember that our **Carol Service** will be at St. Benet's on Sunday the 20th of December at 16.00 (4.00pm in old money). Please do book this in your diary.

MARY'S MEALS CHRISTMAS APPEAL Advent is fast approaching, as in previous years the appeal will run from 1st Sunday of Advent until Candlemass 2nd February. Costing just £19.15 to feed a child for a school year and with Double the Love available I hope you can support Mary's Meals again. They are currently feeding over 3million children daily in 18 countries. Please help if you can, jars for coin collections will be available at all Masses on 29th November.If you prefer cheques please make them payable to ' Mary's Meals' and cheque and cash donations can be given to Sylvia Weal at Bungay or to me Helen Hemming at Beccles and Gillingham. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE PRESBYTERY As in the last two years, I will be opening the presbytery for lunch on Christmas day at 1.00pm. If you are otherwise going to be on your own, please let me know as soon as possible. This invitation is made across all our four churches, even though, for practical reasons, lunch is served in Bungay….

POLISHING THE JEWEL IN THE CROWN! Sue Boyes invites any willing helpers to prepare the Minster for Christmas. The dates and times are as follows:
Thursday 17th December:
Brass cleaning 09.30 - 12.00
Monday 21st December:
Clean polish and hoover 09.30 - 12.00
Any help would be very welcome! Tea & Coffee & Biscuits provided. Contact Sue Boyes 01502 712971

KNITTED CRIB FIGURES Our two primary schools are looking to borrow any knitted crib figures that you may have (especially angels…) Please speak to Mr. Kennedy or ring the schools (Beccles 712012 Bungay 892502) if you can oblige!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS: (Not including Standing Orders or DONA giving)

Beccles:	£292.19 Youth £87.60	Ref £54.22
Bungay:	£259.87 Youth £85.66	
Harleston	£50.50 Youth £33.85	

COINING IT IN FOR OUR CHARITIES! In our increasingly card payment centred economies, please be aware of our charities (Missio & Mary's Meals) which are based upon you giving of your left over loose change into collection jars or boxes or of small donations sought at tea and coffee after Mass at all our churches where those few coins can make all the difference between running at a loss and bringing in a little bit extra in support of our nominated charities as well as our own parish funds. Thank you!



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BUNGAY Advent lunch will be held here at St. Edmund's using the cloister on **Wednesday the 9th of December at 12.00.** Please come along and support this simple soup lunch and all proceeds are given in support of the Waveney Food Bank.

STELLA MARIS PARISH VOLUNTEER We are looking for Parish Volunteers to help share the work Stella Maris do and create space for community and fellowship in your parish. Stella Maris is the largest ship-visiting network in the world and the official Maritime Charity of the Catholic church. We improve the lives of seafarers and fishers through our network of local chaplains and seafarer centres, expert information, advocacy, and spiritual support. We are looking for someone who wants to support this work. If this could be you, please scan the QR code to fill out the form OR email your community engagement officer at adrianne.jones@stellamarismail.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Banns, Patricia Bath, Steven Brooks, Ellen Clark, Deacon Tony Felton, Richard Freeland, Derek Gibson, Jenny Gibson, Peter Harvey, Carole Hunt, Sue Kerr, Alasdair Kirkpatrick, Jo Lewis, Billy Maloy, Anne Nightingale, Michael Osborne, Kathryn Robinson, Jordan Scott, Simon Smith, Fr. Roger Spencer, Huw Spratling, Luciana Staff, Jean Vousden, Katy Wakely.