



The Parish Newsletter

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". Mt. 28:19

Year A 4th—11th January 2026

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest Father Anil Zachery

18 Stuart Close, Brandon. IP27 0HB

Telephone 01842 812200 **Parish email** bmrccparish@priest.com

Pastoral Assistant Angela Jordan Tel 07595 914361

Safeguarding David Parr 07708 997022 David.parr058@gmail.com &

Louis Busuttil Tel 07986 366802

Newsletter Les /Jo Della Maestra - jo.dellamaestra@btinternet.com

Website Barry Spencer Parishwebeditor@yahoo.com Tel 07771 590387

Parish Website www.stthomas-stjohnparish.com

MASS TIMES FOR THE COMING WEEK

DAY	TIME	SERVICE/INTENTION/FEAST
4th Jan 2026 Sunday	M: 09.00 am	SUNDAY MASS
2nd Sunday of Christmas	B: 11.00 am	
Tuesday 6th Jan 2026	M: 10.00 am	Mass
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD		
Wednesday 7th Jan 2026	B: 10:00 am	Mass
		Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
Thursday 8th Jan 2026	M: 10.00 am	Mass
Friday 9th Jan 2026	B: 09:30 am	Benediction
	B: 10:00 am	Mass
Next Sunday 11th Jan 2026	M: 09.00 am	SUNDAY MASS
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	B: 11.00 am	

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026

A very big **THANK YOU** to everyone for the wonderful Christmas wishes, prayers, gifts, cards and donations. It means a lot to me and your kindness is very touching.

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year 2026. May god bless you and your families and let us pray for peace, happiness and health for all God's children in this New Year and in the coming years.

Fr Anil.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Masses during the week at Brandon and Mildenhall are as per the newsletter.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

****REMINDER** MEETING FOR PARENTS OF HOLY COMMUNICANTS OR ADULTS WISHING TO RECEIVE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

A meeting for Holy communicants' parents is scheduled for **Thursday 8th January 2026 at 6.00 pm at St Thomas Church Brandon**. Please ensure you have returned an application form to Fr Anil/Angie (St Thomas, Brandon) as soon as possible.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

****REMINDER**** - SIGN UP sheets are at the back of both churches.

Please ensure you have returned these sign up sheets as soon as possible to Fr Anil/ Sara Farrugia if you/your children wish to participate in these classes so we can register everyone.

The first **CONFIRMATION CLASS** takes place on **Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 6.30** and held at St Thomas' Brandon. If you have any questions please speak to **Fr. Anil or Sara Farrugia (St John's Mildenhall)**.

FINAL PRIZE DRAW OF 2025 50/50 CLUB

1st Prize Carol London (No. 113)

2nd Prize Mrs Taylor (No. 12)

3rd Prize Tom Blong (No. 37)

Please could all members who subscribe to the 50/50 club renew your subscriptions for the coming year 2026. Contact Bernard Camenzli for more information at St Johns, Mildenhall. Thank you.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH AND THOSE THAT CARE FOR THEM

Please remember to pray at this time for **Stephen Dean, Sue Dean, Des Neville, Janet Kemp, Eugene Armour, Yan Cheung, Kath Cottrell** and all in our parish who are challenged with health issues or need our support at this time.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be ...

PLEASE PRAY FOR PEACE.

During this New Year 2026, let us continue to pray for peace in the world. Let the message of Christ unite us as one world to live together in love and harmony.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD AND INJURED IN CRANS MONTANA SWITZERLAND.

“Heavenly Father, let us pray for those that died tragically in the recent fire and grant strength and healing to those that are injured. Give comfort and your healing consolation to the relatives of those that lost their lives. Amen”

****A CONTINUING REMINDER PLEASE ** - DIOCESE JUBILEE CELEBRATION 1976-2026**

Please don't forget to send any **information/photos, stories or any news-worthy items about our parish to Franki at Brandon or Fr Anil**

****SAVE THIS DATE!****

The **next fundraiser**, by popular request will be another

‘CHICKENFOOT EVENING’ on Friday 30th January 2026. Further details will be forthcoming. Many thanks, Mary.

****PLEASE REMEMBER ANY FOOD BANK DONATIONS ****

St John's Mildenhall each **first Sunday of the month,(please leave at the back of the church)**. Your help as always is greatly appreciated. Donations of money are always very welcome. **Please see John or Sinead Bruton at St John's, Mildenhall.**

****CHURCH KEYS - St John's and St Thomas Parish****

Those in the Parish who have been issued keys to either/both churches, and the combination to the back door of St John's, are kindly asked to advise Philip Kemp/Les Della Maestra as soon as possible in order for a decision to be made on whether to change the lock/combination on the door. This is a requirement for insurance purposes and to facilitate reissue as needed. Many thanks for your consideration in this matter.

YOUNG WOMEN'S RETREAT 6TH - 8TH MARCH 2026

The Diocese Youth Service is organising a retreat in York during lent, for young women (age 18—35). For more information and to book a place. **See www.rcdea.org.uk/youth.** Places are limited and accepted on a first come first served basis.

Many thanks for all your generosity in helping the parish with funding.

PARISH FINANCES - Please note that there are many ways to support our parish:

The preferred option is by standing order or regular transfer details below

1. Web Card donation using the DONA button on the parish website home page.
2. Cheques made payable to Brandon & Mildenhall Catholic Parish
3. Cash donations—please help if you can by donating cash or cheques at the offertory in the baskets provided during service or at the back of the church. Donations can also be given for mass intention and when lighting candles for special private intentions.
4. Parish bank acc details: Brandon & Mildenhall Catholic Parish Lloyds

Bank Sort code 30-98-58 A/C No.00489176.

Contact Philip Kemp Treasurer

RC Diocese of East Anglia Registered Charity 278742

****Diocese of East Anglia Schools Service—Volunteers for Admissions Appeals****

Volunteers are being sought who wish to serve on an appeals panel, helping parents to ensure their rights are upheld in decisions relating to school places at the Catholic schools if places are not able to be offered .

The panel members play a vital role in the appeals process and the sessions could last between 20-30 minutes and are often held in the busy summer months.

Volunteers might occasionally be asked to sit for two or even three consecutive days but this always relates to the flexibility and availability of the volunteer. Each panel will be made up of both lay members, people without connection to education and also those in connection with education i.e. parent governor or staff member.

If you think you might like to volunteer, you can contact Helen Bates, Assistant Director (Schools' Service) at the Diocese of East Anglia, 21 Ugate, Poringland, NORWICH.

NR14 7SH or by email at ssc@rcdea.org.uk or by phone on 01508 495509.

**** PERFORMANCE AT APEX BURY ST EDMUNDS ****

Oscar Lyons, a jazz pianist and parishioner in Bury St Edmunds, will be performing at the Apex with his ensemble on Friday 16th Jan. The music that Oscar creates is an expression of his faith. His prayer is that this performance will point to the objective beauty of the Lord. See the Apex website (www.theapex.co.uk) for details.

**** REMINDER FOR PARENTS DURING MASS ****

Parents are reminded to escort their children to the restroom facilities during mass/ services. Thank you.