



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

Sunday 5th May 2019 - Sunday 12th May 2019

Christ has redeemed us. So what next?

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had as everything they owned, they held in common. ... None ... was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money ... to the apostles; it was then distributed to members who might be in need.

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-36

This is a vivid picture of the early Church: a small group, living simply, sharing what they had, joined in faith and committed to the mission Christ has set them.

What would it be like if Pope Francis issued an instruction for all Catholics to live like this? And to say to the world, "If you wish to be a follower of Christ, you cannot until you sell your house or land and car(s) and give the surplus to the poor, give away your iPad, unwanted designer shoes, fashion clothes, jewellery - everything you don't really need."

No doubt there would be cries that the pope had gone mad, or was a heretic, and riots would follow. Why? Because, where the early Church sought to be noticeably different from the rest of society, today it seems that we Catholics want to be seen as a 'normal' part of our society, following society's norms and ways of doing things. All very well until your life bumps into racism at football matches, drug selling on the streets, young people knifing one another, inequalities in working practices, corruption in public office and private business, sexual exploitation and abuse of children as well as adults, evil gossip and foul language everywhere. These are part of 'normal' society, but no part of a Christian way of life. So what do we do? Walk on like pharisees? Or show the world in our actions and demeanour what a Catholic life is and how different it is from the lives of many around us?

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PARISH CONTACTS

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Our Churches

St Thomas', Brandon Road, Weeting, Brandon IP27 0PT

St John's, St John's Close, Mildenhall IP28 7NX

Welcome to Fr Michael Johnstone who celebrates the Masses this weekend, whilst Fr Luke is involved in running the Ignite Diocesan Youth Festival.

Annual Diocesan Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham Tuesday 28th May Please see poster at back of Church. **If enough of our families wish to go we will consider laying on transport.**

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham 6th May Mass at 12 noon, followed by procession to Abbey Grounds.

Coffee and Cake sale at Mildenhall – Saturday 18th May 10:00 – 12:00

First Holy Communion Sunday is 2nd June. Children from our parish will be making their First Holy Communion at both Masses.

Celebrate East Anglia: A faith-filled event for the whole family Sat 1st and Sun 2nd June at St Benedict's school, Bury St Edmunds. Information and booking forms can be found at the back of the Church.

Bishop Alan has invited all married people across the Diocese of East Anglia to celebrate at the annual Marriage and Family Life Mass on **Saturday June 8** at 11.30am at St John's Cathedral in Norwich. All are welcome and those who are celebrating significant anniversaries (one year, five years and every multiple of five years thereafter) will receive a certificate. If you would like to register for a certificate please contact Bonnie Lander Johnson on mflc.eastanglia@rcdea.org.uk or 07849357518. Join Bishop Alan after Mass for tea and cake in the Narthex and cathedral gardens. Photographs will be available for purchase online. There will be a collection at the Mass for those who wish to help the Marriage and Family Life Commission in their work.

Teas and Coffees at Mildenhall: In recent weeks there have been occasions where nobody has signed up to serve tea's and coffee's at St John's. This is a valuable act of service and ministry to the parish, which helps to build up the community. Please consider signing up and serving our parish family in this way.

Two new pictures of The Divine Mercy were donated to the parish and have come from the shrine at Krakow. To find out more about this devotion please take a leaflet from the rack at the back of Church.

Learn more about your faith! Fr Luke writes: *I am gradually revamping the resources and CTS racks in our churches. New 'CTS Essentials' leaflets have been purchased dealing with a variety of subjects including: Contemplative Prayer, the Blessed Sacrament and Sunday Mass please feel free to take any of these leaflets. (These leaflets are free - even if they are priced at 20p!) Books and booklets remain as individually priced, but I will be updating the selection shortly – **Please use this resource to help nourish your faith.***

What we believe: newsletter articles on the Creed will resume next weekend

Thank you for your Easter Offering and for the many Cards and gifts, all very much appreciated. God bless you! - Fr Luke

May, Mary's Month

The Lord knows full well how His children have limited the time they have for each of the many tasks they put upon themselves to the point of exhaustion. This seems especially true today when life seems lived at breakneck speed.

So, as May begins we have the chance to slow a little, take time out from the daily hustle. This is because May is the Month of Mary, Christ's Mother and, thus, the Mother of the Church.

She is the example, as well as the guide and inspiration, of everyone who, in and through the Church, seeks to be the servant of God and our sisters and brothers, and the obedient agent of the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

We have no evidence that Mary rushed about trying to do an impossible number of things all at once; nor that she scolded anyone; nor that she gossiped, argued or nagged to get her way. She took Time and did not let Time take her.

For Mary, God's way determined her way (as in the Annunciation): she also knew that what she could not do, her Son would (Cana). Most of all, she understood that love - not the overbearing pressure of time - is the foundation and framework of a satisfied life,. Love springs from Faith and Mary lived a life of faith and piety. Piety is the virtue that protects us from reducing faith to unfeeling, loveless dogma and mindless praying.

So May is the time to renew our acquaintance of and love for God's Mother. Saying one Hail Mary thoughtfully, or the Litany of Mary, are simple ways of renewing our reverence for her and reminding ourselves of the selfless, patient and faithful way she responded to God's plan for her.

May this be the example we can follow in peace, freed from stress, now that the earth yields its fruits for us once more.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community... and all those in our intercession books.

Marion Arkell, Mary Gillen, Bridhe Heron, George Pearson

May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, especially:

Michael Bayward, Barbara Blong, Nina Bosomworth, James Branaghan, Sally Cheung, Sheila Day, Philip Dean, Bernard English, Irene Human, Reg Jackson, Chester Jureko, Greg Kane, Margaret Kottarska,, Michael MacNamara, Brendan Neville, Aoibhleen Norman, Patrick O'Brien, Ian Pearson, Kenneth Pullen, Ivy (Doreen) Rak, Luigi Ratettagliata, Peter Seekings-Foster, Paul Starr

AMEN



Sick Visits

If you are unwell or know someone who is unwell and would like Fr Luke to visit, please contact him, either by phone or email. If you do not let anyone know then it is hard to visit you. Please do not assume that Fr Luke knows that someone is sick or wants a visit.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 6 May** **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham**
12 noon to 4pm
- Saturday 11 May** **March for Life 2-4 pm**
Starts at the back of Westminster Church House, 25 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BN
- Saturday 18 May** **Coffee & Cake Sale St John's**
10.00 - 1200 noon
- Tuesday 28 May** **Annual Diocesan Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham**
- SECOND COLLECTIONS**
- Sunday May 12** **Vocations Sunday**
- Sunday 2 June** **Catholic Communications Network**

Money Matters

Offertory collection, Sunday 10 March 2019

Standing orders	£131.00
Gift Aid envelopes	£100.00
Non-Gift Aid	£302.30
TOTAL	£533.30

NOTE: "Loose Plate" and "Non-Gift Aid Envelopes" have been merged to form one "Non-Gift-Aid" entry.

The Medaille Trust

Please remember our commitment to continue to donate throughout the year. Buckets are in place at the back of our churches. Any spare change will be appreciated (notes and cheques too!) and Jacinta mentioned that gift cards from places like Sainsbury's, Tesco, M&S etc are useful.

MESSAGE TO GIFT AID DONORS

Please note that unless advised to the contrary I will be claiming tax back on your behalf. Any changes in name or address, or if you no longer pay UK tax, should be notified to me.

Thank you.

Philip Kemp

Tel 07514430468 Email pjkemp1@gmail.com

Interested in becoming a Catholic?

Want to know more about the Church? Perhaps you are a Catholic but missed out on making your confirmation as a youngster.

If this is you, please contact Fr Luke.

PARISH DIARY

Easter week 3 Psalter Week 3	Feast/Day/Season	Time, Place, Service M: Mildenhall; B; Brandon	Mass Intention/Details
Sunday 5 th May	3 RD SUNDAY ON EASTERTIDE	M: 9.00 AM Mass B: 11.00 AM Mass	People of the Parish Barbara Blong RIP
Wednesday, 8 th May	Easter Feria	B; 9:30 AM MASS	Nora Peacock RIP
Thursday, 9 th May	Easter Feria	M; 9.30 AM MASS	Reg Jackson
Sunday 12 th May	4 TH SUNDAY IN EASTERTIDE	M: 9.00 AM Mass B: 11.00 AM Mass	Eileen Jasher People of the Parish

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